



Tessa LeSage
May 18th, 2023

Economic Recovery 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

Next Steps

Public Comment



Introductions



Membership

Branch Leads:

- Chad Criswell
- Dominic Cameratta

Branch Members:

- Jay Johnson
- Donna Germain
- John Lai
- Ryan Markham
- Ben Spence
- Shane Spring
- Rob Wells
- Tim Abbott
- Tim Mitchel
- Ben Siegel
- Frank Bonafilia
- Jonathan Gabel
- Kevin Barbot
- Steven Weathers
- Kyle Moran
- Jim Magnus
- Bill Johnson, Jr.
- Jacki Liszak

Introductions



Branch Meeting Support Team

Facilitator(s)

- Tessa LeSage
- Jon Romine

Branch Support

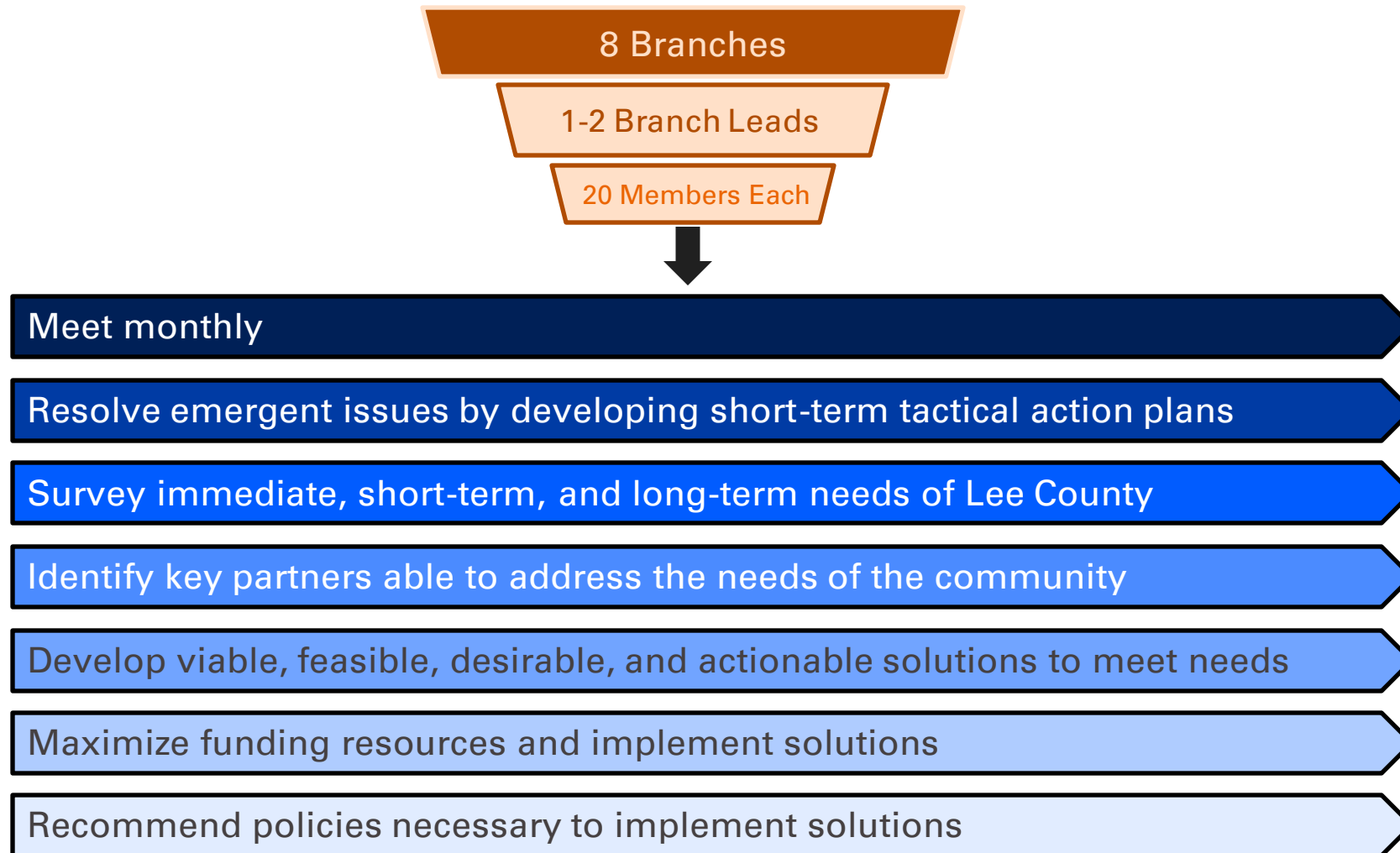
- Ilani Fernandes
- Robbie Heere

Recovery Task Force Membership

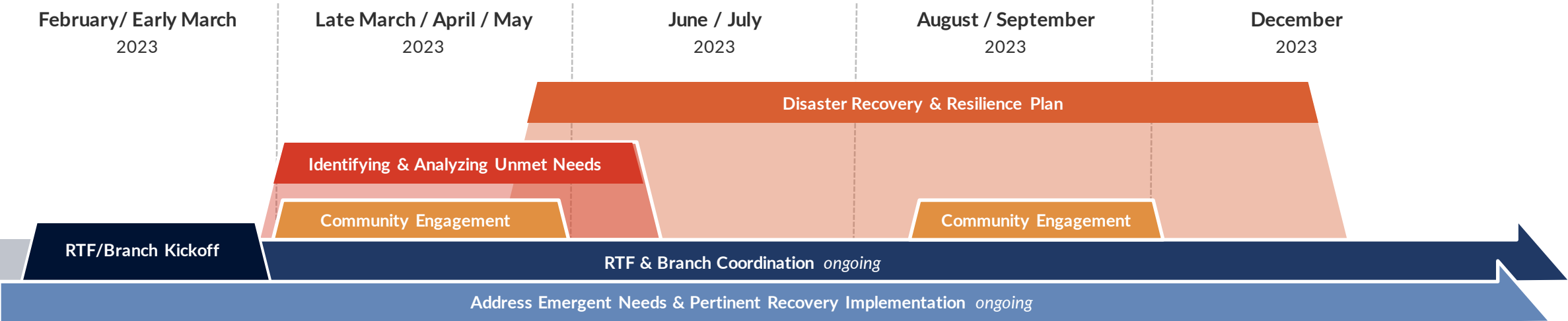


Agency	Position	Liaison
Board of County Commissioners	Commissioner	Kevin Ruane, Chair
City of Bonita Springs	Councilman	Chris Corrie
City of Cape Coral	Mayor	John Gunter
Village of Estero	Mayor	Jon McLain
City of Fort Myers	Mayor	Kevin Anderson
Town of Fort Myers Beach	Councilman	Bill Veach
City of Sanibel	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 Lee County Long-Term Recovery and Resilience Plan

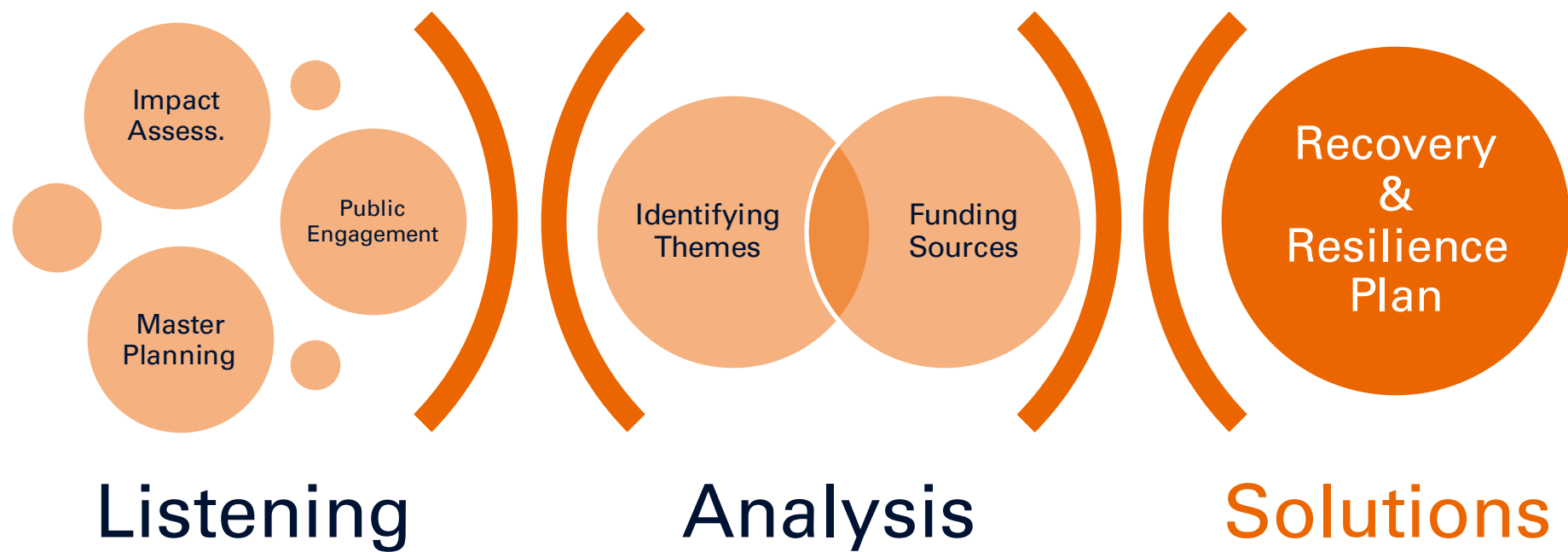


Branch objectives align under the current **direction of the Recovery Task Force**



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

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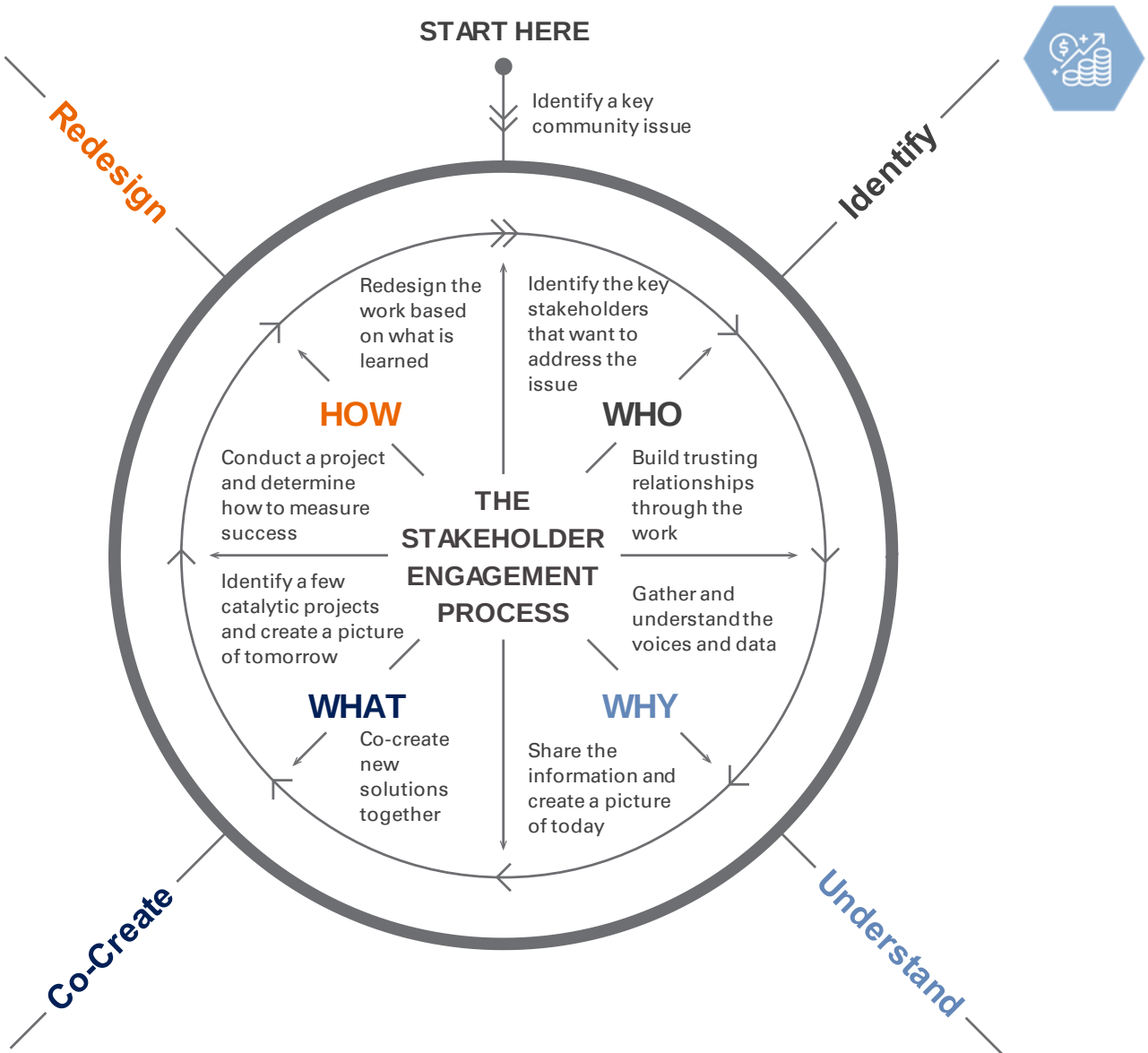
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Community Engagement Process



Initial Survey Feedback



To date, there have been 4,124 responses to the survey.

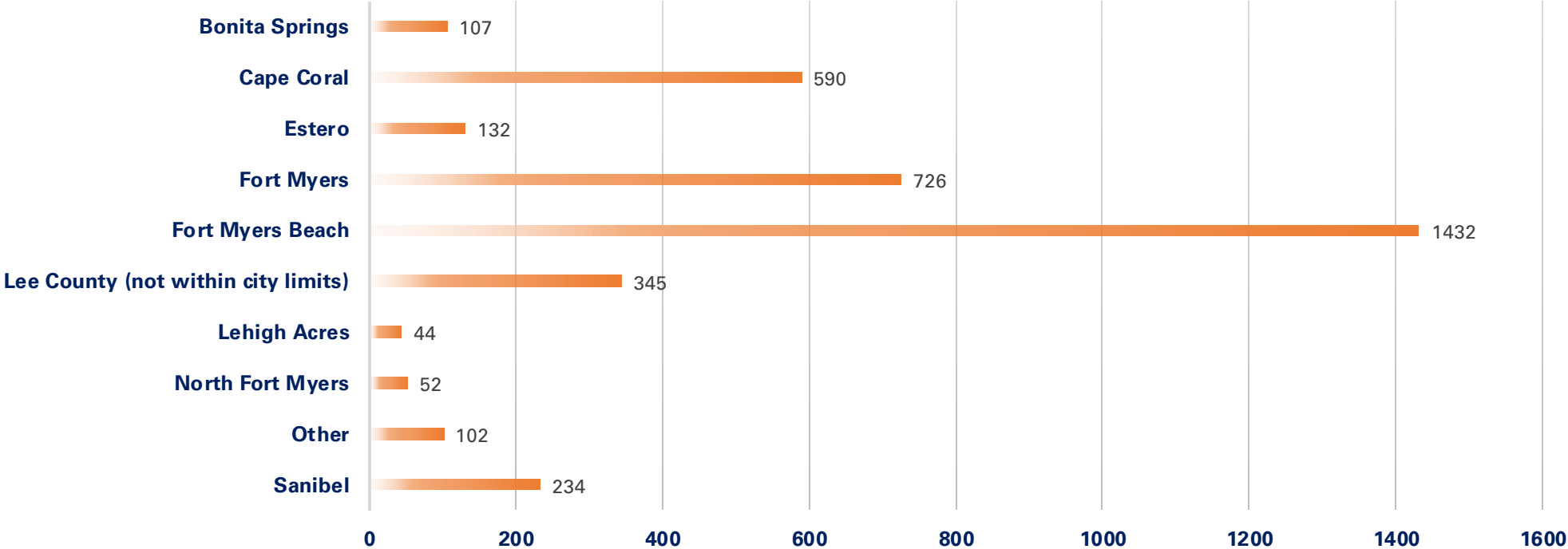
The top 5 priorities for Lee County residents:

- Housing and Homelessness
- Economic Development
- Environmental Issues
- Crime, Violence, and Public Safety
- Parks and Recreation

Initial Survey Feedback



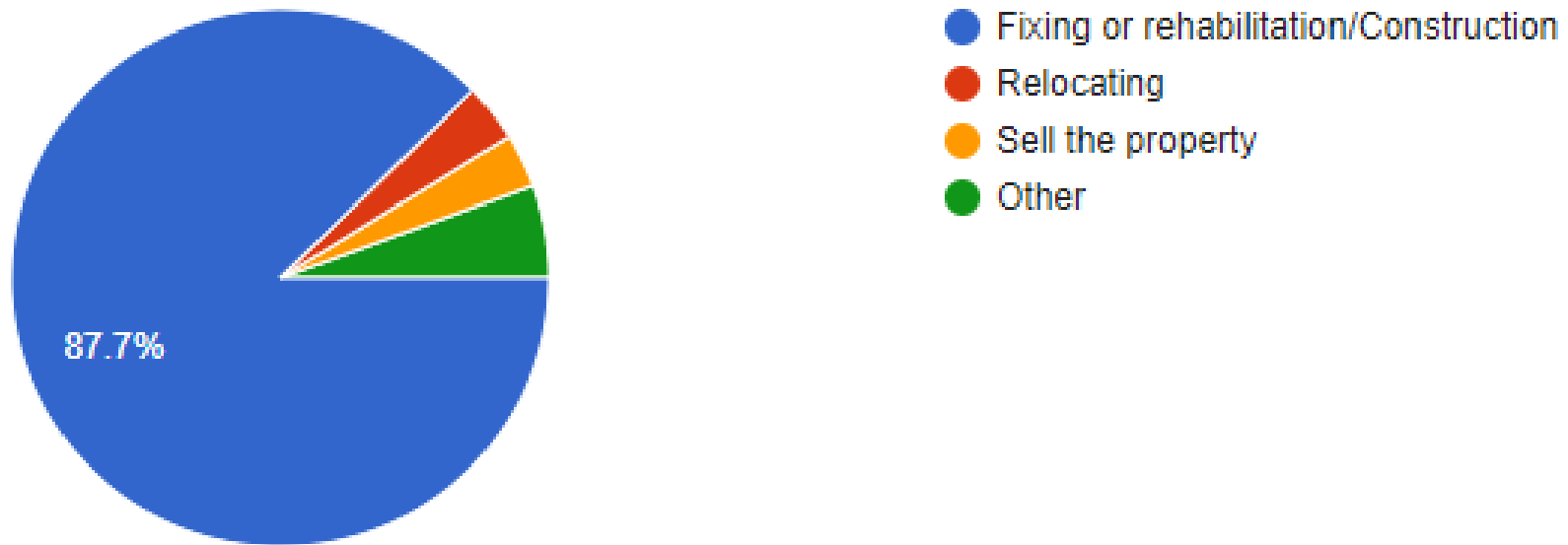
PARTICIPANT RESIDENCE



Initial Survey Feedback



What are respondents' intentions with their impacted property?



Initial Townhall Feedback



How does this feedback align with current branch priorities?

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

- Awareness of storm gentrification and affordable housing and transportation near employment hubs
- River communities feeling overlooked
- Focus more on MFG instead of tourism
- Affordable afterschool tutoring K-12
- Efficient insurance pay outs through regulation
- Contractor pledges to finish in a timely manner
- Investments in thriving natural systems, environmental impacts
- Low interest, no red tape loans for small businesses
- Diversification of Industry, training and trades,

What is needed for you and your family to be successful? What is needed for businesses to grow?

- Livable wages
- Economic diversity with opportunities away from beaches
- Improving old downtown
- Safer Infrastructure to lower insurance rates
- Financial assistance to help businesses hire
- Local officials that are not on multiple boards or have conflicts
- Short term marketing efforts to bring tourism back
- Light industry and manufacturing
- Fishery infrastructure

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**



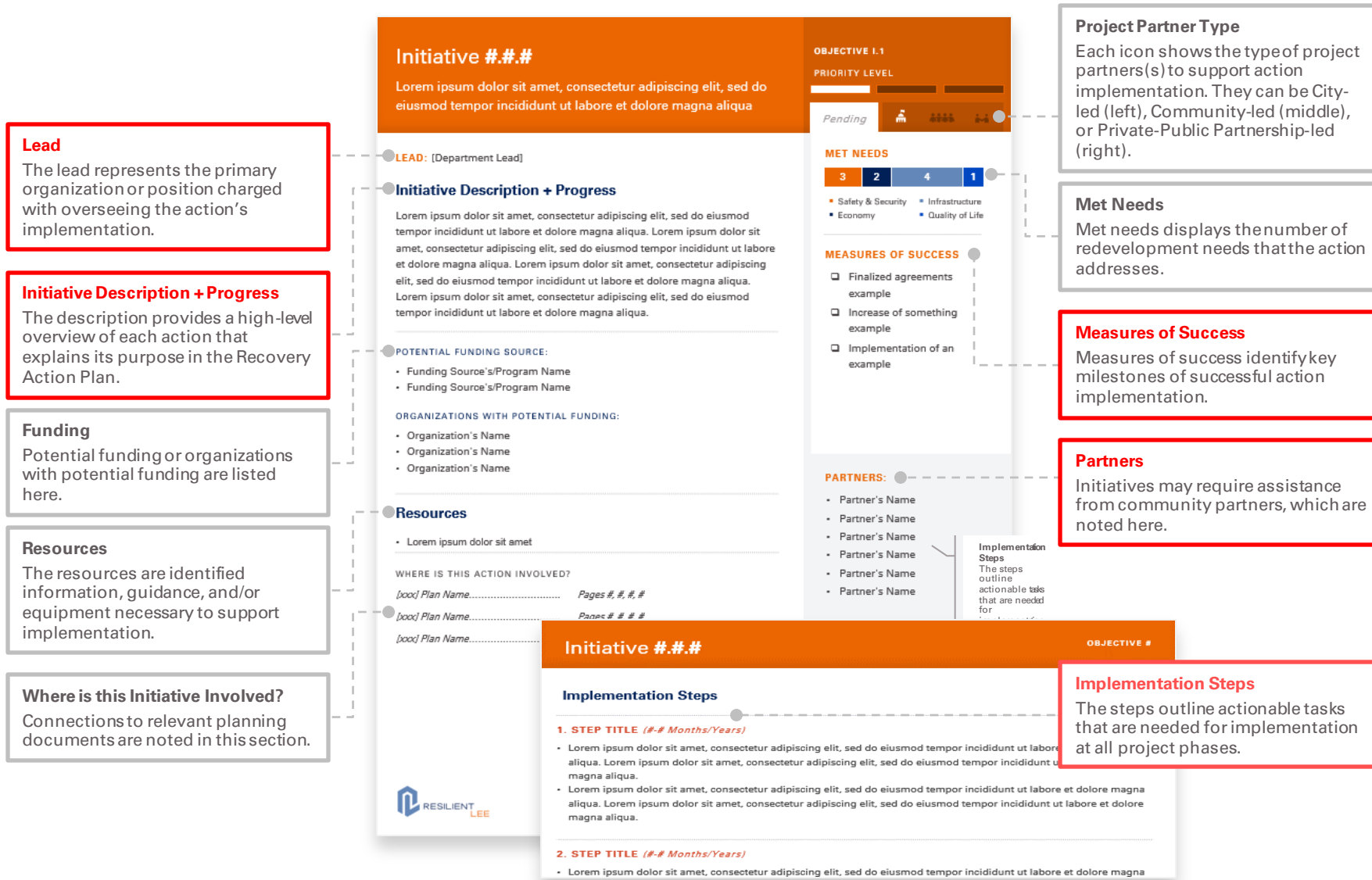
Branches may also assist in determining initiative Implementation Steps as needed.



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 Resiliency Plan that will showcase the steps Lee County is taking to increase overall resiliency.

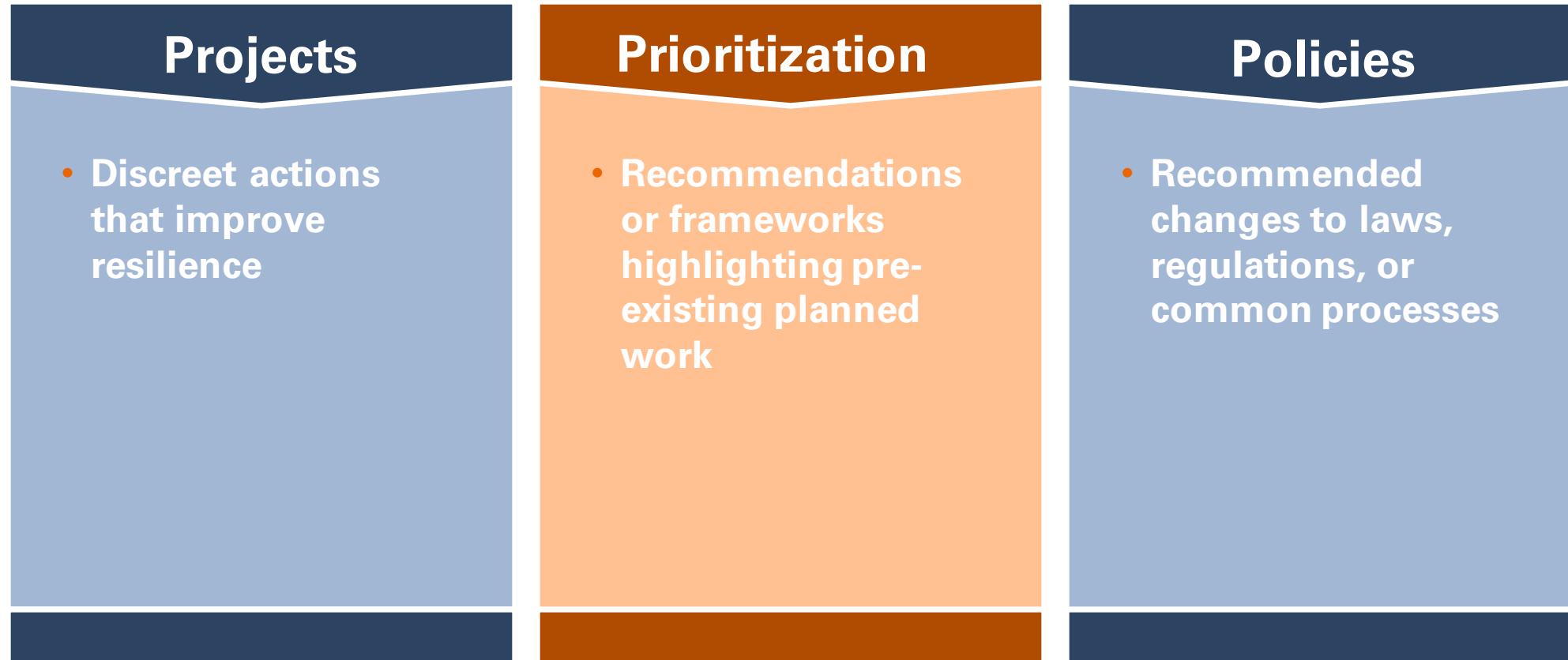
How to Read an Initiative:



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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Workshop Design



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 Housing;**
 - **Critical Infrastructure;**
 - **Community Resilience; and**
 - **Supporting Business and Workforce.**

Attainable and Resilient Housing



Topics

- Incentivizing the production of multi-unit, attainable housing. (Processes and Financial Incentives)
- Incentivizing the production of multi-unit, attainable housing. (Land use policy and innovative solutions)
- Incentivizing the production of multi-unit, attainable housing. (Streamlining permitting processes)

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
- Florida Housing Coalition
- City planners
- Lee County Housing Development Corporation

Critical Infrastructure



Topics

- Identifying the infrastructure (water) projects that would provide the greatest resilience value in defending key infrastructure assets.
- Identifying the infrastructure (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
- Leaders in mobile or telehealth services.
- Family Health Centers mobile health operators.
- Lee Health infrastructure officials
- Infrastructure Improvement officials in key locations
- County emergency management planning and sheltering officials
- Fire and emergency response officials
- Representatives from utility companies including electricity (LCEC and FPL) and water
- Lee County Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
- Department of Health
- Communication providers including satellite
- Emergency management logistics, communications, and planning officials
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Lee Tran
- School District sheltering officials
- Experts in special needs care

Community Resilience



Topics

- Considering a unique approach to community “resilience hubs” – a broad and evolving model that can be tailored to meet many needs - from resilient communications for social service providers to life-safety support for residents following a disaster.
- How can Lee County ensure vulnerable populations have access to health-supporting 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
- Expert from Miami-Dade's art and culture community
- Public official from Miami-Dade that can describe best practice approaches

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
- Experts in community land trust policy
- 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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Next Meeting

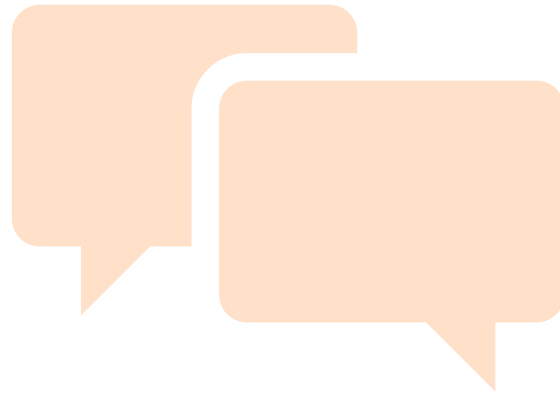
- Thursday, June 15th, 2023 | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Next Items to Accomplish

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



Discussion and Questions



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



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Public Comment

Adjourn

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Economic Recovery Branch



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