



## HOW WILL WE BUILD A REGIONAL ECONOMY?

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### Key Discussion:

#### Obstacles to a Regional Economy:

- 1. Parochial Governance Realities vs. Regional Governance Needs**  
Solution: Economic Development Leaders must drive out parochialism
- 2. The environment to foster success may not be as prevalent as we think**  
Solution: The region's economic doldrums and possible "tipping point" could be a catalyst if leaders present a unified voice.

#### Innovative Solutions:

1. Creation of a "Regional Economic Forum" of the Economic Development and CVB organizations in the seven-county area to build trust and a comprehensive economic strategy.
2. Identify those resources and assets that should be invested in or expanded (i.e. higher ed, physical infrastructure) that will support the "next big economic success" for Central Florida.
3. Ask the Central Florida Congress of Regional Leaders to examine the need to align regional and local planning processes (through the MPOs and RPCs) that deal with long term planning and investment in infrastructure which drives and supports economic development.



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4. The Business Community through organizations like the *Central Florida Partnership*, Chambers of Commerce and EDOs, must be engaged with elected leadership at all levels to focus on the physical and intellectual infrastructure necessary to drive our region's economy. The Business Community can demonstrate leadership by encouraging local leaders to seek solutions beyond local boundaries.
5. Engage the community on the regional economic development issues and successes through multiple communication channels, with an emphasis on social media and the necessary cyber-infrastructure.

### Where is this issue in the "Six Steps to Civic Innovation?"

This group of Civic Innovators concluded the region is between Step 3: *Identify & Define the Civic Issue* and Step 4: *Engage the Community*.

### What's next?

The Work Group agreed a "Regional Economic Development Forum" composed of EDOs, Chambers, CVBs, Higher Ed institutions and other regional organizations should be created to build trust and to define our regional economic strategy.

### Who owns the next step?

Not defined