



FORT MYERS COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

2024-2025 Annual Report
October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025

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DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AREA



Photo by Kinfay Moroti

CALOOSAHATCHEE BRIDGE

INTRODUCTION

Imagine a city where neighborhoods are vibrant, businesses are thriving, and public spaces invite connection, creativity, and pride.

Since its establishment in 1984 under Florida Statute [§ 163.356, Fla. Stat.], the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has served as a catalyst for revitalization-addressing slum and blight while reinvesting in the people, places, and systems that shape Fort Myers' future. What began as a focused effort to restore the historic downtown has grown into a citywide commitment spanning four redevelopment areas: Cleveland, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Downtown, and East Fort Myers.

During Fiscal year 2024-2025, the CRA continued advancing redevelopment through strategic investments in infrastructure, affordable housing, public spaces, historic preservation, and economic vitality guided by adopted redevelopment plans and informed by community voices, the CRA's work reflects a balance between honoring Fort Myers' heritage and preparing for sustainable growth.

This Annual Report highlights the progress, partnerships, and impact achieved over the past fiscal year and illustrates how redevelopment, when done thoughtfully, strengthens neighborhoods and improves quality of life for all.

WHY CRAs MATTER

The Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency of the city of Fort Myers (CRA) was first created as the Downtown Redevelopment Agency at the request of the late councilperson Veronica S. Shoemaker. Community Redevelopment Agencies are authorized under [§ 163.356, Fla. Stat.], to reinvest increment revenues within designated redevelopment areas to eliminate slum and blight. These funds are used for activities such as residential and commercial rehabilitation, public infrastructure improvements, historic preservation, and redevelopment plan implementation. In Fort Myers, CRA reinvestment corrects physical deterioration, stimulates private investment, increases taxable value, and reduces long-term financial pressure on general government funds. All expenditures are plan-based, fiscally accountable, and limited to public purposes expressly permitted by statute.



CRA LEADERSHIP



Teresa Watkins Brown
CRA Board Chair



Dr. Liston D. Bochette III
CRA Board Vice-Chair



Kevin Anderson
CRA Commissioner



Darla Bonk
CRA Commissioner



Fred Burson
CRA Commissioner



Diana Giraldo
CRA Commissioner



Terolyn Watson
CRA Commissioner



Michele Hylton-Terry
CRA Executive Director



Clifford B. Shepard
CRA General Counsel

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

Jarrett Eady, Chair
James Holloway, Vice Chair
Blake Bartholomew, Board Member
C. Joe Coleman, Board Member
Michael Doyle, Board Member
Rachel Smith, Board Member
Geraldine Ware, Board Member

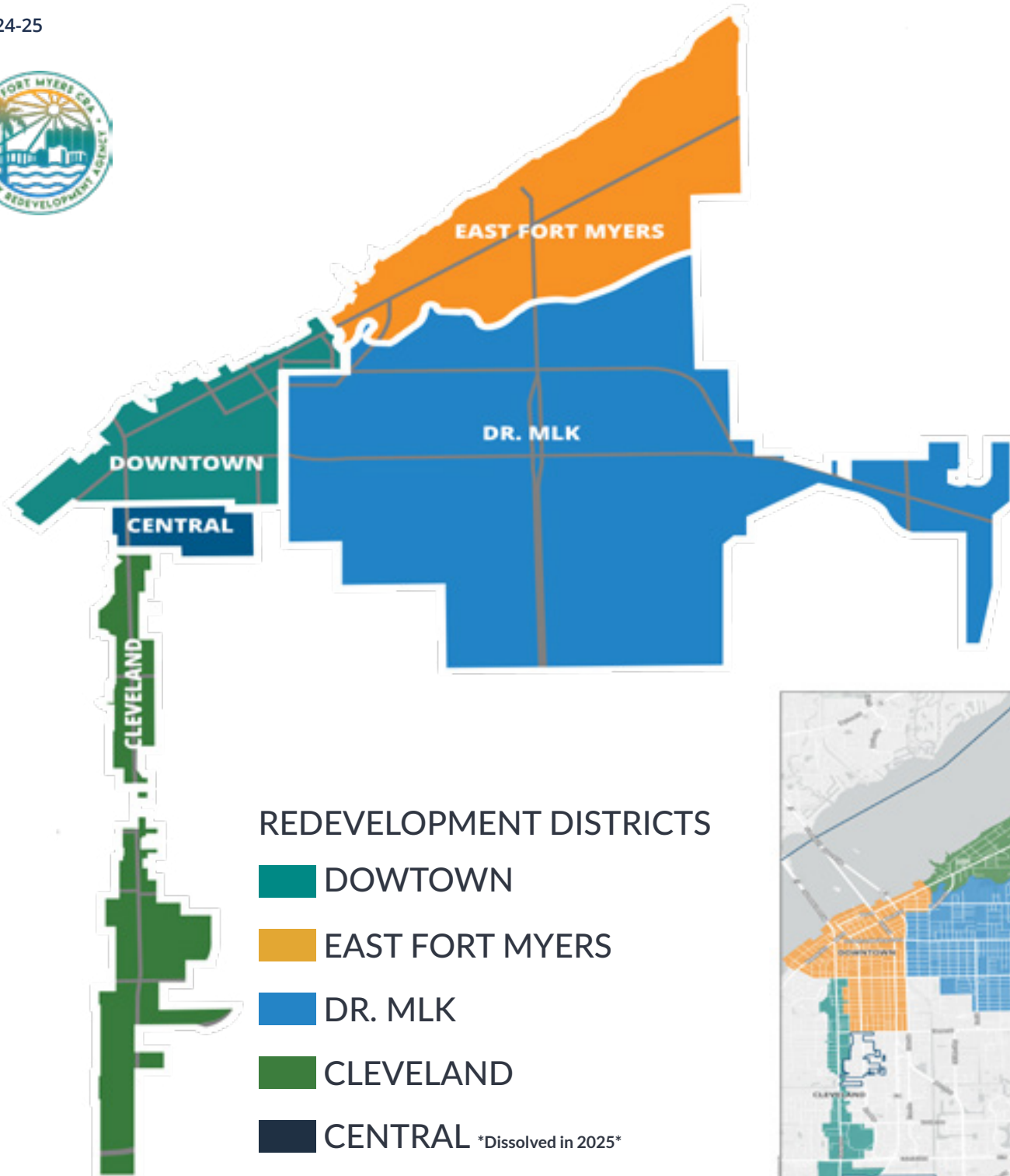
STAFF MEMBERS:

Michele Hylton-Terry, Executive Director
Dr. Mellone F. Long, Assistant Director
Corris McIntosh, CRA Staff Counsel
Xavier Colón, Redevelopment Manager
Lorraine Bailey-Hayden, Fiscal Manager
Shani Stinson, Marketing Specialist






SERVICEMAN:

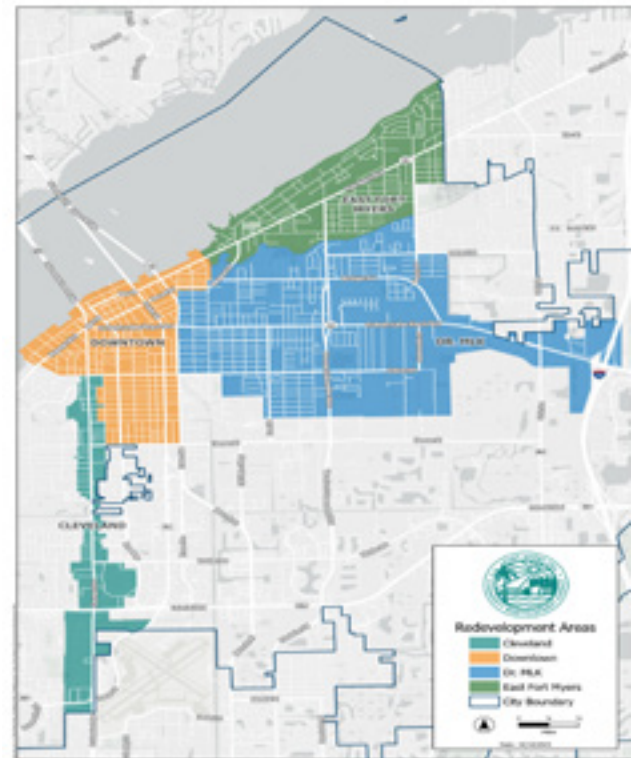
Gabriele Martinez Espinosa, Serviceworker
Elroy Foster, Serviceworker
Miguel Pointe, Serviceworker





REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

-  DOWNTOWN
-  EAST FORT MYERS
-  DR. MLK
-  CLEVELAND
-  CENTRAL *Dissolved in 2025*



*2025-2026 Redevelopment District

“Responsible reinvestment. Long-term value”

Teresa Watkins Brown

Dear Community Members, Stakeholders, and Partners

Fiscal year 2024-2025 marked another meaningful chapter in Fort Myers’ redevelopment journey. On behalf of the CRA Board of Commissioners, I extend sincere appreciation to the residents, businesses, and partners who continue to engage in and support this work

Throughout the year, the CRA remained focused on reinvestment that strengthens neighborhoods, expands opportunity, and reflects the values of the communities we serve. From affordable housing initiatives to placemaking projects and infrastructure improvements, our collective efforts demonstrate the power of collaboration and shared purpose.

As Fort Myers continues to grow and evolve, the CRA is committed to stewarding redevelopment responsibly, ensuring progress is inclusive, fiscally sound, and rooted in long-term community benefit. Thank you for your continued trust, participation, and belief in this mission

Together, we are shaping a city that honors its history, serves its present, and prepares thoughtfully for its future.



Sincerely,

Teresa Watkins Brown

Teresa Watkins Brown
Chair, Board of Commissioners
Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency

CRA REINVESTMENT IS ABOUT RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND LONG-TERM VALUE FOR FORT MYERS.

“Plan-based. Accountable. Measurable.”

Michele Hylton-Terry

To Our Community,

Fiscal year 2024-2025 reflects both continuity and momentum for the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency. Our work this year built upon decades of planning, partnership and perseverance, while responding to present-day needs and future opportunities.

Across all redevelopment areas, the CRA advanced initiatives that reinforce neighborhood stability, stimulate economic investment, and enhance public spaces. Affordable housing preservation, commercial corridor revitalization, stormwater mitigation, and cultural placemaking remained central to our mission of improving quality of life for residents and businesses alike.

None of this progress occurs in isolation. It is the result of collaboration-between the CRA Board, City leadership, staff, community partners, and residents-working together to ensure redevelopment remains purposeful and impactful.

I am grateful for the dedication of our staff, partners, and community members whose collaboration ensures redevelopment remains responsive and impactful. Together, we are building a Fort Myers that is resilient, connected, and positioned for long-term success.



Sincerely,

Michele Hylton-Terry

Michele Hylton-Terry
Executive Director

Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

*EACH CRA INVESTMENT IS GUIDED BY ADOPTED PLANS,
FISCAL DISCIPLINE, AND MEASURABLE OUTCOMES.*

“Planning today for tomorrow’s growth.”

Dr. Mellone F. Long, AICP

Dear Community Members,

Redevlopment is most effective when it is rooted in both vision and stewardship. During FY 2024-2025, the CRA continued translating long-range planning into tangible outcomes that support neighborhoods, strengthen infrastructure, and foster opportunity.

From housing preservation to public realm improvements and economic development initiatives, our work reflects a commitment to inclusive growth and responsible implementation. Each project-large or small-plays a role in shaping a city that functions well today while preparing for the challenges of tomorrow.

As we look ahead, the CRA remains committed to thoughtful reinvestment guided by adopted plans, sound fiscal practices, and community engagement. Thank you for continued partnership and support as we work toward a stronger, more resilient Fort Myers.



Sincerely,

Dr. Mellone F. Long

Mellone F. Long, PH.D.

Assistant Director

Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

*THOUGHTFUL PLANNING ENSURES TODAY'S REINVESTMENT
SUPPORTS TOMORROW'S GROWTH.*

VISION

A vibrant and prosperous community free of slum and blight.

MISSION

Provide equitable, impactful incentives, while implementing redevelopment plans that enable revitalization and foster engagement and opportunities for stakeholders, using sound fiscal practices and professional staff to improve quality of life for our diverse community.



VALUES

Integrity | Respect | Excellence
Teamwork | Curiosity

DOWNTOWN

REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Historic core, public investment, and economic activity

As Fort Myers' historic and cultural core, the Downtown Redevelopment Area (also known as the River District) blends heritage, commerce, and public life. CRA initiatives focus on placemaking, infrastructure, public safety, and business support-reinforcing downtown as a vibrant destination to live, work, and gather.



GRANTS

Commercial Property
Improvement Matching Grant



PLACEMAKING

Phase I Innovation Walk



INFRASTRUCTURE

Annual Maintenance And
Enhancements



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development/
Land Assembly



BEAUTIFICATION

Gateway Garden
Underpass Improvement
"Common Ground" Pocket Park

**CRA reinvestment supports the continued use and economic function of the historic downtown through public improvements that leverage private investment and strengthen the tax base.*

Total Acreage: +/- 1044
Area Established: 1984
Most Recent Plan Update: Jan 2025
Sunset Date: August 2044

CLEVELAND

REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Corridor revitalization and commercial reinvestment

The Cleveland Redevelopment Area serves as a vital commercial and residential corridor, connecting neighborhoods and supporting economic activity along one of Fort Myers' primary thoroughfares. CRA efforts in this area focus on corridor revitalization, commercial reinvestment, and housing stability-strengthening its role as a gateway to the City.



GRANTS

Commercial Property
Improvement Matching Grant



INFRASTRUCTURE

Trailhead Improvements
Intersection Improvement



BEAUTIFICATION

US 41 Landscaping



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development/
Land Assembly

**CRA funds are used to correct physical deterioration along an established commercial corridor, stimulate private reinvestment, and strengthen long-term economic productivity.*

Total Acreage: +/- 617
Area Established: 1990
Most Recent Plan Update: June 2025
Sunset Date: August 2050

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD.

REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Housing preservation, infrastructure, and place-based investment

The Dr. MLK Redevelopment Area is the largest CRA district and a center of cultural heritage and community life. CRA investments emphasize housing preservation, neighborhood infrastructure, public art, and economic opportunity-supporting long-standing residents while fostering reinvestment that honors the area's history and identity.



GRANTS

- Commercial property Improvement Matching Grant
- Residential Property Improvement Matching Grant
- Home Preservation Program
- Residential Paint Program



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Intersection Improvement
- Uniform Bus Shelters



PLACEMAKING

- Blue Light Installation



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Economic Development/Land Assembly



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- White Coral

Total Acreage: +/- 2811

Area Established: 2000

Most Recent Plan Update: September 2025

Sunset Date: January 2050

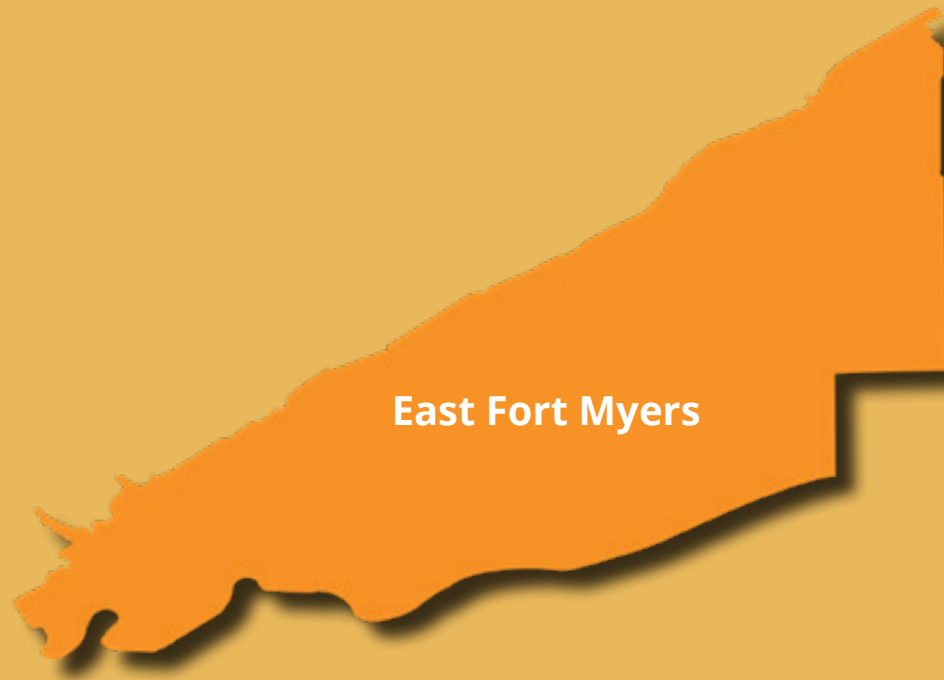
**CRA expenditures focus on correcting substandard housing conditions, addressing infrastructure deficiencies, and reinvesting in long-established neighborhoods in accordance with redevelopment plans*

EAST FORT MYERS

REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Neighborhood stabilization and infrastructure reinvestment

The East Fort Myers Redevelopment Area is a residential community with strong potential for reinvestment and connectivity. CRA efforts prioritize housing stability, infrastructure improvements, and neighborhood revitalization-laying the groundwork for long-term resilience and opportunity.



East Fort Myers

**CRA initiatives in East Fort Myers address underinvestment by improving infrastructure, supporting residential stability, and laying the foundation for future redevelopment consistent with adopted plans.*

Total Acreage: +/- 1041
Area Established: 2024
Most Recent Plan Update: 2024
Sunset Date: May 2050



FORT MYERS COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Michele Hylton-Terry

1400 Jackson Street
Fort Myers FL 33901
(239) 321-7100

Email:
mhylton@fortmyers.gov

Website:
<https://fortmyerscra.com>

District's Unique ID: 379

County: Lee

Date Created/Established:
September 17, 1984

Creation Documents:
City Ordinances 2249, 2420, 2842, 2843,
2844 and 2845

Board Selection:
Identical to local
Governing Authority

Authority to Issue Bonds: Yes

Revenue: Tax Increment Financing

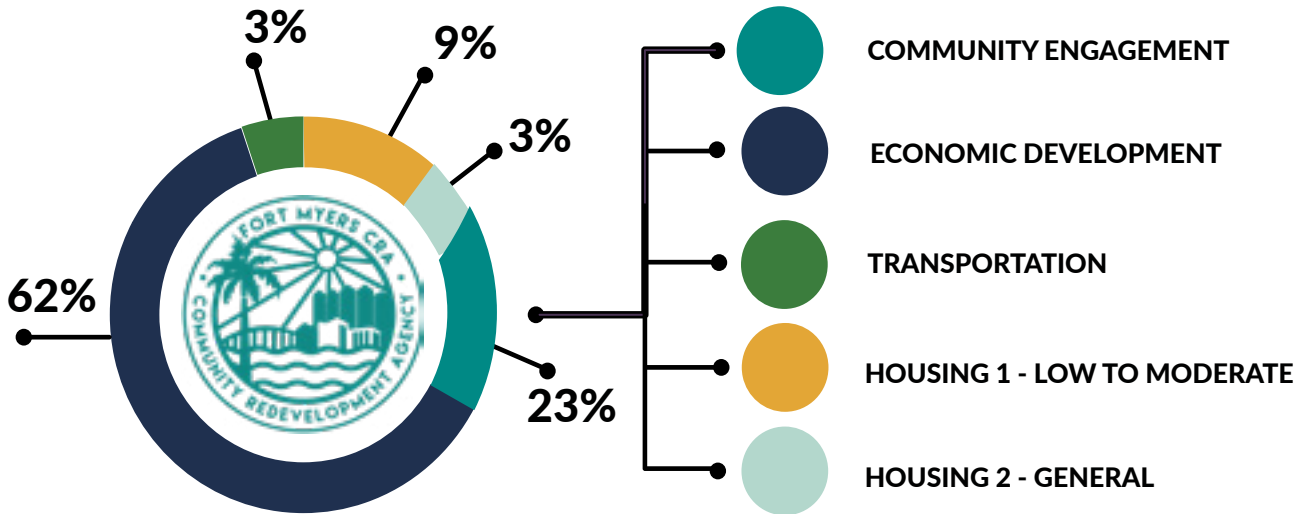
Most Recent Update: 2025

FINANCIALS

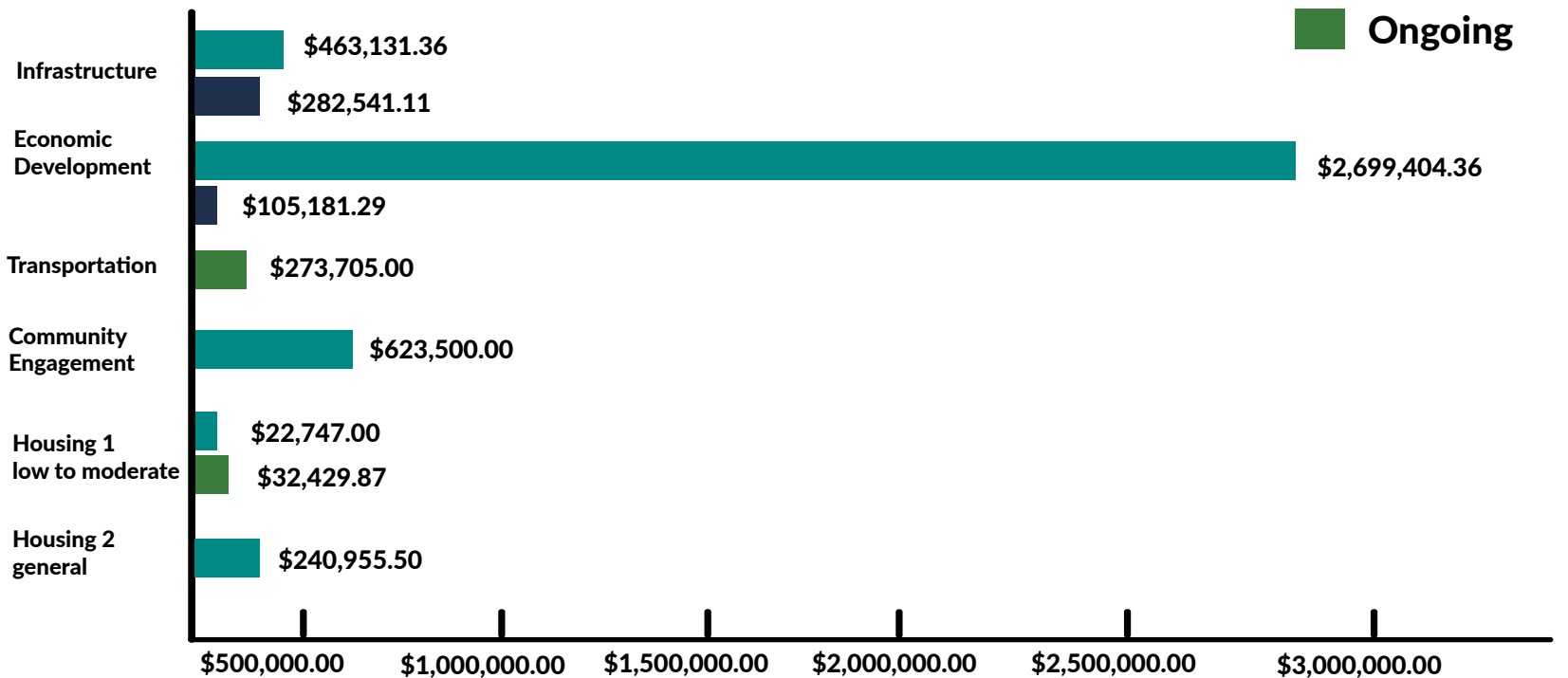
TYPE	SOURCE	AMOUNT
Current Year Taxable Value in CRA	DOR DR420 TIF I(1)	\$1,690,345,990
Base Year Taxable Value in CRA	DOR DR420 TIF I(2)	\$526,947,501
Current Year Tax Increment Value	DOR DR420 TIF I(3)	\$1,163,398,489
Prior year Final taxable value in the tax increment area	DOR DR420 TIF I(4)	\$1,536,550,996
Prior year tax increment value (Line 4 minus Line 2)	DOR DR420 TIF I(5)	\$1,009,603,495
If the amount to be paid to the redevelopment trust fund is BASED on a specific proportion of the tax increment value:		
Enter the portion on which the payment is based	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(5)	95%
Dedicated increment value	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(6b)	\$1,131,981,513
Amount of payment to redevelopment trust fund in prior year	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(6c)	\$10,367,155
If the amount to be paid to the redevelopment trust fund is NOT BASED on a specific proportion of the tax increment value:		
Amount of payment to redevelopment trust fund in prior year	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(7a)	\$0
Prior year operating millage levy from Form DR-420, Line 10	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(7b)	0%
Taxes levied on prior year tax increment value	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(7c)	\$0
Prior year payment as proportion of taxes levied on increment value	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(7d)	0%
Dedicated increment value	DOR DR420 TIF Sect II(7e)	\$0
Actual expended increment revenue	Audit (FUND BALANCES)	\$9,498,134
TOTAL LOW AND MODERATE HOUSING EXPENDED		\$55,177

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

COMPLETED (C) ACTIVITIES BY COUNT

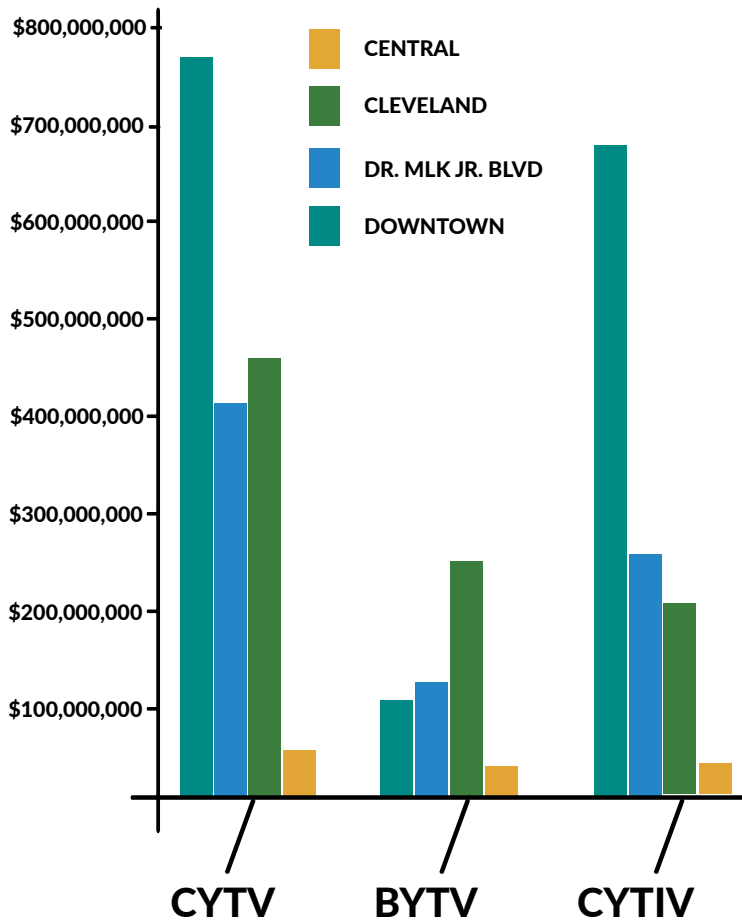


STARTED (S) COMPLETED (C) & ONGOING (O) ACTIVITIES BY COUNT



TAXABLE VALUES PER DR-420TIF

ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (\$)



DESCRIPTION BY CITY OF FORT MYERS CRA AREA	SUM OF AMOUNT
Central Current year taxable value (CYTV)	\$39,474,641
Central Base year taxable value (BYTV)	\$22,542,840
Central Current year tax increment value (CYTIV)	\$16,931,801
Cleveland current year taxable value (CYTV)	\$466,258,271
Cleveland Base year taxable value (BYTV)	\$262,018,560
Cleveland Current year tax increment value (CYTIV)	\$204,239,711
Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. Current year taxable value (CYTV)	\$400,594,406
Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. Base year taxable value (BYTV)	\$128,416,351
Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. Current year tax increment value (CYTIV)	\$272,178,055
Downtown Current year taxable value (CYTV)	\$784,018,672
Downtown Base year taxable value (BYTV)	\$113,969,750
Downtown Current year tax increment value (CYTIV)	\$670,048,922

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

DOWNTOWN

REVENUES

INCREMENT
REVENUE - LEE
\$2,449,892.00

INCREMENT
REVENUE - CITY
\$4,249,202.15

OTHER REVENUE
\$245,602.51

DONATIONS
\$318,048.00

EXPENSES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INCENTIVES
\$2,613,507.70

OPERATING
\$2,613,307.29

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
\$709,913.72

TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE
\$331,192.00

EQUIPMENT/MACHINERY
STREET SWEEPER
\$129,318.04

TOTAL
\$7,262,744.66

TOTAL
\$6,397,238.75

DR. MLK BLVD

REVENUES

INCREMENT
REVENUE - LEE
\$931,397.00

INCREMENT
REVENUE - CITY
\$1,615,455.75

OTHER REVENUE
\$97,221.87

EXPENSES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES
\$477,302.58

OPERATING
\$286,832.81

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT - PUBLIC ART
\$21,000.00

HOUSING LOW TO MODERATE
\$22,747.00

HOUSING LOW GENERAL
PAINT PROGRAM
\$240,955.50

CESSATION OF JUNKYARD
OPERATION
\$1,550,000.00

TOTAL
\$2,644,074.62

TOTAL
\$2,598,837.89

REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

CLEVELAND

REVENUES

INCREMENT
REVENUE - LEE
\$931,397.00

INCREMENT
REVENUE - CITY
\$1,427,582.98

OTHER REVENUE
\$293,492.02

TOTAL
\$2,544,153.00

EXPENSES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INCENTIVES
\$709,465.72

OPERATING
\$459,329.58

BEAUTIFICATION - LANDSCAPE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
\$16,058.75

TOTAL
\$1,217,283.92

HOUSING 1 - LOW TO
MODERATE
\$32,429.87

CENTRAL

REVENUES

INCREMENT
REVENUE - LEE
\$66,027.00

INCREMENT
REVENUE - CITY
\$114,520.21

OTHER REVENUE
\$16,929.14

TOTAL
\$197,476.35

EXPENSES

OPERATING
\$13,268.55

TOTAL
\$13,268.55

**GRAND
TOTAL**
CRA: ALL AREAS
Total Increment Revenue (IR)
\$12,330,400.63
Total Expenditures
from (IR)
\$9,498,133.55

Residential Paint Program



Our Residential Paint Program in the Dr. MLK Jr. Redevelopment area has been a resounding success. Through intentional partnerships with small businesses, this initiative stimulates economic activity while delivering visible, lasting enhancements to our residential corridors. The program exemplifies our commitment to sustainable community redevelopment, leveraging targeted investment to increase asset values, reinforce neighborhood pride, and drive meaningful economic growth.



SCAN CODE
TO LEARN
MORE

BUDGET:
\$250,000.00

**REDEVELOPMENT
AREA:**
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

PROGRAM TYPE:
Residential Paint Program

CRA ROLE:
Reinvestment in site activation
and public space enhancement

STATUTORY BASIS:
§163.387(6)(c) and §163.387
(7) Florida Statutes

WHY IT MATTERS:
Supports residential
stability, prevents
deterioration, and reinforces
long-term redevelopment
objectives

**COMPLETED
PROJECTS**
50 homes

Commercial Property Improvement Matching Grant

BUDGET:

\$250,000.00 (MLK)
\$1,000,000.00 (Cleveland)
\$500,000.00 (Downtown)

REDEVELOPMENT AREA:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Cleveland
Downtown

PROGRAM TYPE:

Commercial Property
Improvement Matching Grant

CRA ROLE:

Reinvestment in site activation
and public space enhancement

STATUTORY BASIS:

§163.387

WHY IT MATTERS:

Supports commercial stability,
prevents deterioration,
and reinforces long-term
redevelopment objectives

COMPLETED PROJECTS:

Martin Luther King Blvd: 2
Cleveland: 5
Downtown: 11



Our Commercial Property Improvement Grant Program is a cornerstone of our efforts to invigorate Fort Myers' commercial corridors. In fiscal year 2022-2023 the program was amended to include a second tier increasing the maximum award up to \$200,000 to attract and encourage property owners to take on more extensive renovation projects along the corridor. This program is instrumental in enhancing property values and the visual appeal of our commercial corridors.



SCAN CODE
TO LEARN
MORE

St. Peter Claver

A Residential Development Anchoring Long-Term Neighborhood Reinvestment



SCAN CODE
TO LEARN
MORE

\$4.5 Million (multi year award)

PROJECT TYPE:
Affordable housing

REDEVELOPMENT AREA:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CRA ROLE:

Reinvestment supporting residential improvement consistent with adopted redevelopment plans

STATUTORY BASIS:

§163.387(6)(c) and §163.387 (7) Florida Statutes

WHY IT MATTERS:

Supports residential stability, prevents deterioration, and reinforces long-term redevelopment objectives



St. Peter Claver Affordable Housing is a residential development located within the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Redevelopment Area. The project reflects the CRA's role in supporting residential reinvestment that addresses deteriorated conditions while strengthening long-term neighborhood stability consistent with adopted redevelopment plans.

The St. Peter Claver residential development contributes to redevelopment objectives by preserving and improving the housing stock within a long-established area of the city. Through targeted reinvestment, the project supports safe, functional residential use while reinforcing the surrounding physical environment.

CRA participation in the project aligns with statutory authority to fund low- and moderate-income housing activities within designated redevelopment areas. By supporting residential improvements, the CRA advances redevelopment goals that prevent the spread of blight and encourage continued reinvestment in adjacent properties.

St. Peter Claver demonstrates how residential redevelopment plays a critical role in broader reinvestment strategies. By stabilizing existing housing and supporting long-term occupancy, the project contributes to orderly redevelopment and sustained taxable value over time.

Residential reinvestment supporting long-term neighborhood stability.



CRA-supported housing redevelopment aligned with adopted plans.



St. Peter Claver Affordable Housing is a residential redevelopment project located in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Redevelopment Area. CRA reinvestment supports an authorized use of funds under §163.387, Florida Statutes, by financing low- and moderate-income housing activities that correct deteriorated conditions and advance redevelopment objectives consistent with adopted plans.

St. Peter Claver residential development within the Dr. MLK Redevelopment Area.

Common Ground “Pocket Park”

Small Space, Lasting Impact



SCAN CODE
TO LEARN
MORE



Common Ground “Pocket Park” represents how focused reinvestment can transform an underutilized site into a functional and inviting public space. Located in the Downtown Redevelopment Area, this compact open space reflects the CRA’s approach to placemaking—creating destinations that support daily use, enhance surround areas, and strengthen the urban fabric.

Developed as part of broader downtown reinvestment efforts, Common Ground “Pocket Park” converts a previously inactive parcel into a purposeful gathering space. Its design supports informal use, rest, and connection with a highly walkable area, complementing nearby businesses, residences, and civic destinations.

The project demonstrates how smaller-scale improvements can produce oversized results. By prioritizing thoughtful design, durability, and site activation, the CRA leveraged private investment to enhance the usability and appeal of a key downtown location. The park also supports foot traffic and reinforces downtown’s role as a center for activity and exchange.

Common Ground “Pocket Park” aligns with adopted redevelopment plans that emphasize strategic use of space, pedestrian-oriented environments, and reinvestment that strengthens property value. It serves as a model for how redevelopment can be incremental, responsive, and effective, without requiring large footprints or extensive infrastructure

FUNDING SOURCE

Private Donation

BUDGET TOTAL COST

\$372,588.00

PROJECT TYPE:

Beautification

REDEVELOPMENT AREA:

Downtown

CRA ROLE:

Reinvestment in site activation and public space enhancement

STATUTORY BASIS:

\$163.387(6)(b)
and (6) (c)
Florida Statutes

WHY IT MATTERS:

Illustrates how targeted public investment can support downtown activity and strengthen tax base.



As part of the CRA's ongoing work, Common Ground "Pocket Park" illustrates how intentional design and targeted funding can turn overlooked spaces into assets that contribute to downtown's continued vitality.

Common Ground Pocket Park transforms an underutilized site into an active downtown space.

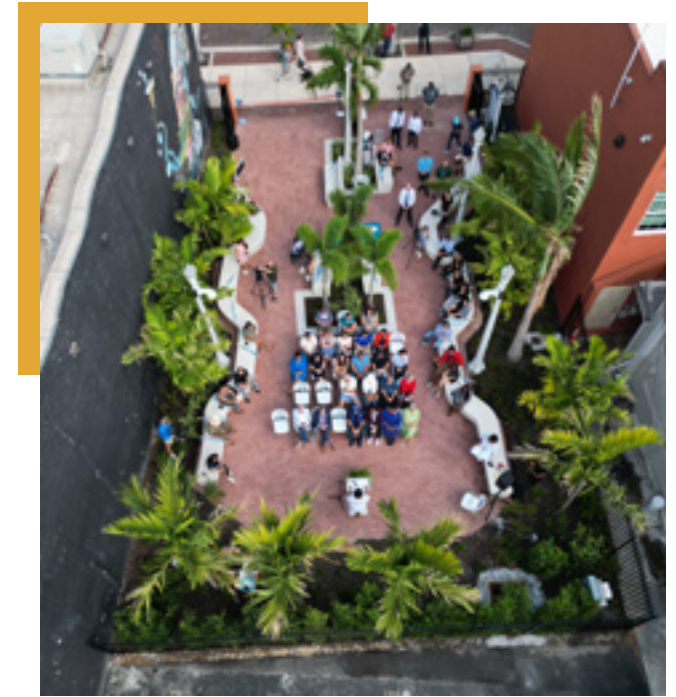


Photo by Jerry Miller

Common Ground "Pocket Park" is a small-scale public space improvement located in the Downtown Redevelopment Area. The project converts a previously underutilized parcel into an active site that supports pedestrian activity and surrounding redevelopment efforts. CRA reinvestment aligns with §163.387, Florida Statutes, by funding public space improvements that strengthen downtown function, support private investment, and increase long-term taxable value.

A compact public space supporting pedestrian activity in the Downtown Redevelopment Area.

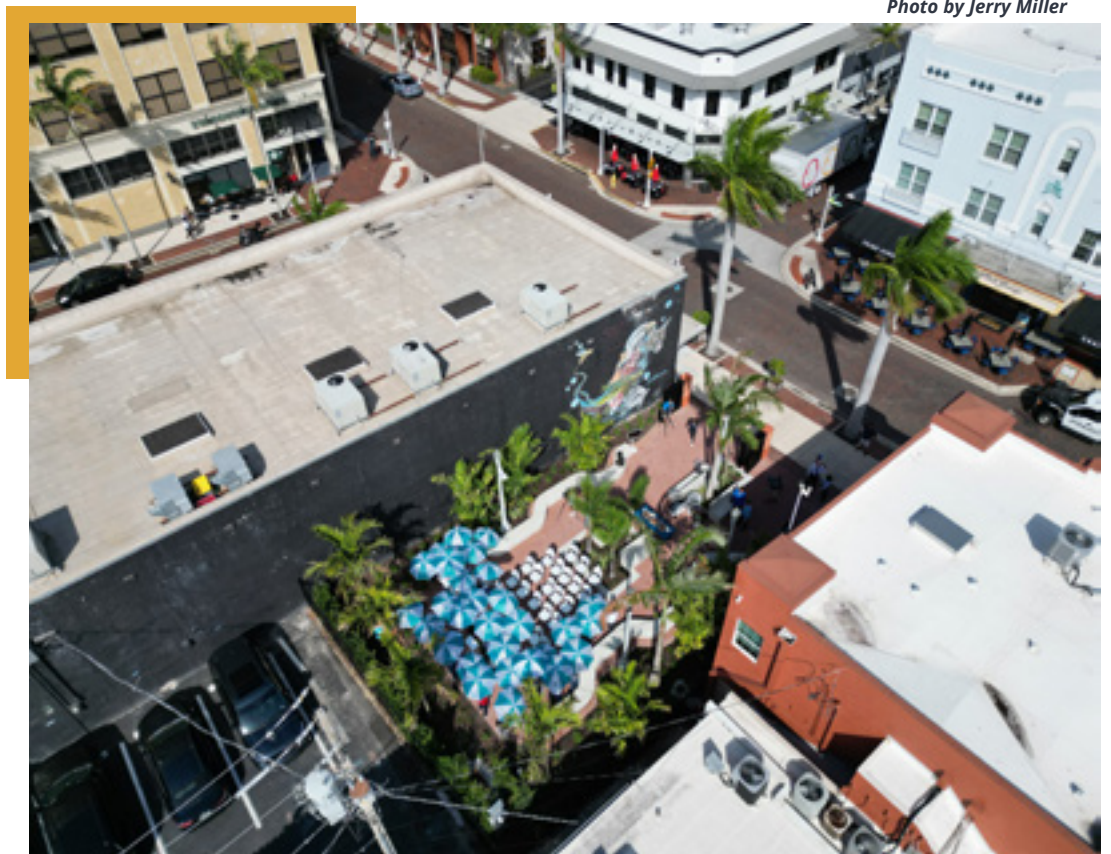


Photo by Jerry Miller

Journey of Hope

A Sculpture Landmark Anchoring Place and progress



SCAN CODE
TO LEARN
MORE

Photo by KinFay Moroti



Journey of Hope is a permanent sculptural installation located within the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Redevelopment Area. Designed as a visual landmark, the sculpture serves as a focal point within the public realm-reinforcing place identity while contributing to broader redevelopment efforts in the area.

As a three-dimensional work of art situated in a shared space, Journey of Hope reflects the CRA's investment in public improvements that enhance the physical environment and support redevelopment objectives. The sculpture introduces a sense of permanence and presence, strengthening how the surrounding area is experienced and recognized.

CRA participation in Journey of Hope aligns with adopted redevelopment plans that support strategic public enhancements as a tool for reinvestments. By anchoring a visible landmark within the redevelopment area, the project contributes to site activation and complements nearby infrastructure and property improvements.

Journey of Hope demonstrates how targeted investment in public art can support redevelopment goals by reinforcing place identity, encouraging use of surrounding spaces, and contributing to long-term area vitality-without requiring extensive construction or land acquisition.

BUDGET TOTAL COST
\$100,000.00

PROJECT TYPE:
Placemaking

REDEVELOPMENT AREA:
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CRA ROLE:
Reinvestment in a permanent public improvement consistent with adopted redevelopment plans

STATUTORY BASIS:
§1633.387(6)(a), Florida Statutes

WHY IT MATTERS:
Establishes a lasting landmark that supports redevelopment objectives and strengthens the physical environment



Photo by KinFay Moroti

Journey of Hope is a striking example of how public art can inspire and uplift communities. Cecilia Lueza's sculpture is more than an artistic centerpiece; it's a beacon of hope and progress, symbolizing our collective aspiration for a future filled with equality and opportunity. A public space has been created for the sculpture on the south side of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard between the north and southbound lanes of Veronica S. Shoemaker Boulevard.



Photo by KinFay Moroti
Artist Cecilia Lueza's



Photo by KinFay Moroti

**A sculptural landmark
contributing to place identity
and redevelopment efforts.**

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AREA



Photo by Jerry Miller

GATEWAY GARDENS

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD REDEVELOPMENT AREA





FORT MYERS COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

2024-2025 Annual Report
October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025

Resources:
Fort Myers Community
Redevelopment Agency
www.fortmyerscra.com
Florida Redevelopment
Association
www.redevelopment.net