



**COLUMBIA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

**971 W Duval St, Suite 150**

**Lake City, FL 32055**

**AGENDA**

**September 11, 2024 8:30 A.M.**

**Opportunity for public comment shall be in accordance with Rule 4.704. Each person who wishes to address the Economic Development Advisory Board or any discussion and action agenda item shall complete one comment card for each item and submit the card or cards to County Economic Development staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order.**

**Rules of decorum and rules for public participation are attached to the agenda handouts.**

- 
1. Call to order: Commissioner Ron Williams
  2. Pledge to U.S. Flag
  3. Roll call
  4. Request for additions or deletions to agenda
  5. Discussion and action items
    - a. Items requiring action
      - i. Approve minutes from Board Meeting held August 21, 2024
    - b. Discussion items
      - i. CTE Program Tour September 25<sup>th</sup> 8:45am @CHS
      - ii. NFMIP Groundbreaking October 3<sup>rd</sup> 3pm
      - iii. Farm to Table October 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm
      - iv. Legislative Breakfast October 9<sup>th</sup>
  6. Economic Development Director report
    - a. Bell Rd Update
      - i. Florida First Sites feedback
      - ii. Rail Crossing Grant
  7. Presentation(s) and Guest Speaker(s)
    - a. Joseph Davis, SBA Public Affairs Specialist; Hurricane Debby Disaster Loans
  8. Open public comments to the Board: 3-minute limit
  9. Next advertised meeting: October 9, 2024
  10. Adjournment

**Columbia County Economic**  
**Advisory Board**

August 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 8:30 AM

The Columbia County Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) met in a regularly scheduled meeting held at 971 West Duval Street, in the Tourism Development Council Conference room. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Ronald Williams followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Committee Members Present:**

Ron Williams, Chairman

Charlie Keith, Co-Chair

Randy Thomas

Jeff Simmons

Dee Johnson

Jordan Wade

**Others in Attendance:**

Jennifer Daniels, Economic Development Director

David Kraus, County Manager

Amber Taylor, Deputy Clerk

Van Brown, Economic Dev. Specialist

**Additions & Deletions:**

None

**Discussion & Action Items:**

- 1.) Approval of Minutes

**Motion** by Dee Johnson to approve minutes from Meeting held June 12, 2024. **Seconded** by Randy Thomas. Motion passed unanimously.

## 2.) ClearSky Health Groundbreaking

Jennifer Daniels gave slideshow of photos from the groundbreaking ceremony for Clear Sky Health. She also gave a brief overview of the groundbreaking proceedings. Clear Sky Health are anticipating opening for business by July 2025.

### **Economic Development Specialist Report, Vann Brown**

Ms. Brown gave an overview of her time in new position. She reviewed her previous experience and what she plans to bring to this department. She also informed the Board on tasks and activities that she will begin overseeing in her current position.

Discussion ensued.

### **Economic Development Directors Report, Jennifer Daniels**

- A.) Florida Rural Economic Development Association (FREDA) Annual Summit, has been moved to a new larger location. This year it will be held on November 20-22 at the World Equestrian Center. Board Members were invited to attend.
- B.) Rural Counties Day is to be held on March 19-20<sup>th</sup> this year. March 19<sup>th</sup> will be a reception at Doak Campbell Stadium, and there will be events all day on March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- C.) FPL FL First Sites: Bell Road Distribution Corridor. FPL has in place a program, to put industrial properties through a Readiness program. This is done to help businesses with environmental information that pertains to them. This program also helps provide marketing brochures to local participants. Ms. Daniels will have examples to hand out at the next meeting and discuss further.
- D.) Space Florida Academy District – Ms. Daniels gave an overview on the Space Florida Academy District and the opportunities that this program will bring to Columbia County. She shared with the Board a recent trip to Kennedy Space Center where she was able to learn about various education and job opportunities, as well as the different certifications that this will provide to the students of Columbia County.

### **Presentations or Guest Speakers:**

Angela Coppack, Director of Career & Adult Education

Ms. Coppack gave an update to the board on the various programs and certifications, which are available to students of Columbia County. These are available to students as early as sixth grade and are available to adults through the Adult Education programs.

Tiara Jernigan-Arline, Coordinator of Career, Technical and Adult Education

Ms. Arline offered information to the Board, pertaining to job readiness after completing programs offered. There are many trade certifications available to individuals.

**Open Comments:**

Commissioner Williams gave an update on the Ellisville sewer plant and a brief discussion pertaining to this matter, ensued.

Dale Williams gave a brief update from North Florida Professional Services.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Columbia County Economic Development Advisory Board meeting is to held September 11, 2024 at 8:30 AM.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM.

ATTEST:

---

Ron Williams, Chairman

Columbia County Commissioner

---

James M. Swisher, Jr.

Clerk of Court & County Comptroller



# RSVP REMINDER!



**You are cordially invited to the  
Columbia County Celebration of  
North Florida Mega Industrial Park**



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024  
3 P.M.**



**PLEASE PARK AT THE COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
with complimentary shuttle to the Celebration Tent  
**4917 U.S. East Hwy. 90 • Lake City, FL 32055**

*Business Casual Attire and Closed-toe Shoes Recommended for This Outdoor Event*

**Your response is requested by September 25, 2024  
via email to: [celebration@nfmip.com](mailto:celebration@nfmip.com)**

*(please include your name and organization)*

This invitation is non-transferable.



**North Florida™  
Mega Industrial  
Park**

A Weyerhaeuser Industrial Community



**Darby Pavilion, Downtown Lake City, FL  
Thursday, October 3rd, 2024 @ 6:30 PM  
A Joint City and County Community Event -  
Spotlighting our local agriculture community and our local culinary chefs!**

*Farm to Table* is inspired from Columbia County's deep roots in agriculture, which once defined the way of life here! From row crops, vegetables, pine trees, cattle, poultry, dairy, swine, turpentine, honey and more... Our farmers contribute greatly to the quality of life in this County. Today local farming is still a vital legacy and *Farm to Table* was created to celebrate and pay tribute to our farmers and agricultural community. Without them, where would we be?

The "*Farm to Table Dinner Event*" is a tremendous yearly success. Since its conception, in the last two years, we have raised over \$83,000 solidifying agricultural youth programs. Through its work, Farm to Table supports our local graduating students through scholarships for continued education, local 4-H Chapters, and the local FFA. In addition, Farm to Table donates hundreds of pounds of canned goods to our local food banks for families in need.

*Farm to Table* showcases our agriculture community, recognizing our talented culinary Chefs and supporting the entrepreneurial spirit of our community. Farmers and entrepreneurs work closely together to produce honey, goat cheese, dairy products, jams, vegetables, fruits, hot sauce, soap, and so much more. This is what makes Columbia County and Lake City...Our rural home. This makes the Annual Farm to Table event an amazing success!

Each dollar raised will be divided among our community's agricultural youth organizations: 4-H and FFA. College scholarships will also be given to well-deserving high school seniors that present a letter for selection. These youth agricultural leadership organizations will be participating in the event, serving, and greeting our guests.

*The evening's menu will consist of 7 courses of "tapas style meals" featuring local agricultural products prepared by local culinary chefs. There will be much to see, taste, and enjoy!*

Approximately 30 tables will be available for the evening's festivities. Each table will seat 8, for a cost of \$600 per table. The evening festivities will also include a Silent Auction.

Guests are encouraged to bring a jar of peanut butter and one canned item as a donation in support of the "Peanut Butter Challenge"- a UF/IFAS program that supports Catholic Charities. This program supports local peanut growers and provides nutritious food to needy families between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Donated canned items will be given to the Christian Service Center, food banks, and other organizations who provide for those in need.

As you can see, this event will not only recognize our local farmers, chefs, and entrepreneurs, but it will serve to support our youth involved in agriculture who want to see it continue to thrive in our community.

This is a time for our community to show our roots from *Farm to Table*!



U.S. Small Business  
Administration

## U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FACT SHEET - DISASTER LOANS

### **FLORIDA Declaration 20533 & 20534**

(Disaster: FL-20009)

**Incident: HURRICANE DEBBY**

occurring: August 1, 2024 & continuing

in the **Florida** counties of: **Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Manatee, Sarasota, Suwannee, and Taylor**; for economic injury only in the contiguous **Florida** counties of: **Alachua, Baker, Charlotte, Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Madison, Marion, Polk, and Union**; and for economic injury only in the contiguous **Georgia** counties of: **Clinch, Echols, Lowndes**

#### **Application Filing Deadlines:**

**Physical Damage:** October 9, 2024

**Economic Injury:** May 12, 2025

If you are located in a declared disaster area, you may be eligible for financial assistance from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

#### **What Types of Disaster Loans are Available?**

- **Business Physical Disaster Loans** – Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size are eligible. Private, non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc., are also eligible.
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** – Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.
- **Home Disaster Loans** – Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate and personal property, including automobiles.

#### **What are the Credit Requirements?**

- **Credit History** – Applicants must have a credit history acceptable to SBA.
- **Repayment** – Applicants must show the ability to repay all loans.

#### **What are the Interest Rates?**

By law, the interest rates depend on whether each applicant has Credit Available Elsewhere. An applicant does not have Credit Available Elsewhere when SBA determines the applicant does not have sufficient funds or other resources, or the ability to borrow from non-government sources, to provide for its own disaster recovery. An applicant, which SBA determines to have the ability to provide for his or her own recovery is deemed to have Credit Available Elsewhere. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan. The interest rates applicable for this disaster are:

Physical Damage Loan Types	No Credit Available Elsewhere	Credit Available Elsewhere
Home Loans	2.813%	5.625%
Business Loans	4.000%	8.000%
Non-Profit Organizations	3.250%	3.250%

Economic Injury Loan Types	No Credit Available Elsewhere	Credit Available Elsewhere
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives	4.000%	N/A
Non-Profit Organizations	3.250%	N/A

#### **What are Loan Terms?**

The law authorizes loan terms up to a maximum of 30 years. However, the law restricts businesses with credit available elsewhere to a maximum 7-year term. SBA sets the installment payment amount and corresponding maturity based upon each borrower's ability to repay. Borrowers may be required to provide collateral.



### **What are the Loan Amount Limits?**

- **Business Loans** – The law limits business loans to \$2,000,000 for the repair or replacement of real estate, inventories, machinery, equipment and all other physical losses. Subject to this maximum, loan amounts cannot exceed the verified uninsured disaster loss.
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** – The law limits EIDLs to \$2,000,000 for alleviating economic injury caused by the disaster. The actual amount of each loan is limited to the economic injury determined by SBA, less business interruption insurance and other recoveries up to the administrative lending limit. EIDL assistance is available only to entities and their owners who cannot provide for their own recovery from non-government sources, as determined by the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- **Business Loan Ceiling** – The \$2,000,000 statutory limit for business loans applies to the combination of physical, economic injury, mitigation and refinancing, and applies to all disaster loans to a business and its affiliates for each disaster. If a business is a major source of employment, SBA has the authority to waive the \$2,000,000 statutory limit.
- **Home Loans** – SBA regulations limit home loans to \$500,000 for the repair or replacement of real estate and \$100,000 to repair or replace personal property. Subject to these maximums, loan amounts cannot exceed the verified uninsured disaster loss.

### **What Restrictions are there on Loan Eligibility?**

- **Uninsured Losses** – Only uninsured or otherwise uncompensated disaster losses are eligible. Any insurance proceeds which are required to be applied against outstanding mortgages are not available to fund disaster repairs and do not reduce loan eligibility. However, any insurance proceeds voluntarily applied to any outstanding mortgages do reduce loan eligibility.
- **Ineligible Property** – Secondary homes, personal pleasure boats, airplanes, recreational vehicles and similar property are not eligible, unless used for business purposes. Property such as antiques and collections are eligible only to the extent of their functional value. Amounts for landscaping, swimming pools, etc., are limited.
- **Noncompliance** – Applicants who have not complied with the terms of previous SBA loans may not be eligible. This includes borrowers who did not maintain flood and/or hazard insurance on previous SBA loans.

**Note:** Loan applicants should check with agencies / organizations administering any grant or other assistance program under this declaration to determine how an approval of SBA disaster loan might affect their eligibility.

### **Is There Help with Funding Mitigation Improvements?**

If your loan application is approved, you may be eligible for additional funds to cover the cost of improvements that will protect your property against future damage. Examples of improvements include retaining walls, seawalls, sump pumps, etc. Mitigation loan money would be in addition to the amount of the approved loan but may not exceed 20 percent of total amount of physical damage to real property, including leasehold improvements, and personal property as verified by SBA to a maximum of \$500,000 for home loans. It is not necessary for the description of improvements and cost estimates to be submitted with the application. SBA approval of the mitigating measures will be required before any loan increase.

### **Is There Help Available for Refinancing?**

- SBA can refinance all or part of prior mortgages that are evidenced by a recorded lien, when the applicant (1) does not have credit available elsewhere, (2) has suffered substantial uncompensated disaster damage (40 percent or more of the value of the property or 50% or more of the value of the structure), and (3) intends to repair the damage.
- **Businesses** – Business owners may be eligible for the refinancing of existing mortgages or liens on real estate, machinery and equipment, up to the amount of the loan for the repair or replacement of real estate, machinery, and equipment.
- **Homes** – Homeowners may be eligible for the refinancing of existing liens or mortgages on homes, up to the amount of the loan for real estate repair or replacement.

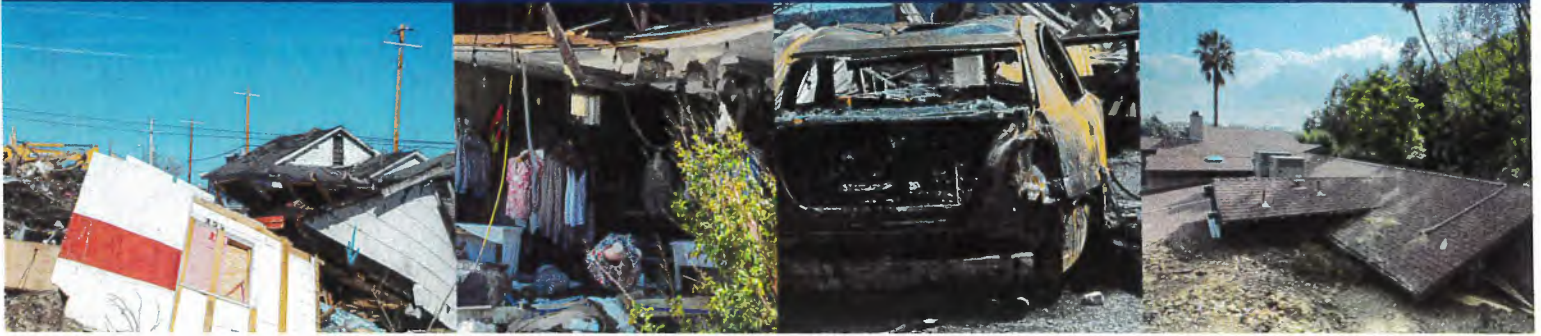
### **What if I Decide to Relocate?**

You may use your SBA disaster loan to relocate. The amount of the relocation loan depends on whether you relocate voluntarily or involuntarily. If you are interested in relocation, an SBA representative can provide you with more details on your specific situation.

### **Are There Insurance Requirements for Loans?**

To protect each borrower and the Agency, SBA may require you to obtain and maintain appropriate insurance. By law, borrowers whose damaged or collateral property is located in a special flood hazard area must purchase and maintain flood insurance. SBA requires that flood insurance coverage be the lesser of 1) the total of the disaster loan, 2) the insurable value of the property, or 3) the maximum insurance available.

Applications for disaster loans may be submitted online using the MySBA Loan Portal at <https://lending.sba.gov> or other locally announced locations. Please contact the SBA's Customer Service Center by email at [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) or by phone at 1-800-659-2955 for further assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.



# SBA Disaster Loans for Homeowners and Renters

## Benefits of a disaster loan

- ☐ Low-interest, fixed rate with terms up to 30 years
- ☐ No payment due and no interest accrued for 12 months from the date of the loan disbursement
- ☐ Up to \$500,000 to cover damage to primary residences
- ☐ Up to \$100,000 to replace destroyed home contents and personal property, including vehicles)
- ☐ Funds available for mitigation measures to build back better and protect against future disasters
- ☐ No need to wait for insurance to settle before applying

## What you need to apply for a disaster loan

- ☐ Cell phone and contact information for all applicants
- ☐ Social Security numbers for all applicants
- ☐ Financial information, e.g. income, account balances, monthly expenses
- ☐ Information about your deed or lease
- ☐ Insurance information, if available

## Ways to apply



- ☐ Scan the QR Code
- ☐ Visit [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster)
- ☐ Call (800) 659-2955 to locate a Recovery Center for application assistance

## Questions?

- ☐ Call (800) 659-2955 (dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services)





# Préstamos por desastre para propietarios de hogares e inquilinos

## Beneficios de un préstamo por desastre:

- ☐ Baja tasa de interés fija con plazos de hasta 30 años.
- ☐ No se requiere pago ni se generan intereses durante los primeros 12 meses a partir de la fecha de entrega del préstamo.
- ☐ Préstamo máximo de hasta 500,000 dólares para cubrir daños en la residencia principal.
- ☐ Préstamo máximo de 100,000 dólares para bienes y propiedad personal (incluidos vehículos).
- ☐ Fondos disponibles para implementar medidas de mitigación y reconstruir con mayor resiliencia y seguridad.
- ☐ No es necesario esperar a que se concluya el proceso del seguro antes de realizar la solicitud.

## Lo que necesita para solicitar un préstamo por desastre:

- ☐ Número de teléfono celular e información de contacto de todos los solicitantes.
- ☐ Número de seguro social de todos los solicitantes.
- ☐ Información financiera (ingresos, balances de cuentas, gastos mensuales, etc.).
- ☐ Información de su escritura o contrato de arrendamiento.
- ☐ Información del seguro, en caso de contar con ella.

## Formas de solicitar:



- ☐ Escanee el código QR.
- ☐ Visite [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster).
- ☐ Llame al 800-659-2955 para localizar un Centro de Recuperación y ayuda con su solicitud.

## ¿Preguntas?

- ☐ Llame al (800) 659-2955 (marque 7-1-1 para acceder a los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones).



# Economic Injury Disaster Loans for Businesses and Non-Profits

## Benefits of an SBA Working Capital Loan (EIDL)

- ☐ Up to \$2 million to meet ordinary and necessary financial obligation
- ☐ Low fixed interest rate with terms up to 30 years
- ☐ No payment due and no interest accrued for 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement

## What you need to apply for a disaster loan

- ☐ Cell phone and contact information for all applicants
- ☐ Social Security numbers and Employer Identification Numbers (EIN) for all applicants/owners
- ☐ Financial information, e.g. income, account balances, monthly expenses
- ☐ Complete copy of the most recent Federal income tax return
- ☐ Insurance information, if available

## Ways to apply



- ☐ Scan the QR Code
- ☐ Visit [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster)
- ☐ Call (800) 659-2955 to locate a Recovery Center for application assistance

## Questions?

- ☐ Call (800) 659-2955 (dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services)





# Préstamos por desastre

## tras daños económicos dirigidos a empresas y organizaciones sin fines de lucro

### Beneficios de un préstamo por desastre:

- ☐ Hasta 2 millones de dólares para cumplir con obligaciones financieras y operativas.
- ☐ Baja tasa de interés fija con plazos de hasta 30 años.
- ☐ No se requiere pago ni se generan intereses durante los primeros 12 meses a partir de la fecha de entrega del préstamo.

### Qué necesitan las pequeñas empresas y organizaciones sin fines de lucro para solicitar un préstamo por desastre:

- ☐ Número de teléfono celular e información de contacto de todos los solicitantes.
- ☐ Número de seguro social y números de identificación fiscal (EIN) de todos los solicitantes/propietarios.
- ☐ Información financiera (ingresos, balances de cuentas, gastos mensuales).
- ☐ Copia completa de la última declaración de impuestos federales presentada.
- ☐ Información del seguro, en caso de contar con ella.

### Formas de solicitar:



- ☐ Escanee el código QR.
- ☐ Visite [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster).
- ☐ Llame al 800-659-2955 para localizar un Centro de Recuperación y ayuda con su solicitud.

### ¿Preguntas?

- ☐ Llame al (800) 659-2955 (marque 7-1-1 para acceder a los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones).



U.S. Small Business  
Administration

DISASTER ASSISTANCE  
Customer Service Center - (800)659-2955

**FLORIDA - HURRICANE DEBBY**

**Office Locations**

Declaration #20533

Updated 9/03/24

Office Type	County	Building Name/Location	Street	City	ST	Zip	Day	Hours
BRC	Levy	Yankeetown Town Hall	<u>6241 Harmony Lane</u>	Yankeetown	FL	34498	Mon - Fri Sat	8:00 am - 6:00 pm 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
BRC	Manatee	Rocky Bluff Branch Library	<u>6750 US-301</u>	Ellenton	FL	34222	Mon - Thur Fri - Sat	9:00 am - 7:00 pm 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
BRC	Sarasota	Sarasota Christian Church	<u>2923 Ashton Rd</u>	Sarasota	FL	34231	Mon - Sat Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
DRC	Columbia	Old Red Cross Building	<u>180 E Duval Street</u>	Lake City	FL	32055	Mon - Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
DRC	Dixie	Old School Board Building	<u>841 SE 349 Hwy</u>	Old Town	FL	32680	Mon - Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
DRC	Lafayette	Mayo Community Center	<u>150 NW Community Cir</u>	Mayo	FL	32066	Mon - Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
DRC	Madison	The Bridge Church	<u>1135 US East 90</u>	Madison	FL	32340	Mon - Sun	<b>Opening 09.03.24 @ 1:00 pm</b> 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
DRC	Manatee	Lakewood Ranch Library	<u>16410 Rangeland Pkwy</u>	Bradenton	FL	34211	Mon - Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
DRC	Sarasota	Sarasota Christian Church	<u>2923 Ashton Rd</u>	Sarasota	FL	34231	Mon - Sat Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm



U.S. Small Business  
Administration

DISASTER ASSISTANCE  
Customer Service Center - (800)659-2955

DRC	Suwannee	Hale Park	<u>215 Duval ST NE</u>	Live Oak	FL	32064	Mon - Sun	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
MDRC	Levy	Chiefland City Hall	<u>214 East Park Ave.</u>	Chiefland	FL	32626	Mon - Sun	<b>Opening 09.03.24 @ 1:00 pm</b> 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
MDRC	Taylor	Loughridge Park	<u>1100 W Hampton Springs Ave</u>	Perry	FL	32347	Mon - Fri	9:00 am - 7:00 pm



**COLUMBIA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Economic Development Advisory Board**

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners welcomes you to our Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting. Below you will find the Rules of Decorum and the Rules of Public Participation, which we request be followed if you choose to participate. Attached is the agenda for this meeting.

**RULES OF DECORUM**

1. Commissioners, county staff, members of the public, and any other person speaking during any meeting shall be respectful to the Board and all others and shall refrain from making personal attacks of any kind. Any person who becomes disorderly or fails to confine remarks to the identified subject or business at hand shall be cautioned by the Chair and given the opportunity to conclude remarks on the subject in a decorous manner within the designated time limit. Any person failing to comply as cautioned may be found to be out of order. An individual found to be out of order shall not address the Board for the remainder of the meeting unless permission is granted by a majority vote of the Commissioners present.
2. If an individual is found to be out of order, he or she shall immediately relinquish the podium. If the person does not do so, he or she may be subject to removal from the meeting room.
3. Order shall be observed while meetings are in session. Clapping, cheering, heckling, or verbal outbursts in support of or opposition to a speaker or his or her remarks are discouraged. Interruptions of any kind will not be permitted. All attendees shall come to order when called upon to do so by the Chair. Failure to come to order may result in removal of the individual or individuals determined by the Chair to be disrupting the meeting. Persons exiting the meeting while in session shall do so in a quiet and courteous manner.
4. In the interest of public safety, no signs or placards shall be mounted on sticks, posts, poles or similar structures. Any other signs, placards, or banners shall be displayed so as not to disrupt meetings or interfere with public view of board business.

Adopted by Resolution 2017R-23



## **RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Board of County Commissioners recognizes the value and benefit of orderly participation of citizens during public meetings. To ensure a fair opportunity for all citizens to participate, the following rules and procedures shall apply to all citizen participation during meetings, public hearings, and workshops. These rules are supplemental to the Board's rules regarding decorum.

**Public Comment at Economic Development Advisory Board Meetings.** Time shall be allotted at the conclusion of each EDAB Meeting item for public comment. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes. The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

**Public Comment on Regular Agenda Items.** Each person who wishes to address the Chair, Economic Development Director, Advisory Board member or other invited guests regarding a Regular Agenda Item shall complete one comment card for each item and submit the card or cards to County staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. Speakers should speak clearly into the microphone. Although free to ask questions of the Advisory Board and staff, speakers are reminded that meetings are not a forum for debate between the Board Members and/or staff and the public and that responses, if any, shall be directed through the Chair. **The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes per item.** The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

**Citizen Comment.** Each person who wishes to address the Commission during the Citizen Comment portion of the Agenda shall complete a comment card and submit the card to County staff in the front of the meeting room. Cards shall be submitted before the meeting is called to order. When called upon by the Chair and prior to making comment, the speaker shall approach the podium, identify him- or herself, state a place of residence, and state whether the speaker represents anyone other than him- or herself. The remarks of each speaker may be up to two (2) minutes. The Chair shall have discretion to afford additional time to any speaker.

Adopted by Resolution 2017R-23