



# Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

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## *SWFRPC Economic Development Recommendations*

The Economic Development Subcommittee of the Regional Visioning Committee was established to bring together key leaders involved with Economic Development. The committee was charged with determining how the Council could better assist to enhance and build regional efforts. Several meetings were held to discuss and identify areas of focus for the direction of the new Executive Director and Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council.

The visioning committee has identified core functions under the SWFRPC

- Environmental
- Economic Development
- Planning

Discussion regarding ways the SWFRPC could enhance Economic Development

- Grants (collaboration ideas, incubate regional project concepts)
- Technology
- Share Ideas
- Infrastructure (Broadband)
- Vision/Strategic Planning – Florida Chamber Foundation's 6 Pillars
- CEDS
- The SWFRPC be a partner to the potential new regional ED organization.

The outcomes from these discussions:

1. Clearinghouse of Regional Data and Dissemination (website, GIS, etc)
  - a. Collection and Delivery of Economic Data
2. Continue to manage the Economic Development District (EDD), which requires the region to have a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
  - a. Promotion/Benefits of EDD
  - b. Designation of the EDD
  - c. Coordination of Efforts/ Matrix
  - d. Managing the EDD
  - e. Incorporate 6 Pillars Approach for the CEDS
  - f. Enhanced outreach to EDO's to promote value added services
3. Technical Assistance (Grant writing)
  - a. Applying for on behalf of an agency
  - b. Partnering with the Council's stakeholders

**RECOMMENDATION:** The SWFRPC is asking for the EDOs to support the efforts identified by the subcommittee.