Peter Lear

From: Jill Luke

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 8:26 PM

To: Peter Lear; Kathryn Peto **Subject:** agenda item for 1/22

Pete,

Agenda item: Strategic Plan for Economic Development Department

Action: For discussion and possible action

Amount: \$50,000 Background:

I have mentioned a couple of times, even in public meetings, that I believe the time is right for us to proceed with having a strategic plan done for our economic development department. I do not feel we need to put this off as there are 3 factors that make it relevant to proceed now... the hiring of Mel Thomas, as our E.D. director, the re-write of the ULDC, and the drafting of a new inter-local for the Sarasota County EDC. With all of these converging at the same time, it is logical that we would set the course for the next 5 years for this department.

Financially, the savings from just the monies budgeted for this department would pay for a \$50,000 plan to be done, this year. There would simply be a redirecting of the funds already budgeted for this year. Instead of budgeting \$50,000 for a strategic plan next year, money could be placed in the budget for other items, if needed for this department, if we find through these events converging, that it be dictated.

Thank you, Jill Luke

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