

Greater Hernando County Chamber of Commerce
Government Affairs Report
March 25, 2019

Overview of Most Recent
Developments

The Chamber committed \$1,000 to help pay for the continuing services of Coastal Engineering on the Comp Plan. Hernando Progress committed \$2,000 and the other organizations of the HCBA were awaiting their BOD guidance. The total requested was \$8,000. These monies will be used to address the map that designates certain areas for development. Buddy Selph is our representative and is vital to keeping this going in the right direction.

On March 12, 2019 myself, Pat Crowley, Ray Heater, and Erik van de Boogaard visited Tallahassee and met with Florida House of Representative Blaise Ingoglia, State Senator Wilton Simpson, and Florida House of Representative Dr. Ralph Massullo. As a group we discussed the funding request that came from our County that was addressed in the Legislative Delegation previously held in Hernando County. Pat also discussed with Ashley Hofecker, Blaise's aide, organizing a bus trip to Tallahassee in 2020.

Continuous dialogue centers on the shortfall of approximately 11 million dollars for the upcoming County budget. Workshops will come up and more information will be developed. This topic should be discussed with our group as we get more information.

Items that are ongoing and may need discussion

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is working on a Transit Development Plan (TPD) for Hernando County. The TPD major update for our County is underway and the consultants are working with the Hernando Country Planning Department and the Transit Agency (The Bus) to develop the plan. This is to be completed by September 1, 2019 to be presented to the FDOT.

The SBA Office of Advocacy is hosting a roundtable in Tampa on Thursday April to hear from small entities on the EPA and Army Corps, proposed rule to revise the definition of Waters of the U.S. We have asked Charles Greenwell to attend in behalf of the Chamber as he has knowledge of this subject and is on the Port Authority. He has accepted and is a Chamber member.

We received an e-mail from Hilary Holley, the regional manager for Florida's Chief Financial Officer, Jimmy Patronis. She would like to come to Hernando County with any upcoming events and be available to our citizens with any questions.

Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) will be meeting on March 25 in the afternoon. Pat and I will be representing the Chamber. We requested through the HCBA for additional participation but have not heard back.

The Advocacy Committee was represented at Keys to Success. I moderated a panel of the three aides to our local representatives and had a set of questions for each one of them. It was well attended at PHSC North Campus.