



Pinellas County

Staff Report

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Subject:

Sponsorship Agreement with the University of South Florida to provide economic development initiatives to support technology based industries, and to provide initiatives to support and cultivate participation and exposure to the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer Research (STTR) programs.

Recommended Action:

Approval and execution by the County Administrator of the Sponsorship Agreement with the University of South Florida to provide business outreach services and upgrade and integrate technology based tools used to support and cultivate entrepreneurial development.

Strategic Plan:

Foster continual economic growth and vitality

4.1 Proactively attract and retain businesses with targeted jobs to the County and the region

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

Summary:

Economic Development's Business Assistance division will perform activities that will include; broadening Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) participation, providing much needed business outreach, upgrading and integrating technology based tools to support and cultivate entrepreneurial development, and providing and promoting electronic business to business vendor opportunities.

Background/Explanation:

The Business Assistance Program is partially funded by the University of South Florida Sponsorship Agreement for FY 2017, and \$10,000 is included in the FY 2017 budget for Economic Development. The additional \$10,000 commitment is unanticipated revenue for FY17.

Fiscal Impact:

Annual revenue in the amount of \$20,000 to be paid to the County by the University of South Florida in a lump sum.

Delegated Authority:

Authority for the County Administrator to sign this Agreement is granted under Code Section 2-62 (a) (1).

Staff Member Responsible:

Mike Meidel, Director, Economic Development

Partners:

University of South Florida