

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

## Mission

*Our mission is to improve and expand the economic base of the City through the retention and expansion of existing businesses and the attraction of new businesses and real estate investments, and by implementing value-added strategies and programs that enhance the community's overall high quality of life and local and national image. Further, our mission is to provide quality affordable housing and community services to the citizens of Clearwater.*

## Department Description

The Economic Development and Housing Department consists of eleven employees and is divided into two programs, Economic Development and Housing.

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY					
	Actual 2005/06	Actual 2006/07	Budget 2007/08	Budget 2008/09	% Change
Economic Development	802,651	788,243	901,000	849,930	-6%
Housing	495,958	446,962	535,710	540,010	1%
<b>Total Economic Development &amp; Housing</b>	<b>1,298,609</b>	<b>1,235,205</b>	<b>1,436,710</b>	<b>1,389,940</b>	<b>-3%</b>

DEPARTMENT FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS				
	Actual 2005/06	Actual 2006/07	Budget 2007/08	Budget 2008/09
Economic Development	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.0
Housing	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
<b>Total Economic Development &amp; Housing</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Program Description

The Economic Development program, in concert with the Housing Program, interrelates its activities with all other City departments and a wide spectrum of public and private organizations. This year, the department will continue new community development efforts to target its economic development and housing programs in key areas of the city.

Operationally, the program administers programs that impact the economic development of vulnerable parts of the city, including the activities and incentives for portions of the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) area, the Brownfields program, the Enterprise Zone, and Hub Zone. The program also manages the city's tourism and economic development efforts with Pinellas County Economic Development, the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Tampa Bay Partnership.

Economic Development also administers state incentive programs that attract new employment opportunities to the city. The program develops and maintains contacts with the business community and works with existing businesses to retain and expand the current employment base, and connects them to available resources and financing programs. These efforts serve to create jobs, increase the tax base and improve the economic and business climate of the city.

The potential for quality economic development growth is further defined by the Program's lead role in outreach targeted marketing for the recruitment of value-added new affordable and market-rate residential, retail, office, industrial, mixed land use, cultural, and tourist-based resort developments. Marketing efforts also include enhancing the livability and image of the community overall.

Economic Development consists of four (4.0) FTEs funded by the General Fund and the CRA. The positions include the Director, an Economic Development Coordinator, a Community Development Planner, and an Economic Development Specialist.

PROGRAM SUMMARY					
	Actual 2005/06	Actual 2006/07	Budget 2007/08	Budget 2008/09	% Change
Personnel	366,286	329,929	352,580	331,590	-6%
Operating	366,316	370,865	454,490	434,580	-4%
Internal Services	70,049	87,449	93,930	83,760	-11%
<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>802,651</b>	<b>788,243</b>	<b>901,000</b>	<b>849,930</b>	<b>-6%</b>

PROGRAM FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS				
	Actual 2005/06	Actual 2006/07	Budget 2007/08	Budget 2008/09
Economic Development	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.0
<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## Program Highlights

- ❖ The Economic Development Department is supported by four full time equivalent positions, the same level as the 2007/08 budget.
- ❖ The tourism contracts in the amount of \$236,000 include the Chamber of Commerce at \$190,000 and the Beach Visitors Center at \$46,000. Both contracts are funded in the Economic Development program at a minor increase of \$1,000 over the 2007/08 budget.
- ❖ Operating expenditures include \$50,000, the same level as the 2007/08 budget, for the membership in the Tampa Bay Partnership; \$40,000 for outside professional services for appraisals, research, statistical analyses and market analyses, a decrease of \$13,000 from the 2007/08; and a contribution of \$19,400 to the Pinellas County Coalition for Homeless.
- ❖ Internal Services costs reflect a decrease of 11%, primarily due to a decrease in information technology charges.
- ❖ There have been no other significant changes in the Economic Development program. The Budget for this program reflects a decrease of 6% from the 2007/08 budget.

## Program Description

The mission of the Housing Program is to provide quality affordable housing, community and economic development services to the citizens of Clearwater. These goals are achieved through the administration of two federal grant programs, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Grant (HOME), and one state grant, State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Grants, and Pinellas County Trust Funds totaling approximately \$3 million. Using these grant funds, the program funds a wide variety of housing, social service and economic development programs.

Approximately \$1 million of the total grant funds are redistributed to community organizations that directly provide social services to the community. Examples of these community organizations include: Clearwater Homeless Intervention Project, the Community Service Foundation, Pinellas Opportunity Council, and Homeless Emergency Project. The program annually solicits, reviews and recommends to the City Council for their final approval the selection and funding level of the grantee organizations. Contract management and grant supervision is provided by the program throughout the year to ensure effective use of the grant funds.

The program provides affordable housing funding for very low to moderate-income residents for down payment assistance or rehabilitation loans and construction of new infill housing units and rental communities. The program's Housing Coordinator evaluates and processes loan applications, and closes real estate. Where grant funds for new infill housing are provided to a nonprofit or for-profit housing partner, the program provides technical assistance to the nonprofit organization and supervision of the grant. Due to the extensive federal, state and county grant regulatory requirements, two (2) FTE's, as well as, a substantial portion of the Assistant Director's time are devoted to financial reporting, grant management and coordination with the City's Finance Department.

The Housing Program is fully funded through the administrative portion of the federal and state grant funds and no City general operating funds are used to support this program.

The staff of the Housing Program is composed of seven FTE's including an Assistant Economic Development and Housing Director, one Housing Manager, one Housing Coordinator, a Controller, an Accountant, a Staff Assistant and a Senior Staff Assistant.

<b>PROGRAM SUMMARY</b>					
	<b>Actual 2005/06</b>	<b>Actual 2006/07</b>	<b>Budget 2007/08</b>	<b>Budget 2008/09</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Personnel	392,893	347,253	434,830	443,690	2%
Operating	35,576	35,786	33,530	31,030	-7%
Internal Services	67,410	63,923	67,350	65,290	-3%
Capital	79	-	-	-	0%
<b>Total Housing</b>	<b>495,958</b>	<b>446,962</b>	<b>535,710</b>	<b>540,010</b>	<b>1%</b>

<b>PROGRAM FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS</b>				
	<b>Actual 2005/06</b>	<b>Actual 2006/07</b>	<b>Budget 2007/08</b>	<b>Budget 2008/09</b>
Housing	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
<b>Total Housing</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>

## Program Highlights

- ❖ The Housing program is a self-supporting program, supported entirely by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership Grant (HOME), and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP). These programs reimburse the General Fund for the entire cost of the administrative and programming functions provided by the Housing program.
- ❖ The Housing program is supported by seven full time equivalent positions, the same as the 2007/08 budget.
- ❖ There have been no significant changes in the Housing program. The budget for this program reflects an increase of 1% over the 2007/08 budget.