



Jon Romine
Harrison Newton
May 9th, 2023

Housing Branch May Meeting

Lee County Recovery Task Force



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Introductions

Recovery Task Force Updates

Community Feedback

Initiative Design

Workshop Design

Questions and Next Steps

Public Comment



Introductions



Membership

- **Branch Leads:**
 - Gary Griffin
- **Branch Members:**
 - Amy Yearsly
 - Mary Gibbs
 - Chris Simoneau
 - Lee Ford
 - Diana Giraldo
 - Richard F. Durling
 - Marion Briggs
 - Jan-Erik Hustrulid
 - Marcia Davis
 - Kevin Besserer
 - Dan O'Berski
 - Bradley Alix
 - Malaina Mote
 - Sharon Ralston
 - Karen Rodriguez

Introductions



Branch Meeting Support Team

Facilitator(s)

- Jon Romine
- Harrison Newton

Branch Support

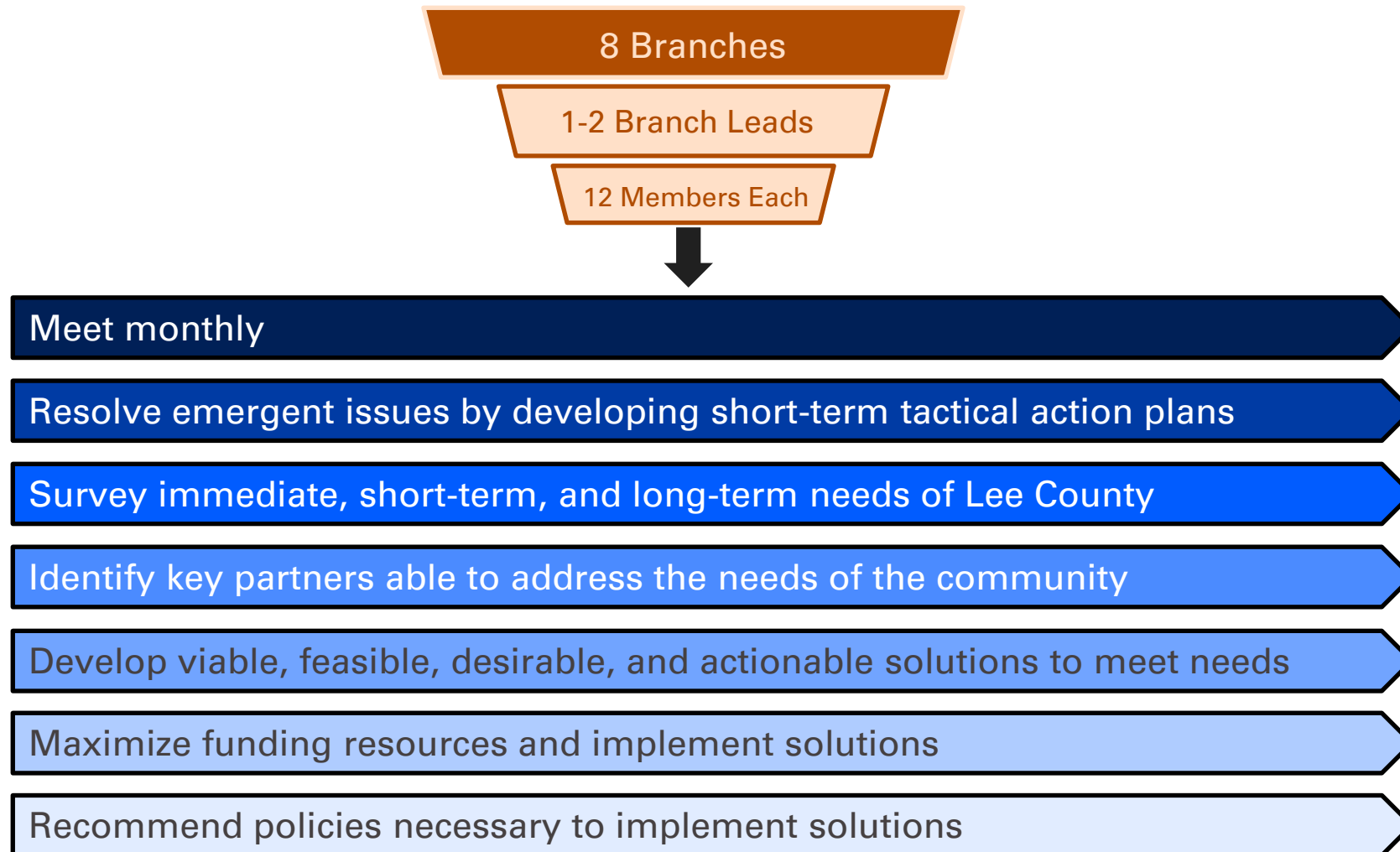
- Robbie Heere

Recovery Task Force Membership

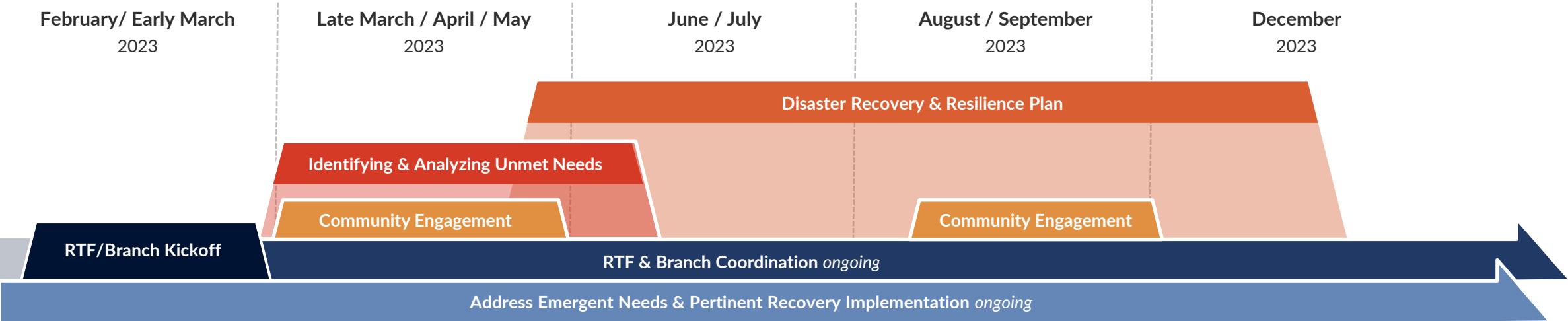


Agency	Position	Liaison
Board of County Commissioners	Commissioner	Kevin Ruane, Chair
City of Bonita Springs	Councilman	Chris Corrie
City of Cape Coral	Mayor	John Gunter
Village of Estero	Mayor	Jon McLain
City of Fort Myers	Mayor	Kevin Anderson
Town of Fort Myers Beach	Councilman	Bill Veach
City of Sanibel	Councilwoman	Holly Smith
Law Enforcement	Undersheriff	John Holloway
Lehigh Acres Fire District	Fire Chief	Robert Dilallo
Lee County School Board	Chairman	Armor Persons
Lee Health	Board Member	David Collins
Legislative Delegation	Representative	Jenna Persons-Mulicka
Constitutional Office	Property Appraiser	Matt Caldwell

RTF Structure: Branches



High Level Process for Long-term Recovery Planning



RTF / Branch Kickoff

Establish the working structure for RTF and launch branches. Identify immediate needs and goals to address.

Launch website.

RTF & Branch Coordination

Identify recovery objectives; inform impact and needs assessment; establish projects; incorporate community's priorities; inform long term planning; oversee recovery plan implementation.

Identifying & Analyzing Unmet Needs

Hurricane Ian storm impact analysis, and a cursory look at outstanding needs that will begin to shape recovery priorities.

Community Engagement*

Comprehensive community outreach to inform and validate needs, identify solutions, and validate planning.

Hurricane Ian Disaster Recovery & Resilience Plan

A framework for Lee County's recovery from Hurricane Ian, including prioritized projects, funding sources, and key stakeholders.

Emergent Needs & Pertinent Recovery Implementation

Conduct recovery operations and manage recovery funding streams: short-term, intermediate, long-term.

RTF is forum to identify emergent and time sensitive needs and identifying best path forward.

Assumptions



Branch members are aware of the **short timeline** associated with upcoming objectives



Branch members **understand their commitment** to the development of the Recovery and Resilience Plan

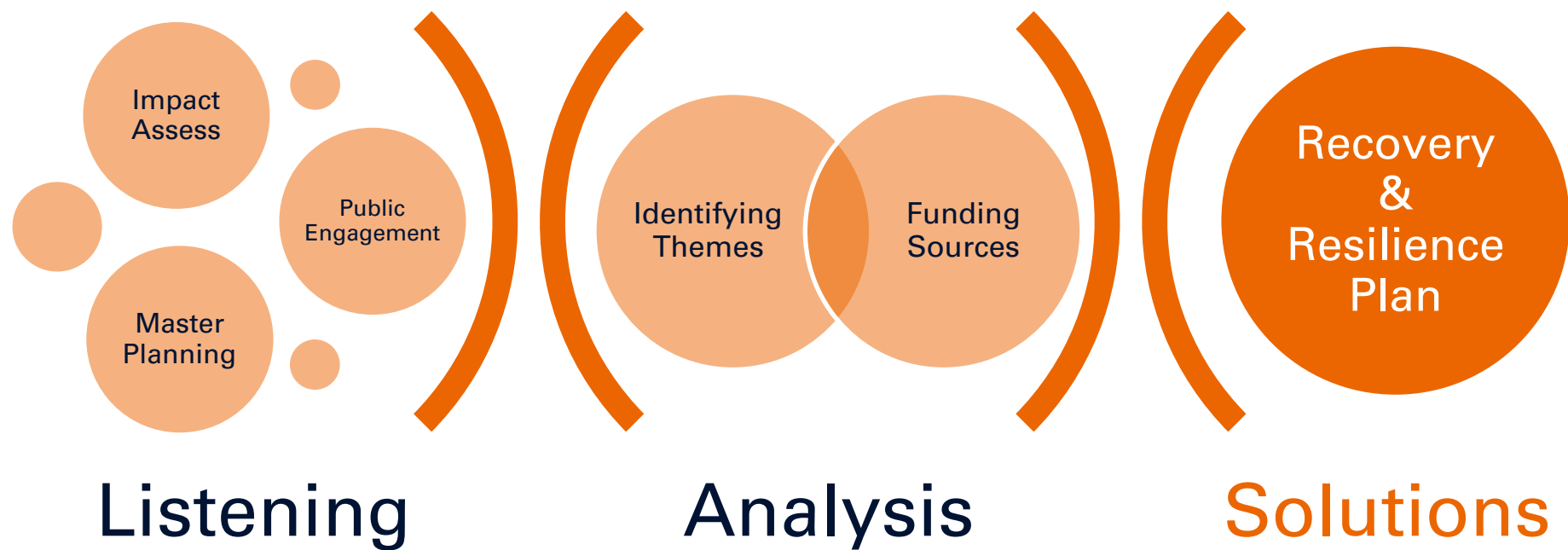


Branch objectives align under the current **direction of the Recovery Task Force**



Successful completion of branch objectives may require branch members to **review information, prior to branch meetings**, enabling higher levels of meeting productivity, and increasing space for branch member discussion

Overview of Branch Problem Solving Process



Meeting Purpose



Determine if initial community engagement feedback aligns with branch priorities.



Review initiative development framework. What information do branch members need to identify for initiative development? What are your initial ideas?



Review and validate workshop design. What partners need to attend to provide input, support, and information on initiative ideas?



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Updates from the Recovery Task Force Meeting



RTF Updates

1

Discussion of Capital Improvement Projects

2

Emergent Issues

3

Resiliency Conversation

4

Next Steps

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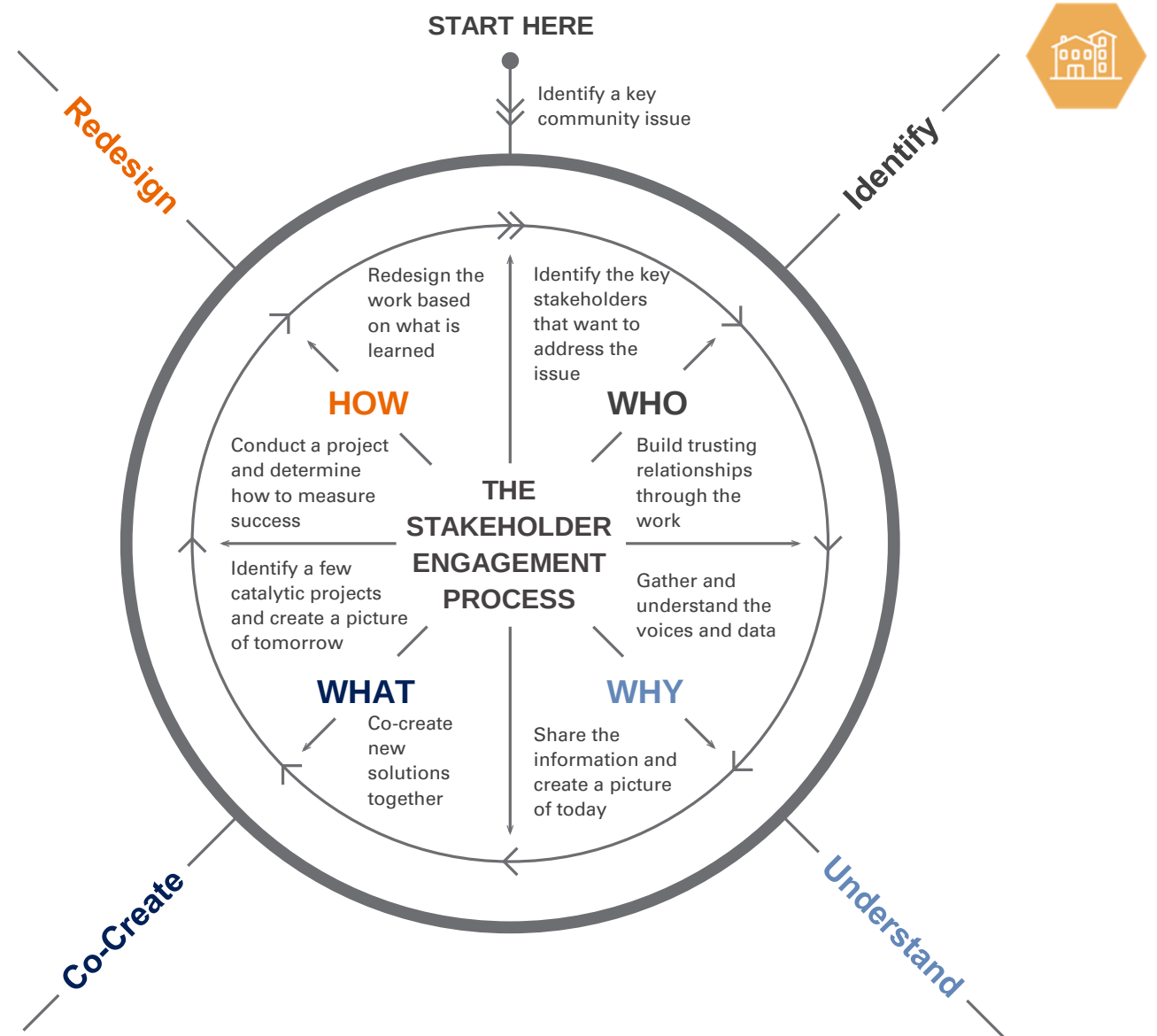
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Community Engagement Process



Initial Survey Feedback



To date, there have been 1,435 responses to the survey.

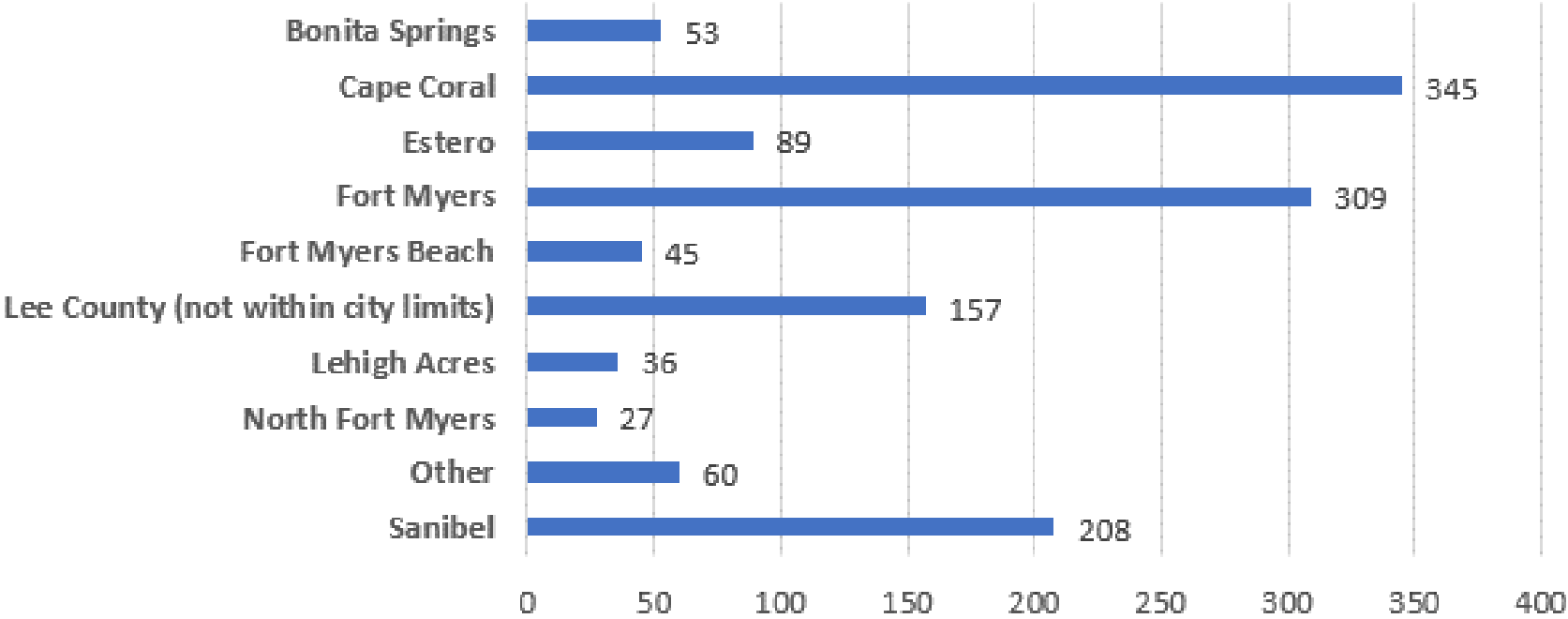
The top 5 priorities for Lee County residents:

- Housing and Homelessness
- Environmental Issues
- Crime, Violence, and Public Safety
- Mental Health
- Hunger and Food Insecurity

Initial Survey Feedback



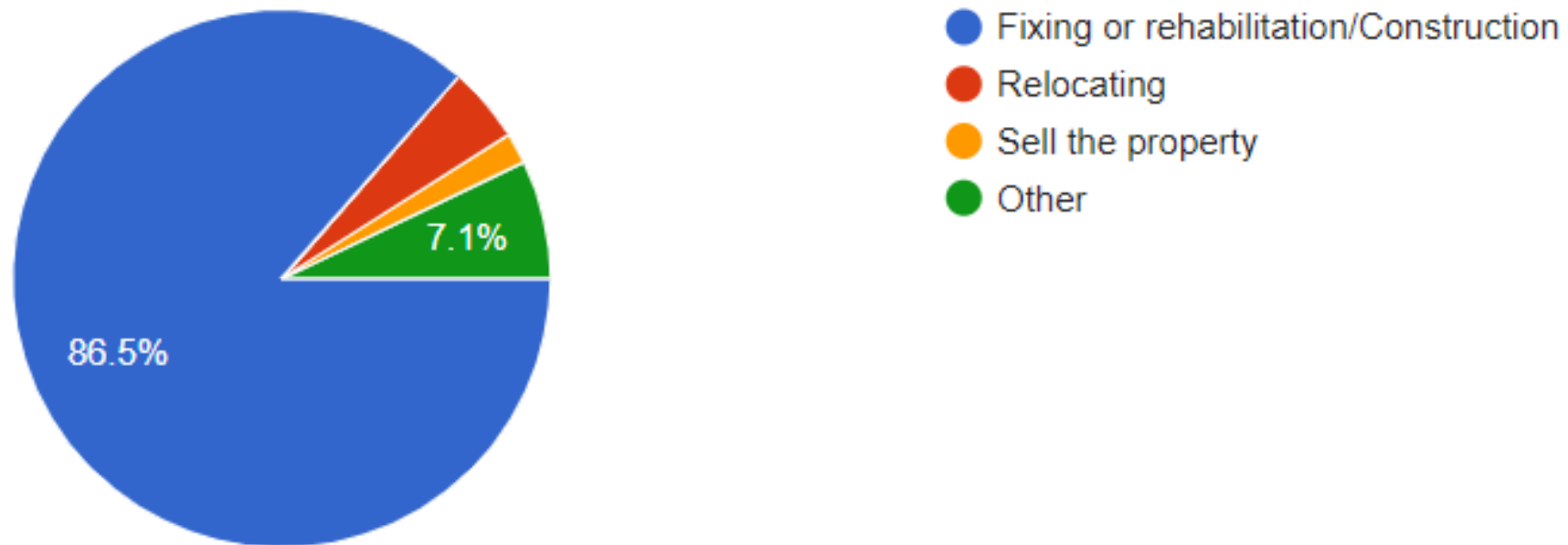
Where do respondents reside?



Initial Survey Feedback



What are respondents' intentions with their impacted property?



Initial Townhall Feedback



What are the areas that are missing from the priority list?

- Programs to help seniors stay in their homes and communities
- Address “gentrification” of land and help residents meet their costs in code changes
- Decrease density
- Remove red tape
- Availability of Citizens Insurance
- Hardening money for Lee County up to \$100,000 income
- Including Urban Planners in new code development
- Affordable housing on barrier islands for workforce
- Clarification on regulatory requirements
- Concern of companies buying rental units
- Allowing contractors to work during permit review periods

Initial Townhall Feedback



What do you wish was available for housing to meet your needs?

- Mitigation funds to rebuild to new standards rather than repair old homes
- Downpayment assistance for LMI populations
- Affordable rental units for strengthening homes(elevation) without income limits
- Workforce housing not affordable housing
- Multilanguage assistance in public libraries
- Changes in zoning and reduced changes in codes
- Lower rent for people who lost homes
- Employee housing on anchored or moored boats close to employment hubs
- Improvement to slow moving FEMA/SBA process for those who wait and are not approved for assistance

Initial On The Table Feedback



1,033 Surveys Collected (est. 20% response rate)

Top 10 Issues:

- Housing and homelessness
- Mental health and substance abuse
- Healthcare access and cost
- K-12 education
- Well-paying jobs and economic development
- Hunger and food insecurity
- Environmental issues
- Public transportation and traffic
- Early childhood development
- Generational poverty



How Does Community Feedback Align with Branch Priorities?

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Branch Action Plan



Purpose:

- Branches will develop an Action Plan as an initial step in framing identified and approved initiatives.

The Action Plan will:

- Provide a prioritization framework for existing plans and projects;
- Illustrate the planned approach for new initiatives; and
- Identify key policy changes that can support community resilience.



Branch Member Responsibilities



- Branches will need to accomplish the following to successfully develop an action plan:
 - Deliberate best approaches to addressing priorities;
 - Identify and collaborate with key partners/stakeholders who might implement initiatives or enact policy changes; and
 - Participate in workshops related to Branch priorities/initiatives.
- Branch members are responsible for facilitating the design (concept and approach) of the initiatives and identifying a lead to facilitate initiative implementation.
- Branches will need to identify the following elements of initiatives:
 - **Lead**
 - **Initiative Description and Progress**
 - **Measures of Success**
 - **Partners**



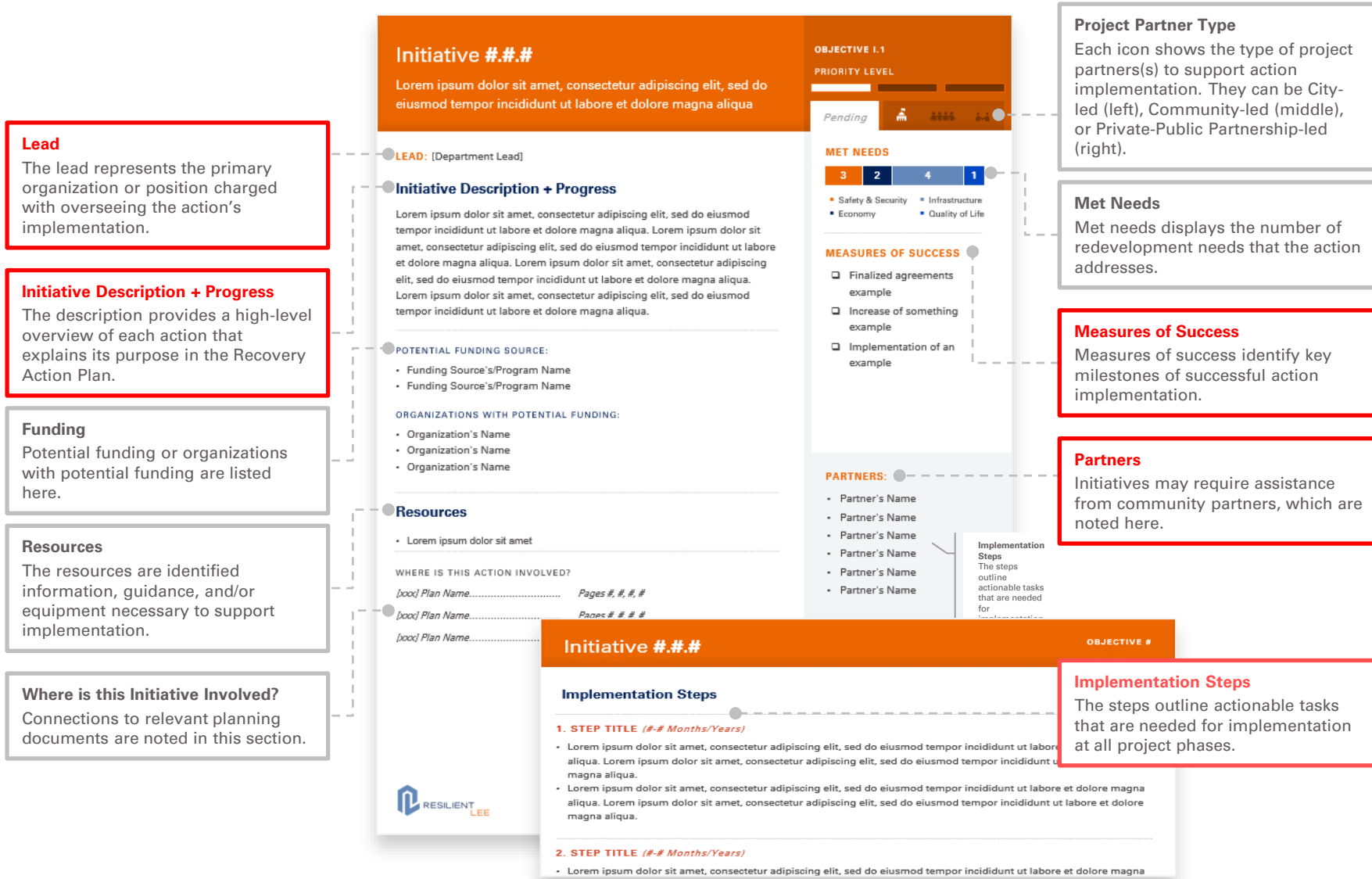
Branches may also assist in determining initiative Implementation Steps as needed.



What is an Initiative?

- An initiative constitutes the plan of action each Branch has selected, with support from the Recovery Task Force, to address validated priority areas.
- Initiatives are the critical piece of the Recovery and Resilience Plan that will showcase the steps Lee County is taking to increase overall resiliency.

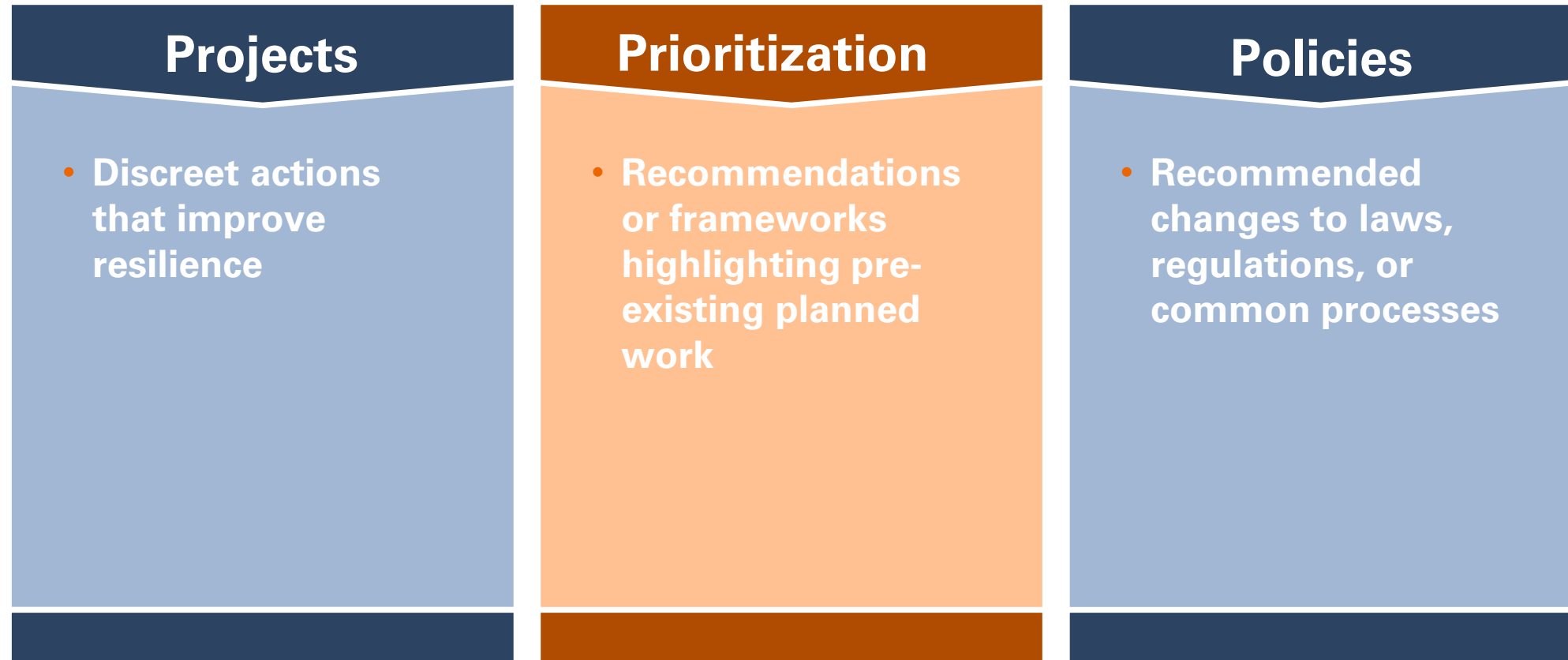
How to Read an Initiative:



Projects, Prioritization, and Policies



Branch initiatives may be of different natures but will still be incorporated into the final plan.



The Special Role of the Planning & Capacity Branch



Developing a Resilience “Overlay”

- The Planning & Capacity Branch have identified a technique for improving resilience at the policy level through developing an overlay. A resilience overlay is a tool used to:
 - Identify and address potential risks and hazards in a specific geographic area or in relation to a specific plan or set of plans; and
 - Communicate priorities across planning processes and budget development.
- Overlays often identify and visualize potential risk areas in advance to reduce disaster impacts.
- Additionally, overlays map areas that are at risk of natural disasters such as floods, wildfires, and hurricanes.
 - Other risks are sometimes mapped including infrastructure failure risk areas and economically vulnerable areas.
- Zoning and building codes can be modified to improve resiliency based on these overlays.

Takeaway: This Branch should communicate policy – related recommendations to the Planning and Capacity Branch



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What is a Workshop?

- Workshops will give branch members the opportunity to meet with partners that may support, lead, or collaborate on the development of Branch initiatives.
- The workshops are expected to take place over 4 days, with a different theme covered each day.
 - **Branch members can attend any workshop as themes and topics intersect across branches.**

Workshop Themes

- Workshops will be categorized by intersecting themes among branches including:
 - **Attainable and Resilient Workforce Housing;**
 - **Critical Infrastructure;**
 - **Community Resilience; and**
 - **Supporting Business and Workforce.**

Attainable and Resilient Workforce Housing



Topics

- Reducing or offsetting the impact of fees and other development costs to support the production of multi-unit, attainable housing.
- Incentivizing developers to produce attainable, multi-unit housing near centers of employment.
- Innovative policy approaches including community land trusts and accessory dwelling units to create more affordable housing.

Subject Matter Experts Requested

- County and municipal zoning experts
- Key developers of multi-unit housing
- Experts in community land trust policy
- Building code officials
- Emergency Management damage assessors
- County housing partners

Critical Infrastructure



Topics

- Prioritizing critical facilities for resilience upgrades and hardening.
- Identifying the infrastructure (water and power) projects that would provide the greatest resilience value in defending key infrastructure assets.
- Protecting, restoring and enhancing natural resources supporting health and resilience.
- How to best ensure Lee County has resilient supportive physical infrastructure - roads, highways, fuel and transport.

Critical Infrastructure



Subject Matter Experts Requested

- Leaders from Healthy Lee, Mental Health, and SalusCare
- County Mitigation Officer
- Leaders in mobile or telehealth services
- Lee Health infrastructure officials
- Infrastructure Improvement officials in key locations
- County Emergency Management Planning, Logistics, Communications, and Sheltering officials
- Fire and emergency response officials
- Representatives from utility companies
- County and municipal leaders
- Department of Health
- Communication Providers including satellite
- School District sheltering officials
- Experts in special needs care

Community Resilience



Topics

- Developing a unique approach to community “resilience hubs” – a best-practice model that uses a new or pre-existing community-based facility to provide disaster response and recovery support to residents.
- How can Lee County ensure vulnerable populations have care before, during and after a disaster?
- Making arts and culture institutions a more formal part of the effort to reliably provide disaster response services and potentially receive funding.

Community Resilience



Subject Matter Experts Requested

- Community resilience HUB experts
- Arts leaders from cities exhibiting best practices
- Philanthropic leaders supporting the arts
- Urban Sustainability Network Director of Community Resilience
- County and City Emergency Management staff
- Experts from Miami-Dade's art and culture community

Supporting Business and Workforce



Topics

- Empowering a diverse, all-ages workforce.
- Overcoming barriers to strengthen the job pipeline
- Advancing a better future of arts and culture in Lee County, supporting artists and increasing notoriety in the region.
- Strengthening growth sectors - retention and redevelopment - to support a resilient economy.

Supporting Business and Workforce



Subject Matter Experts Requested

- County and municipal zoning experts
- Key developers of multi-unit housing
- Micro-credentialing Program Leads
- Lee Interfaith
- 21st Century Collaborative
- New Horizons
- FutureMakers Research Leads
- Lee County Pre-K officials and providers
- Experts in creative approaches (Community Land Trusts, etc.)
- Metropolitan Transportation Organization planners
- Local permitting officials
- Knowledgeable experts about model programs in other counties
- Key sector leaders
- Florida Gulf Coast University economic development researchers

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Discussion and Questions



Discussion to close after final member questions and next steps, before opening to Public Comment.

Next Steps



Next Meeting

- Tuesday, June 6th, 2023 | 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Next Items to Accomplish

- Begin identifying initiatives to present to the Recovery Task Force
- Begin developing Branch Action Plan



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Public Comment



Adjourn

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Housing Branch



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