



### **Partnership with the Haines City Economic Development Council, Inc.**

The Haines City Economic Development Council ("Council") is a private, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida and is open to individuals or organizations with an interest in economic development of the City, Polk County and the State of Florida. The Council is made up primarily of companies, individuals, post-secondary education institutions, and workforce development boards. The Council provides the City of Haines City economic development services that provide an overall benefit to prospective and existing businesses that locate within the City and the central Florida area.

The Council is managed by a Board of Directors made up of public and private sector members. The Council's focus is on the development, marketing, consulting, and coordinating of economic opportunities that lead to jobs and ad valorem growth. The Council performs activities to encourage, support, and promote economic development and growth opportunities in the City of Haines City, Florida. All decisions regarding eligibility for membership with the Council shall be determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, with each such decision to be final and binding.

The Council is committed to quality job retention and creation from the public and private sectors in Haines City. Our mission is to retain, expand and recruit employers. The Council plays a significant role ensuring the continued economic prosperity of our community.

#### Why Invest in the Council?

*"CenterState Bank is committed to our local communities. Being a long-term investor in the Haines City EDC allows us to be deeply engaged with the smart growth and development of Haines City. The EDC provides potential new businesses with a direct line of communication to the city's decision makers to help move their project through the development process. The EDC's ability to pull together the influencers within the infrastructure community has put East Polk County road needs to the forefront. We are proud to be a part of this dynamic team."* **Russel "Rusty" L. Mouton II, Senior Vice President - Commercial Lender, CenterState Bank**

*"The U.S. market is a very important market for Sofidel. And in this scenario, it is key to be able to rely on the support of the institutions and the local communities. In this regard, we consider partnerships with economic development organizations a strategic tool for our development and growth based on innovative technology, proximity to markets and customers, and sustainability. Sofidel's partnership with the Haines City Economic Development Council (EDC) as an investor supports the EDC's role of supporting a favorable business climate. The partnership experienced by Sofidel with the EDC is something unique; something that really helps make the difference."* **Christopher Reeder, Regional Operations Manager, Sofidel America Corp.**

#### What are some of the benefits to your business?

- Advocacy - We are your personal advocate in the legislative branch. Our President served on the Board of Directors of the Florida Economic Development Council. This gives her a direct line to the decision makers in the State of Florida.
- Governmental Liaison - We are your personal liaison with the decision makers in the City of Haines City and Polk County.
- Workforce – You will have a direct line to the President of Workforce Florida.
- Lead Generation – You will gain firsthand knowledge of projects looking or landing in Haines City and Polk County.
- Marketing – We provide another alternative to market your business with an opportunity to link to your website from our webpage, along with the opportunity to have your logo on our marketing materials.

- Networking – You will be provided an opportunity to be a guest at conferences, meetings and events in central Florida relating to economic development in our region.

The Council continues to grow in our mission to provide leadership and excellence in bringing economic development to our community and partners. We know this could only be achieved by being at the forefront of offering quality resources and an increased diversity of expertise in economic development. The leadership role that the Council enjoys today, is the result of the active participation and support of our valued investors.

#### Executive Board

Russel Mouton	CenterState Bank
Ann Barnhart	Advent Health
Tracy Porter	Polk State College
Christopher Reeder	Sofidel America
Stacy Campbell-Domineck	CareerSource Polk

#### Board of Directors

William Braswell	Polk County Commissioner BOCC
Marc Hoenstine	Duke Energy
Merle Bishop	Pennoni
Cameron White	The Orlando Law Group
Chris Schisler	ALDI Inc.

#### Partners

Wade Hughes	Florida Public Utilities
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#### Investors

Jason Daniel	Citizen's Bank
J.R. Garcia	Crown Linen
Dave Schmitt	Dave Schmitt Engineering
John Webb	Webb's Realty
Bill Moore	Cromer Press

#### Ex-Officio Board Members

Deric Feacher	City Manager, City of Haines City
Morris West	Mayor, City of Haines City
Lana Stripling	Haines City Chamber of Commerce
Lori Cunningham	Polk County School Board
Sam Killebrew	State Representative
Jennifer Taylor	CFDC
Dr. Charles Anderson	Unity in the Community

#### ANNUAL INVESTMENT

- ❖ \$1,000.00 Investor Level - Logo on website and Annual networking opportunities.
- ❖ \$3,000.00 Partner Level - Logo/Link on website; Noted on printed materials, campaigns, and quarterly update; and Annual networking opportunities. First option for open Board positions.
- ❖ \$5,000.00 Executive Board Level – Voting privileges; Logo/Link on website; Noted on printed materials, campaigns, and quarterly update; and Annual networking opportunities.
- ❖ \$10,000.00+ Highly Skilled Level - City, County, and State.

Note: Any member who fails to pay any dues assessment within three (3) months after the due date thereof shall be in violation of the membership requirements of the Council. Any member who fails to remain a member for any reason shall forfeit its membership, and dues already paid shall not be prorated or refunded.

