

Rick Scott
GOVERNOR



Doug Darling
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 20, 2012

Charles Pattinson, President
1000 Friends of Florida
PO Box 5948
Tallahassee, FL 32314

Dear President Pattinson,

Your presence and leadership are requested on **February 7, 2012 from 10:00AM—3:00PM in Tallahassee** to engage in a facilitated discussion with your regional colleagues about the issues affecting economic development in your area. The purpose of the forum is to review and prioritize goals, objectives and strategies for implementation by state government. An initial set of goals, objectives and strategies have been developed as a result of research, plan reviews and a statewide meeting in November.

Section 20.60, Florida Statutes calls for the Department of Economic Opportunity's Division of Strategic Business Development to create a 5-year statewide strategic plan designed to help guide the future of Florida's economy. This regional forum will provide critical input to the development of this plan, which is scheduled for completion this spring. Your recommendations will help identify and set priorities among strategies that state government should undertake to improve business expansion, recruitment, retention and job creation.

We are pleased to conduct these regional forums in partnership with Florida's 11 regional planning councils, all of which are updating their Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies this year. These regional forums serve as a stepping stone towards aligning existing statewide plans with regional and local plans. The Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy™, developed over the past few years by the Florida Chamber Foundation, serves as a common organizational framework for our efforts.

ACTION ITEM: Please confirm your participation by sending an email to Stephanie.Gibbons@deo.myflorida.com by **31 January 2012**. Please do not hesitate to call Stephanie at (850) 717-8967 or Charles Blume at (850) 674-4571 if you have any questions.

*confirmed email
1/24*

Enclosed you will find some additional information relating to this upcoming meeting. I look forward to working with you as we plan together for Florida's future.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Doug Darling in cursive script.

Doug Darling
Executive Director, DEO

Handwritten signature of Charles Blume in cursive script.

Charles Blume
Executive Director, ARPC

Enclosures

Division of Strategic Business Development

The Capitol, Suite 1902 | 400 S. Monroe Street | Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4120
850.487.2568 | TTY/TDD 1-800-955-8771 | Voice 1-800-955-8770 | FloridaJobs.org

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Regional Stakeholders Forum Agenda Developing Florida's 5-Year Strategic Direction

Apalachee Regional Planning Council
Tallahassee Community College
Workforce Center, Building #38
444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee FL 32304
February 7, 2012 // 10:00AM—3:00PM

OBJECTIVES

- Obtain insights from region to determine what actions or direction the state should consider adopting to assist with economic growth.
- Identify the most important strategies to support the promotion of regional business formation, expansion, recruitment and retention.

AGENDA

9:00 AM REGISTRATION DESK OPENS, COFFEE AND NETWORKING TIME
10:00 AM WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
10:08 AM OVERVIEW OF PROCESS
10:18 AM USING THE SIX PILLARS
10:25 AM ECONOMIC TRENDS AND CONDITIONS
10:50 AM REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
11:05 AM VISION/GOALS/OBJECTIVES
12:05 PM LUNCH BREAK**
12:45 PM REVIEW OF THE PILLAR BREAKOUT SESSION
1:00 PM TRANSITION TIME
1:10 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS
2:30 PM REPORT OUTS
3:00 PM WRAP UP

***Participants are welcome to bring a bag lunch or opt for a catered meal (caterer to be determined). To be included in the order for lunch, please send an email to Stephanie.gibbons@deo.myflorida.com. Please specify any dietary needs at that time. Catered lunches will cost \$10/person.*

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