

PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO: Honorable Chairman and  
Members of the Board of  
County Commissioners

DATE: 09/11/07 FILE: CAO07-0466

SUBJECT: Pasco County Target Business  
Incentive Ordinance  
●BCC: Final Public Hearing:  
09/25/07; 1:30 p.m.; NPR

FROM: Barbara L. Wilhite  
Chief Assistant County Attorney

REFERENCES: All Commission Districts

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It is recommended that the data herein presented be given formal consideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

Please find before you for your consideration the proposed "Pasco County Target Business Incentive Ordinance." This ordinance was introduced on September 11, 2007 and has been prepared in coordination with the Pasco Economic Development Council and in accordance with new policies in the Economic Element of the EAR Comprehensive Plan adopted in June, 2006. This proposed ordinance supersedes existing ordinances 95-01 and 96-05 and replaces them with a new ordinance. The new ordinance was modeled after Hernando County's ordinance.

The proposed ordinance provides as follows:

- Requires that businesses seeking County incentives as Target Businesses, at a minimum, qualify for state incentives and pay an average annual wage of at least 125% of the Pasco County average wage.
- A qualifying Target Business that is proposing a new development or expansion that will create at least ten (10) new full time jobs is eligible for payment by the County upfront of the fees up to \$75,000 and for deferral of the reimbursement for five (5) years and ultimately forgiveness of the reimbursement after the five (5) year period if the Target Business still meets all of the requirements. For fees over \$75,000, the Target Business would pay the excess fees upfront and then the County beginning at the end of year one and each year thereafter will refund the Target Business (as long as it still meets all requirements) an amount equal to twenty (20%) percent of the excess fees paid until the Target Business has received all of its excess fees paid refunded in full.
- Building permit fees incentives structured the same way as the impact fees incentives.
- New development and expansion of existing Target Businesses have the same qualifying criteria.
- The incentives are not exclusive and the Target Business may apply or qualify for or participate in other federal, state or local programs and may apply for as many incentives as they qualify for in the ordinance or other provisions of the Code or as otherwise approved by the Board of County Commissioners, which may include waiver of land development code or code of ordinance provisions.
- The new ordinance will apply to eligible Target Businesses for which a building permit has not been issued by the effective date of the ordinance. For businesses which have been issued a building permit by the effective date of the ordinance, Ordinance No. 95-01, as amended by Ordinance No. 96-05 will apply.

ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS:

The Board of County Commissioners is requested to consider the following alternatives:

1. Hold the final public hearing on the proposed Target Business Incentive Ordinance.

2. Do not hold the final public hearing on the proposed Target Business Incentive Ordinance.
3. Direct the County Attorney's Office as to some other course of action.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND FUNDING:

The Pasco Economic Development Council and the County Attorney's Office recommend that the Board of County Commissioners approve alternative number 1, accept public comment, adopt the Ordinance by role call vote, authorize the Chairman's signature to the Ordinance, and direct Board Records to file a certified copy of the Ordinance and the coding form with the Department of State within ten (10) days after enactment. It is further requested that Board Records retain one (1) original Ordinance, and send one (1) copy to Mary Jane Stanley, Pasco Economic Development Council, 16506 Pointe Village Drive, Suite 101, Lutz, Florida 33558; one (1) copy to Michele L. Baker, Assistant County Administrator, New Port Richey; one (1) copy to Michael Nurrenbrock, Director, OMB, New Port Richey; one (1) copy to Bipin Parikh, P.E., ACA, Development Services; one (1) copy to Cynthia M. Jolly, P.E., Administrator, Development Review; and one (1) copy to Barbara L. Wilhite, Chief Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, New Port Richey.

No funding is required for this item.

Attachment: Pasco County Target Business Incentive Ordinance (1 original/6 copies).

cc: The Honorable Commissioner Michael Cox, CFP® (w/attachment)  
Mary Jane Stanley, PEDC (w/attachment)  
Michele L. Baker, Chief Assistant County Administrator, (w/attachment)  
Michael Nurrenbrock, Director, OMB (w/attachment)  
Bipin Parikh, ACA, Development Services (w/attachment)  
Cindy Jolly, Development Director (w/attachment)  
David Goldstein, Senior Assistant County Attorney (w/attachment)