



SECOND FORMATIVE MEETING OF TEAM LEVY: PROVIDING THE NATURE COAST WITH THE BEST APPROACH FOR THE FUTURE

Session Notes • December 1, 2008 • Tommy Usher Center

SUMMARY

Team Levy held its second formative meeting on December 1, 2008 at the Tommy Usher Center in Chiefland, Florida. Team members invested two hours in reviewing and editing results from the first formative meeting of October 28, 2008. These Session Notes are designed to provide the Nature Coast Business Development Council, Inc. (Nature Coast) with a clear outline of the best approach for the future, and a general commitment to quality and focus as they raise funds and promote a long-term Team Levy engagement.

Special attention was given to updating new participants, ensuring Guiding Principles were appropriate, and creating a year-long calendar of work for 2009. To support these activities, the Team agreed to form a small Agenda Planning Team to meet prior to each session and ensure a quality, high-impact Program of Work. These Session Notes should serve as the first consensus planning resource for the Team.

Anticipating the substantive Program of Work of 2009, the Team showed special interest in developing an accurate economic and land use view of the Levy County's future, and encouraging consistent participation from Team members. The Team crafted and agreed on a clear statement of intent for the initiative that may be used with leaders and stakeholders across the County and Florida.

COMMENTS FROM CHAIR OF NATURE COAST

On behalf of the Nature Coast Board, I want to thank the leaders who participated in the formative meetings of Team Levy. You have made it clear that our community needs this kind of collaborative initiative, and provided important expectations about a Program of Work. Working as your fiscal agent, Nature Coast will use Team Levy's Guiding Principles and commitment to long-term engagement as a resource to raise funds, and manage timelines. The Statement of Intent provides stakeholders and potential grantors with a sense of opportunity and, we hope, sound investment. Nature Coast will keep Team Levy updated on resources with an eye towards launching the proposed Program of Work as soon as possible while ensuring we all act with fiscal responsibility. To inspire investors, Team members may be called on to join in on grant making, letters of support, and conference calls. Thanks to the careful formative work of the Team, we all have the briefing resources required to champion our cause.

Carol J. McQueen

CONSENSUS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

With the completion of two formative meetings, the Team has reached consensus on the standards and expectations for Team engagement and action:

- ➔ Draw on a diversified leadership base from around the County with consideration over time of the following strengths and perspectives: Industry (Finance Aquaculture/Ag/Forestry/Small Business, etc); Geography/Communities of Levy County; Race and Ethnicity; Community and County Leaders; Young Leaders; Education (Pre-K through 12), CFCC; Workforce; Faith Based Leaders; Chambers of Commerce; Tourism; and Lodging
- ➔ Nature Coast is the lead organization and fiscal agent and will support Team Levy by performing fundraising and grant outreach and ensure Team Levy is a priority through routine Board updates and status reports.
- ➔ Be Careful and Candid Regarding Personal Agendas; Consider Work that Benefits the County as a Whole
- ➔ Listen to Peers
- ➔ Data Driven - "Look Back and Forward" in Utilizing and Understanding Information
- ➔ "Funding Matters"; Set Budget Conscious Agendas; Fiscally Responsible
- ➔ Focus on Overall Quality of Life
- ➔ Be True to our Shared Vision for the Place We Call "Home"
- ➔ Team Levy is a Consensus-building Team – Synergy
- ➔ Authenticity Matters
- ➔ Transparency; Everything is in Plan View



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Session Notes • December 1, 2008 • Tommy Usher Center • Page 2

STATEMENT OF INTENT – TEAM LEVY'S KEY MESSAGE

The Team reviewed background information on Team Levy, some developed prior to the formative sessions, and determined that a clear Statement of Intent was required. The Team reviewed the work of the first formative session and crafted the following consensus statement, suitable for all stakeholders across Levy County and Florida:

*Team Levy is a Diverse and Collaborative Group
Created to Establish Milestones and Energize the
Community in Sound Planning Initiatives*

NEW IDEAS REGARDING ESSENTIAL PARTICIPANTS AND A PROGRAM OF WORK IN 2009

The Team provided important counsel on preparing for a Program of Work in 2009, including:

- Pay special attention to transportation and mobility plans at both County and regional levels, including updates on the Suncoast Parkway
- Be sure to focus questions and inquiries on the balanced requirements for commerce and residential living
- Connect all discussions to overall quality of life
- Be sure to take on the complexities of the diversification of the economy, and value jobs for the future
- Reach out to the University of Florida and involve their appropriate leaders and centers of excellence
- Work in the context of existing and potential infrastructure and job-driving projects like the new hospital, Progress Energy's proposed new energy facility, and Central Florida Community College's expansion.
- Connect to regional projects and resources as needed

The Team engaged in a workshop to populate a 12-year timeline of critical infrastructure and planning milestones, revealing strong interest in: the decisions and movement of temporary, construction-oriented workforce; the decisions of new, permanent workforce; understanding with more specificity the relative timing of all key infrastructure projects; and working as a team through the opportunities and barriers presented by current transportation and land use plans.

Moderators Note: The timeline workshop indicated an opportunity for Team Levy to coordinate and verify a critical infrastructure, economic, and growth timeline as a

part of its 2009 Program of Work. This could be a powerful resource for leaders and stakeholders across the County.

PROGRAM OF WORK CALENDAR FOR 2009

The Team reached consensus on the attached Program of Work Calendar for 2009 (see Appendix), with the need for coordination and support from a small Agenda Planning Team. It is important to note that a critical next step is the securing of funding for the Program of Work, and it is the hope of Team Levy that they have made the best choices in setting an outstanding Program of work for the future. Sites for the quarterly sessions of Team Levy will be identified well in advance and moved on occasion, and with sensitivity to the vast geography of the County.

NEXT STEPS

As 2008 comes to a close, Nature Coast will continue to seek investment and grant partners and help with the formation of an Agenda Planning Team. Nature Coast will keep Team Levy members updated on funding and other resources. Sites for all 2009 quarterly sessions will be considered and scheduled. Drawing on the formative sessions, a 2009 Program of Work will be drafted by the Fairfield Index consultant team for Agenda Planning Team and Nature Coast review. A 2009 Program of Work would be published to the entire Team prior to the first quarterly session in February. The Nature Coast will continue with its commitment to post, as a primary initiative, Team Levy session notes, calendars, and other documents. Comments, questions and ideas are encouraged and should be directed to Amanda Douglas, Executive Director, Nature Coast Business Development Council, (352) 486-5470 or adouglas@naturecoast.

TEAM LEVY

PROPOSED PROGRAM OF WORK CALENDAR FOR 2009

