

Panelists for the Suncoast Corridor Task Force Meeting #4

Beth Cicchetti, CEcD



As the principal and founder of Beth Kirkland Consulting, Ms Cicchetti provides management services and economic development expertise for communities and associations such as the Gadsden County Development Council and the Florida Economic Development Council. Ms Cicchetti has more than 25 years of expertise in economic, community, and workforce development including defense, healthcare, information technology, transportation and logistics, and manufacturing.

Andrew Collins

In his role at CareerSource Florida, Andrew Collins oversees the \$300 million annual budget for Florida’s workforce system and provides policy guidance for investments that support the board’s emphasis on data-driven decision-making, performance, and outcomes. Prior to joining CareerSource Florida, Mr. Collins oversaw Financial Monitoring and Accountability for the Department of Economic Opportunity. In this role, he was responsible for the development and execution of annual monitoring plans for nearly 500 agency grantees and sub-recipients.



Diane Hutchings



Diane Hutchings is serving her second term as a Clay County Commissioner representing District 3, currently serving as the Vice Chairman of the Board. Her current public duties include Vice Chairman of the Infrastructure & Development Committee, member of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, and liaison for the Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Commissioner Hutchings has served on numerous boards and committees, including the Clay County Economic Development Board, the Clay County Tourism Development Board, and the Clay County Transportation Advisory Committee.

Chereese Stewart

In her role as Clay County’s Director of Economic and Development Services, Chereese Stewart works to promote economic development for the county in order to reduce the tax burden placed on residential property owners. Her efforts focus on industrial recruitment and retention, business development, and entrepreneurship. Under her leadership, Clay County has partnered with developers and private land owners to establish zoning and entitlements for significant commercial, office, and industrial space.



Gray Swoope



With more than 30 years of experience in economic development, Gray Swoope served as the Secretary of Commerce and President/CEO of Enterprise Florida from 2011-2015. During his tenure at Enterprise Florida, the organization announced project wins with companies including Verizon, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Embraer, and Northrup Grumman. He previously worked as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority under then-Gov. Haley Barbour and helped recruit Toyota, GE Aviation, and SeverCorr (now Steel Dynamics) to the state. Passionate about economic development, Mr. Swoope has represented both urban and rural regions.