



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

From a policy perspective, **economic development** can be **defined** as efforts that seek to improve the **economic** well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and/or retaining jobs and supporting or growing incomes and the tax base.

### DEPARTMENT MISSION

The Economic Development Department implements the Council approved Economic Development Plan that focuses on the development of target sectors. The plan includes the "Medical Village" across from the Florida Hospital Waterman, downtown revitalization and special events, Tavares Seaplane Base & Marina, railroad infrastructure improvements and development of a "rail village", attracting aviation industries and the enhancement of recreation, sports and tournament facilities and a redevelopment of SR19 corridor. The Economic Development Department strives to cultivate an environment that facilitates the success of existing businesses and the attraction of new business to enhance the overall economic health of the community.

### DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Economic Development Department serves as the concierge to the business community by helping our existing businesses to grow and prosper and to help new businesses be successful. Responsibilities include: administering City incentive programs, providing services for business placement/retention/expansion/recruitment, implementing programs that foster growth & prosperity, create and coordinate major events to stimulate the local economy, and pursue State and Federal grants improve City facilities and programs. These activities will create jobs and improve the quality of life for the citizens in the Tavares community.

