

FY 2014

ANNUAL REPORT

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency



OUR MISSION...

The Mission of the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency is to serve the community by guiding redevelopment activities to create a vibrant downtown core and revitalized neighborhood, to improve the quality of life, and to stimulate economic growth within the Agency's district.

Special Thanks

This agency is fortunate to work with the exceptional business and property owners in the redevelopment area. Your encouragement and support mean so much. Your ideas and recommendations drive our projects. Your dedication to business and to this town is inspirational. Please continue to be engaged; drop by the office any time and keep us informed of your ideas. Thank you also for your participation in the Facade Grant program; the Historic District looks just great. We also wish to thank the following individuals on whose expertise we rely: Clay Smallwood of Preble-Rish and Jim Anderson, John Grantland, Charlotte Pierce, Robin Combs, and Mike Lacour of the City of Port St. Joe.

THE OPEN-AIR DISCOVERY CENTER



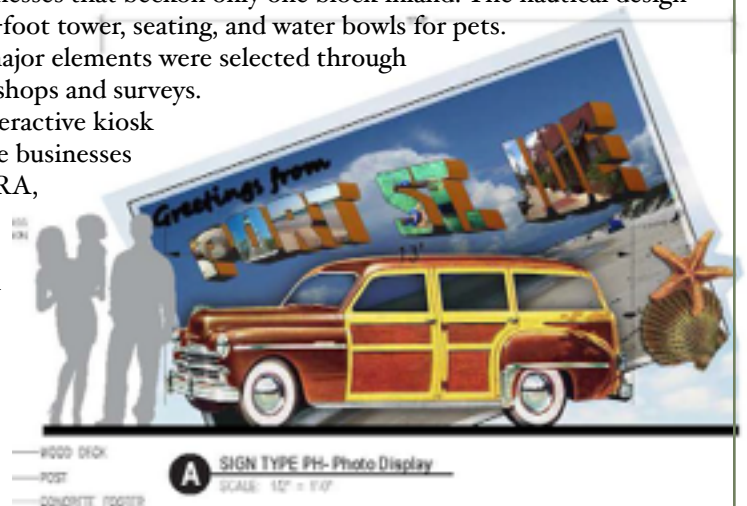
A SIGN TYPE K- Kiosk (w/ Interactive Display)
SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0"

The Historic Shopping District of Port St. Joe remains an undiscovered treasure for many of the 12,000 people who travel on US-98 every day. The Open-Air Discovery Center, to be constructed on the deck of the Billy Joe Rish Parking Lot, is designed to invite travelers to stop and learn about the charming businesses that beckon only one block inland. The nautical design includes a 36-foot tower, seating, and water bowls for pets.

The three major elements were selected through public workshops and surveys.

First, an interactive kiosk will advertise businesses within the CRA,

promote city-wide events, and provide maps of local destinations. Second, everyone wanted an iconic element to serve as a "photo op." A woody station wagon, situated in front of a postcard image of Port St. Joe, fills the bill. And finally, a periscope with a 360-degree view of the city will ultimately link to webcams throughout the region. The PSJRA has applied to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Business Enterprise Grant program for funds to construct the Discovery Center.



—WOOD SIGN
—POST
—CONCRETE FOOTER
A SIGN TYPE PH- Photo Display
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"

FACADE GRANT PROGRAM

The Facade Grant Program funded improvements for several downtown businesses in FY 2014 for a total of \$22,868.68. Since the inception of the program, \$414,646 has been invested in this program. The Facade Grant application is available at www.PSJRA.com. Last year's recipients included

Laundry Basket	Windows & Exterior Improvements	\$6,249.25
Polished	Building and Blade Signs	\$557.10
408 Reid Avenue	Improvements Visible from US-98	\$5,000.00
PoJo Place	Paint, Awnings, and Signage	\$4229.83
Bow Wow Beach Shop	Signage	\$1,746.00
Port Cottages	Signage and Lighting	\$4,425.00



LOOKING AHEAD

The PSJRA is collaborating with the Port Theatre Art & Culture Center to purchase and renovate this iconic structure. The PTACC applied for a \$350,000 acquisition grant through the Florida Division of Historical Resources, and the PSJRA provided the required 10% matching funds. The grant was recommended for full funding pending adoption of the 2016 State budget.

The PSJRA has designed and will seek funding for a decorative arch to be located at the Fourth Street entrance from US-98 to Reid Avenue to further encourage visitors to discover the wonderful ambiance and boutique shopping opportunities in our Historic Downtown District.

In the upcoming FRDAP grant cycle, the PSJRA will submit an application to repair the walking path at the Washington Gym Complex.



PSJRA

Board of Directors

The PSJRA wishes to express gratitude to the volunteer board of 2014: Chair Boyd Pickett, Vice Chair Bo Spring, Treasurer Aaron Farnsley, Patti Blaylock, Linda Gant, Brian Hill, Michael McKenzie, Clarence Monette, and Willie Ramsey. These individuals, and all who have served on the PSJRA Board of Directors since 2006, have worked tirelessly for the good of Port St. Joe and the fruits of their labor provide a legacy to extend well into the future. In May of 2014, in accordance with Florida Statute 163, the City Commission voted to become the PSJRA Board of Directors and selected two additional members. This board is an independent entity, separate from the City Commission, and dedicated solely to overseeing the business of the PSJRA.

FY 2014 DIRECTORS

Rex Buzzett - Chair
Bo Patterson - Vice Chair
Ben Carnes
Kaye Haddock
Phil McCroan
Mel Magidson
William Thursbay

Executive Director: Gail Alsobrook

The Independent Auditor's Report includes the PSJRA as a "component unit" in the City of Port St. Joe's audit. A component unit is an entity for which the City is considered to be financially accountable and is included in the City's reporting because of the significance of its financial relationship with the City. The Auditor's Reports are available for review from the City of Port St. Joe.

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency
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www.PSJRA.com
 Gail @ PSJRA.com

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Historic Downtown Brochure

The brochure, placed in local hotels, rental agencies, service stations, and retailers, encourages guests to discover and “stop and shop” in our Historic Downtown and surrounding areas. Revised annually to include new business, this year marked the third edition of the brochure.



Documentary of the Rescue and Relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse



A \$125,000 grant from Gulf Coast Tourism and Seafood funded the creation of a video documentary to memorialize the rescue and relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse to George Core Park near beautiful St. Joseph Bay. Producer-Directors Lisa Curry

Long and Clayton Long have been joined by award-winning documentary editor Yu Gu, whose films “thrive on innovation, social awareness and imagination” to edit the project, scheduled for completion in April 2015.

Cape San Blas Lighthouse Relocation

The PSJRA collaborated with the City of Port St. Joe to relocate the Cape San Blas Lighthouse, Keepers’ Quarters and Oil Shed to the city along St. Joseph Bay. The PSJRA was tasked to write the “Land to Parks” application, which ultimately awarded ownership of the lighthouse to the city. The PSJRA also wrote a successful grant to fund the construction of the lighthouse foundation, which required matching funds from the PSJRA. The agency contributed \$50,000 toward the move and another \$16,000 to cover an unanticipated overage.



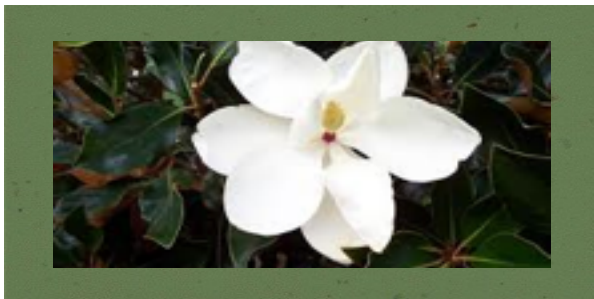
The agency is currently working on designs and funding to improve the stage and amphitheater area to encourage year-round performances and events in George Core Park.

North Port St. Joe Projects

Through a \$200,000 grant and matching funds from the PSJRA, the Martin Luther King infrastructure improvements were completed in 2014. Through a \$50,000 FRDAP grant, new playground equipment, ADA upgrades to the outdoor restrooms, bleachers, and picnic tables will be added to the Washington Gym Complex.

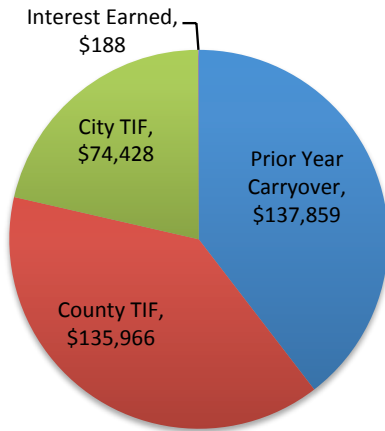
North Port St. Joe Gateway Landscape

Florida Department of Transportation awarded a \$51,000 grant for landscaping at US-98 between Avenues A and D, known as the “North Port St. Joe Gateway” project. One additional grant has been submitted to continue the landscaping between Avenue D and the overpass. This will complete the landscaping project throughout the Tourist Corridor.

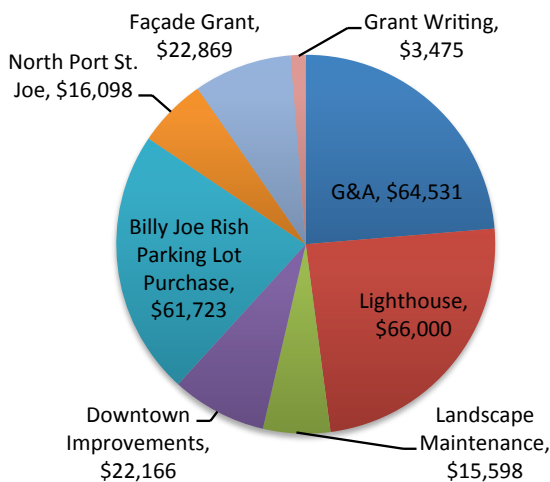


The Salt Air Market fills the City Commons every 1st and 3rd Saturday from February to December. Visitors and residents alike enjoy an array of unique goods from fresh vegetables to home-made jams, from tomato pies to hand-made jewelry, and from tie-dyed clothing to pumpkin bread. In support of this community treasure, the PSJRA wrote a grant to the Tapper Foundation, which awarded \$2000 toward the purchase of much-needed tents, chairs, and tables.

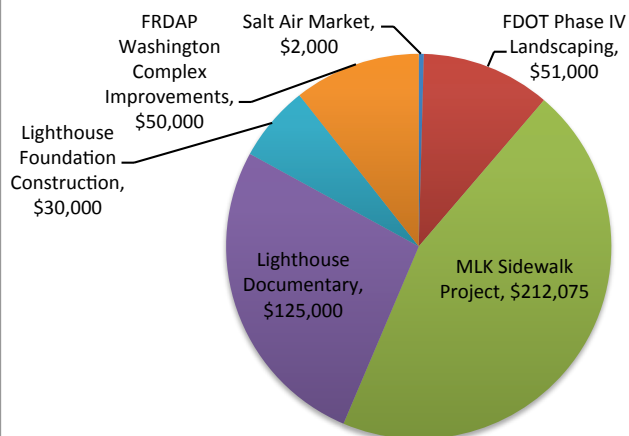
Income & Expense



Income
\$348,441



Expense
\$272,460



Active Grants
\$470,075

Grant applications are researched, written, and administered by PSJRA staff.