



One City ... Four Unique Experiences!



## Chairman's Letter

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March 3, 2015

Dear Citizens,

We are very pleased to once again, report on the activities and progress of the Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) in FY 2014. The agency is required, by Florida Statutes 163 part III, to issue this Annual Report updating the citizens of the community, and the CRA funding partners, on our progress.

The Mission of the CRA is to remove the damaging influences of slum and blight and begin to change the economic fortunes of distressed areas in the City. This is done by forming plans, in concert with the community, and strategically implementing those plans to improve the economic climate and conditions in various target areas. There are four (4) CRA Districts designated in Panama City. Those areas are Downtown, Downtown North, Millville and St. Andrews. A key aspect of the CRA's focus and mission is to rebuild an environment where new investment can grow and prosper. This will, of course, improve the social and environmental conditions found in the community that will gradually reverse the blighted conditions we see in some portions of our community.

We are truly excited this year, to report significant progress in implementing several CRA projects.

All of these efforts and many more to come will improve the safety, aesthetics, investment climate, and quality of life for the citizens of our great City. I am pleased to provide you with this report so the citizens, and funding partners, can learn more about the outstanding progress being made by the CRA. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering your time, please feel free to contact me, the CRA Office, by calling our offices at 850-215-3869. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Brudnicki".

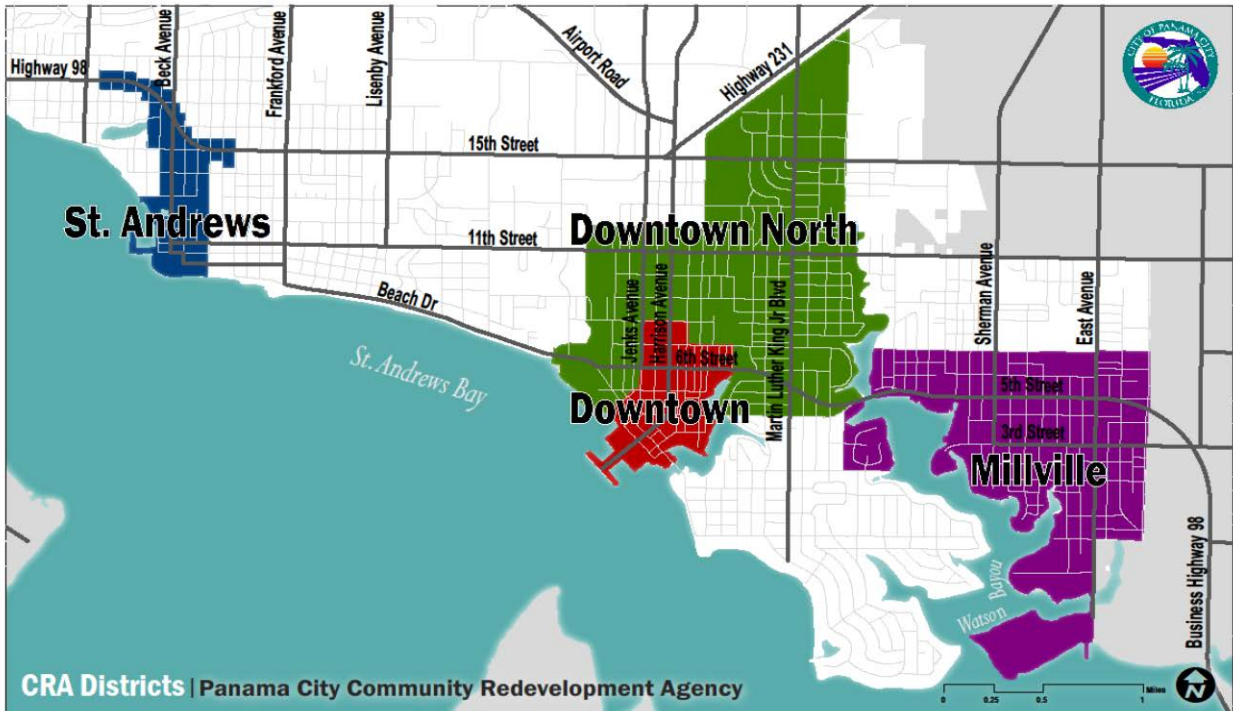
Greg Brudnicki, CRA  
Chairman



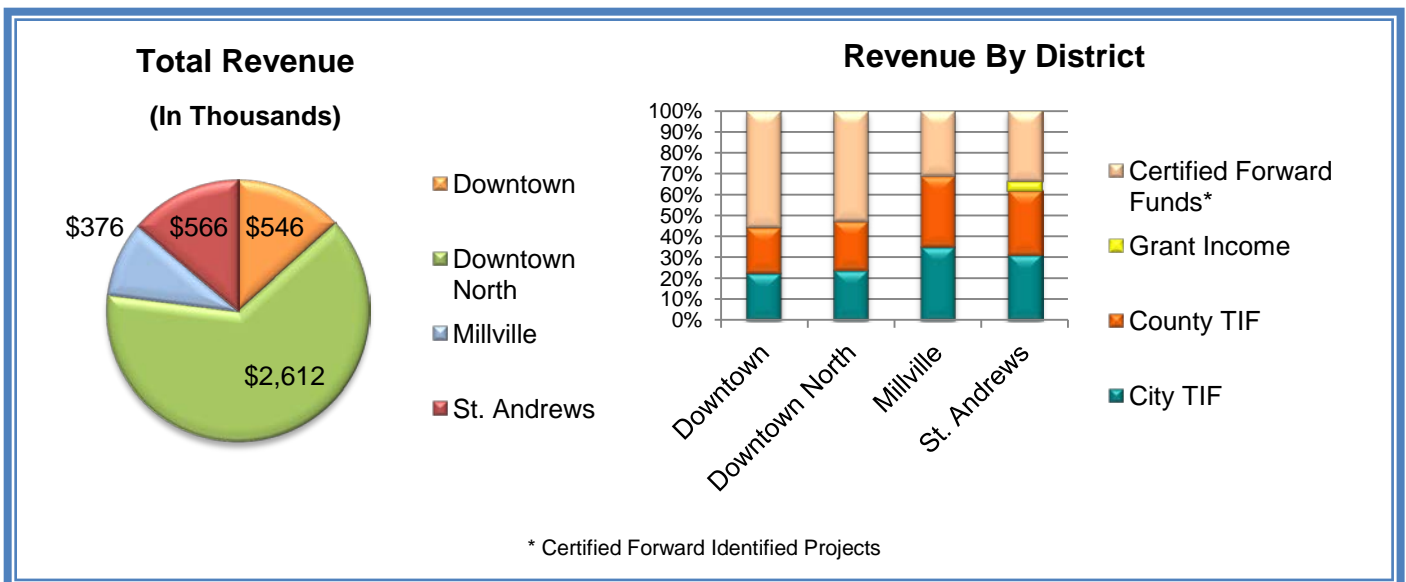
# Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency

## Introduction

The Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has four (4) Districts. Those Districts are Downtown created in 1984, St. Andrews created in 1989, Downtown North created in 1993 and Millville created in 2004.



## CRA Financial Information FY 2014





# Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency



## Downtown District Financial Information

The Downtown District has been working with business owners and the Downtown Improvement Board to support revitalization of the community through the institution of community policing efforts, support for promotional activities, renovation of public facilities, and commercial assistance programs. Public improvement projects have been performed in 2014 to improve the Downtown Marina, and a number of grants to improve facades in the business district. The CRA has provided support for cooperative events to improve the economic development such as the Music Matters, the Boat Parade of Lights, Dickens of a Christmas Events, and much more.

### Community Policing in Downtown (\$50K)

#### Projects

Downtown Marina Park & Civic Park Support

#### Events

December - Boat Parade of Lights

December - Dickens of a Christmas Events



### Commercial Assistance

13 Grants Awarded (\$122,739.26)

### Residential Assistance

No Applications in FY 2014

### Job Creation

No Applications in FY 2014

### Special Grants (DIB)

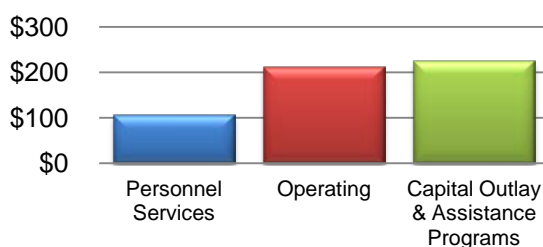
2 Grants Awarded (\$12,000)

**Let's turn Panama City in to MUSIC CITY F-L-A**

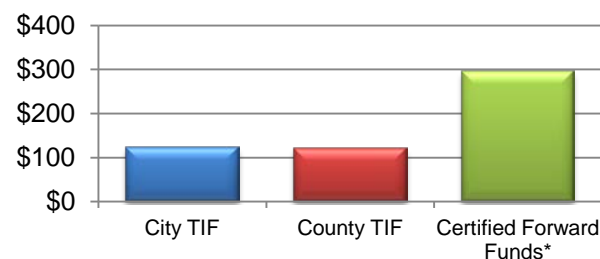
It turns out that there are quite a few of us here in Panama City that share the same dream of being able to walk from venue to venue on and around Downtown Panama City and hear great live music being performed in anywhere from six to a dozen or more venues at least 3 nights a week.

Sharing a vision....

**Expenses (In Thousands)**



**Revenue (In Thousands)**



\* Certified Forward Identified Projects

# Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency



## Downtown North District Financial Information

**Community Policing** A portion of the Downtown North is considered a high crime area and we have invested \$241,000.00 into Community Policing efforts. The Community Policing efforts for Downtown North during fiscal 2013/14 year resulted in 205 Police reports; 1121 total police calls for service; officers attended Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Training and various community meetings to include Public Housing complex managers.

**Projects:** The Downtown North CRA district initiated another round of sidewalk installations. Six streets received sidewalks; 9<sup>th</sup> street from Harrison to MLK, and Oak Ave from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Street from Harmon to Wilson, 12<sup>th</sup> Street from Harrison Ave to Dan-D-Donuts, 14<sup>th</sup> Court from Mercedes Ave to MLK BLVD, and Magnolia Avenue from 11<sup>th</sup> Street to 12<sup>th</sup> Street, the bid award was \$476,011.65.

**Property Acquisition-** The property acquisition for 908 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and 707 E. Ninth Court, an adjacent empty lot, costs \$118,000, with an additional \$7,000 in closing costs agreed to in a contract with the owner. The purchase is part of the Downtown North Cultural District. Designs included for the project are for a revamped eatery/ nightclub reminiscent of the 1960s-style and keeping with the historical designs for the area.

**Special Economic Development Grant-** Bay Medical/ Sacred Heart System: Bay Medical/ Sacred Heart requested funding assistance from the Downtown North CRA for campus improvements and public enhancements. Total grant request was \$825,000.000. Staff feels this grant as a critical project to help support the future growth and expansion of Bay Medical/ Sacred Heart as an important economic engine in the District.

### Events

The Glenwood Community BBQ Cook Off and Red Velvet Cake Contest took place in August of 2014. This event was held at A.D. Harris Learning Village and had a large turnout.

The A.D. Harris Learning Village hosted third successful year of The National Great Blacks in Wax Exhibit.



### Commercial Assistance

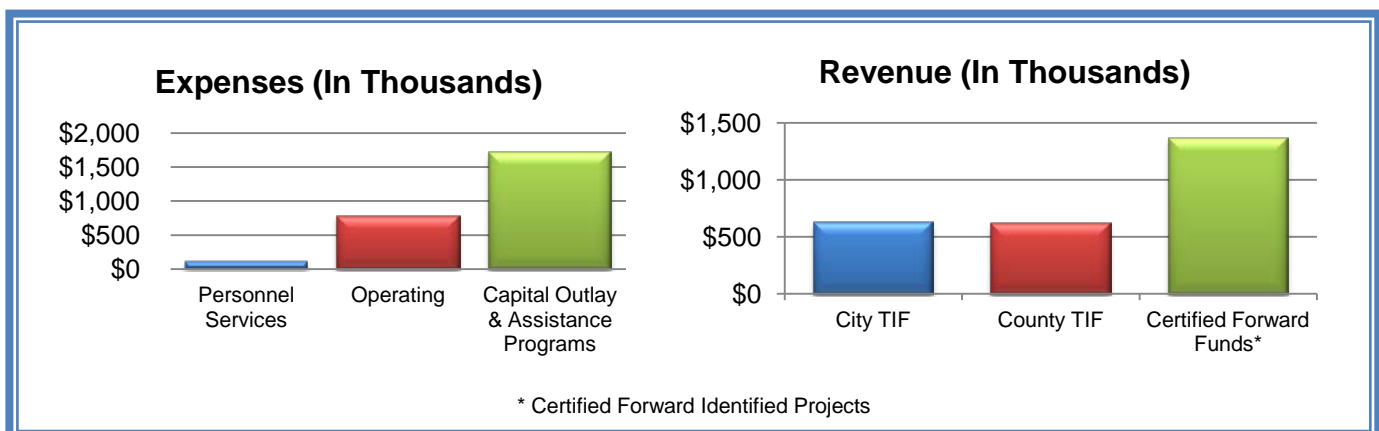
12 Grants Awarded (\$221,493.77)

### Residential Assistance

12 Grants Awarded (\$44,185.39)

### Job Creation

No Applications in FY 2014





# Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency

## St Andrews District Financial Information

The St. Andrews CRA has been effective in raising property values through support of the community through the institution of community policing efforts, support for promotional activities, renovation of public facilities, and improving public access to the waterfront. Public improvement projects have been performed in 2014 to improve parking facilities, the Bayview Avenue Boardwalk, installation of signage for the Historic Walking Tour Program, and a number small grant to improve facades in the business district. The CRA has provided support for cooperative events to improve the economic development such as the Boat Parade of Lights, St. Andrews Mardi Gras Parades & Festival, Historic Holiday Displays, St. Patrick's Day Sidewalk March, and much more.

### Community Policing in St. Andrews (\$57K)

#### Projects

- Bayview Avenue Boardwalk Improvement and Signage Enhancement Project (\$68K)
- Chestnut Parking Lot Improvements (\$18K)
- Publishing Museum Programming (\$24K)

#### Events

- St. Andrews Waterfront Farmer Market - Year Round
- February - Mardi Gras Parades & Festival
- March - St. Patrick's Day Sidewalk March
- November - Historic Holiday Displays at Oaks By The Bay Park
- December - St. Andrews Tree Lighting & Holiday Market
- December - Boat Parade of Lights
- December - Santa in St. Andrews

### Commercial Assistance

3 Grants awarded (\$37,774.50)

### Residential Assistance

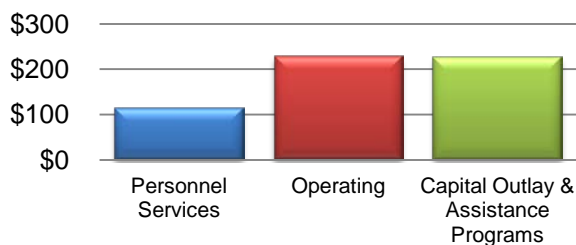
No Applications in FY 2014

### Job Creation

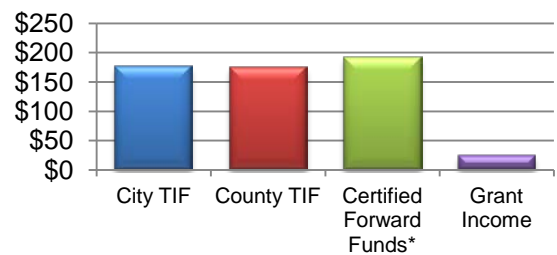
No Applications in FY 2014



### Expenses (In Thousands)



### Revenue (In Thousands)



\* Certified Forward Identified Projects



# Panama City Community Redevelopment Agency



## Millville District Financial Information

**Community Policing** Although funding was unavailable to participate in Community Policing for Fiscal Year 2014, the Millville District did contribute to the purchase of the Comcate License used by Code Enforcement and has benefited from the increased services that Code Enforcement is now able to provide in the area.

### Projects

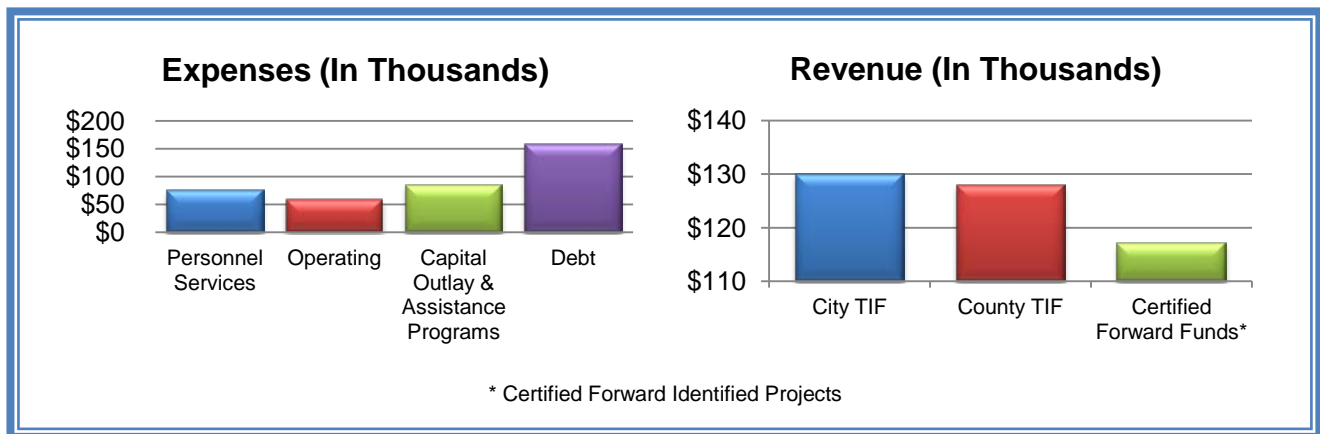
The Watson Bayou Waterfront Park had a major project take place in FY 2014; the first phase of the project was the replacement of the storm water pipe that ran through the park. The second phase involved the dredging of a section of the Watson Bayou. The material that came from this dredging was then used to re-grade the park and expand the perimeters of the park. Also volunteers from Tyndall Air Force Base, along with members of the Millville Community Alliance assisted the City of Panama City Leisure Services with replanting Whittington Park.



### Events

Throughout the year the Millville CRA partners with the Millville Community Alliance (MCA) to sponsor many activities and events. Starting in April through September, the CRA sponsors the Movies in the Park. These movies are free for children and the cost for the adults is \$1. The MCA collects the admission and provides refreshments. The money collected goes towards the Children's Christmas Parade that the MCA sponsors each year. The Christmas parade brings over 2000 children to the event to participate in and watch. The MCA also sponsors the Spring Fling and Turkey Toss disc golf tournaments in order to raise money for the Children's Christmas Parade.

Commercial Assistance  
 2 Grants Awarded (\$2,702.00)  
 Residential Assistance  
 7 Grants Awarded (\$18,222.92)  
 Job Creation  
 No Applications in FY 2014





## FY 2014 CRA Board Members

**Greg Brudnicki – Chairman**

**John Kady**

**Kenneth Brown**

**Billy Rader**

**Mike Nichols – Pro Tempore**

### Contact information

Jeffrey Brown	City Manager	872-3011
Onya Bates	Millville Program Manager	215-3873
Rob Rosner	St. Andrews Program Manager	215-3871
Toni Shamplain	Downtown North Program Manager	215-3872
Shelley Allen	CRA Staff Assistant	215-3869
Melvin Benton	Grants and Operations Coordinator	215-3837

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Panama City, Florida 32401

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See Our Website at <http://pcgov.org/163/Community-Redevelopment-Agency>