



REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2011



Port St. Joe—Our Historic and Unique Florida Bay Town

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency
150 Captain Fred's Place
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
850-229-6899
www.CelebratePortStJoe.com

Community Projects

US-98 and SR-71 Landscaping

The primary goals of the US-98 Streetscaping & Landscaping project were to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety and to present a better “front-door” impression to visitors as they pass through our major tourist corridor. Those improvements continued with additional landscaping at SR-71 and US-98 heading west. The Phase II and Phase III landscaping projects were financed by the PSJRA along with grant funds from FDOT totaling \$109,575. The PSJRA has applied for grant funding to complete the landscaping up to Avenue D.

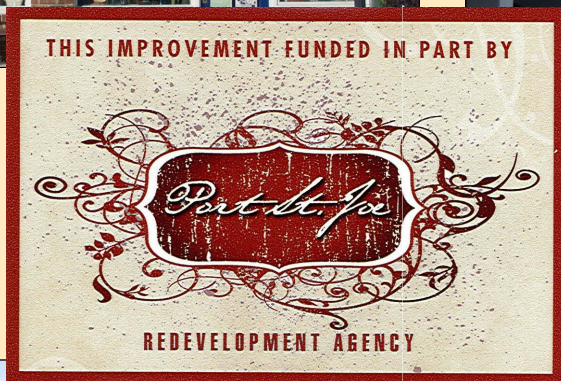


City Commons Gazebo

The City Commons gazebo was completed this year with the application of clear sealer to the wood. In 2011, the Commons hosted several community events, including the Downtown Merchants Holiday Preview Party, the City of Port St. Joe’s ceremony to name City Hall in honor of T. H. Stone, and the SaltAir Market that runs on the first and third Saturdays from April through November.

Façade Grant Program

The **Façade Grant Program** continues to transform Historic Downtown Port St Joe. This program offers partial funding for improvements to buildings within the original Community Redevelopment Area. The goal of the program is to help businesses make a great first impression to new customers and to help visitors recognize that Port St Joe is “open for business.” Typical improvements have included new windows, doors, paint, stucco, awnings, and signage. The 2011 Façade Grant Program awarded another \$30,143 for improvements, which brings the total grants awarded to over \$356,143. Grantees were strongly encouraged to use local contractors to maximize the benefit to our local economy. This year, the PSJRA also assisted the City in constructing a fence to shield the dumpsters visible from US-98 in the back of Peppers, Provisions, and Sisters’ restaurants.



Community Programs

Community Events

The PSJRA provided limited financial support in 2011 to the following local events and organizations that promote tourism and commerce within the Redevelopment Area.

- Forgotten Coast Cultural Coalition– Florida’s Forgotten Coast Plein Air Invitational, America's Great Paint-Out
- Kids Win Fishing Tournament
- Gulf County Economic Development Council
- Gulf County Chamber of Commerce
- Youth Enrichment Grant Program
- ARC Elderly Transportation
- Community Development Corporation



David B. Langston Drive

On October 27, 2010, David B. Langston Drive was dedicated. Dr. Langston was a star basketball player and educator. As a life-long advocate for children, he created a foundation to provide opportunities for children of all colors and backgrounds. The PSJRA provided the sod at either side of Langston Drive. The PSJRA continues to seek grant funding to add street lights, sidewalk, and a memorial plaque commemorating the legacy and contributions of Dr. Langston.



Gulf County Consultants & Contractors

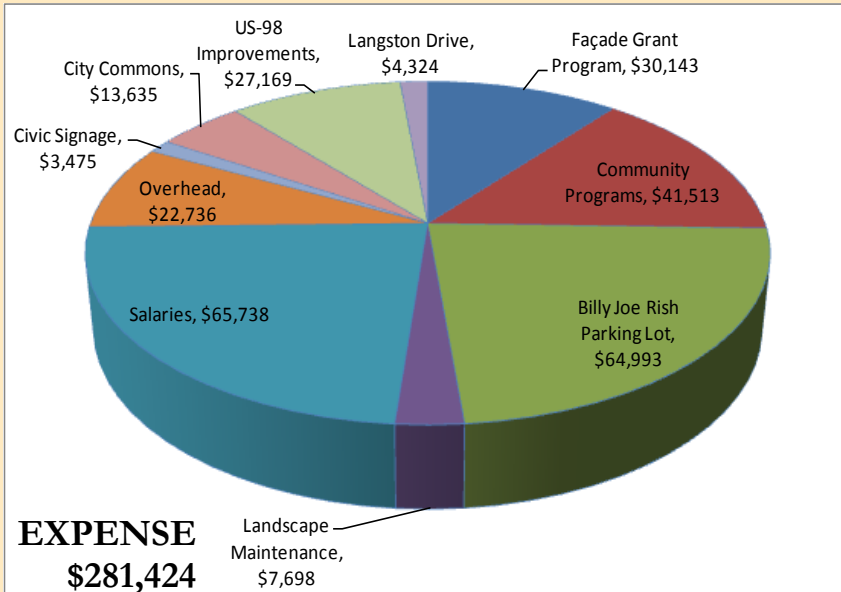
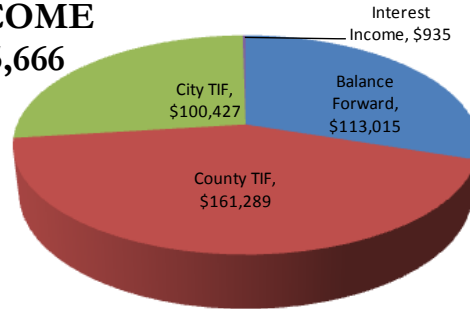
A very special thanks to our Independent Consultants and Contractors, who have worked either directly through the PSJRA programs or indirectly through our Façade Grants and other Civic Improvements. In challenging economic times like these, it is important to support local business and to promote local commerce. This Agency is very proud of our commitment to support local commerce and preserve local jobs in Port St Joe and Gulf County. Thank You.

2009-2010 Financial Report

Notes:

* Financials are as of Sept 30, 2011
 * 2011 expenses include funding allocated in previous years of \$113,015.

INCOME
\$375,666



The Independent Auditor's Report includes the PSJRA as a "component unit" included 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 entity because of the significance of its operational or financial relationships with the City. These reports are available for review from the City of Port St. Joe and on our website: www.PSJRA.com.



Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency — Board of Directors

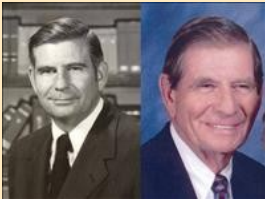
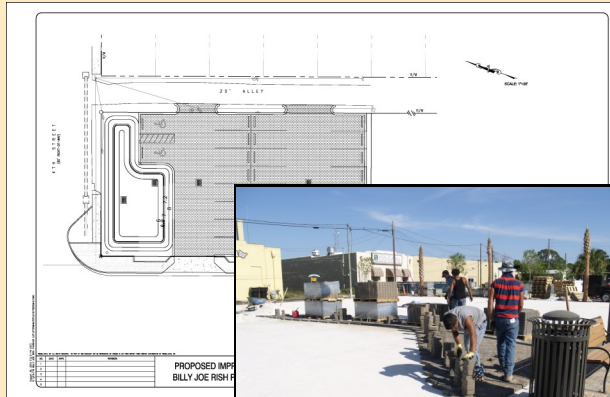
The expertise of our Board of Directors is critical to sound decision making as the Agency is entrusted with valuable public tax dollars. These Community Leaders serve tirelessly as volunteers.

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|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Patrick Jones | <i>Chair</i> | Real Estate Broker—North FL Land & Capital |
| Willie Ramsey | <i>Vice Chair</i> | Local Business Owner—Ramsey's Printing |
| Bill Reid | <i>Secretary</i> | Realtor/Business Owner—Beach Realty & Laundry Basket |
| Boyd Pickett | | Local Business Owner—The Port Fine Wine & Spirits |
| Marie Todd | | Local Business Owner—Portside Trading |
| Linda Gant | | Local Business Owner—Gant Barbeque & Catering |
| Jeff Anderson | | Local Business Owner—PoJo Art |
| Aaron Farnsley | | Local Business Owner—Farnsley & Johnson Wealth Management |
| Bo Spring | | Local Business Owner—Big Fish Construction & The Fuss |

Mission 2012

Billy Joe Rish Memorial Parking Lot

The construction of the Billy Joe Rish Memorial Parking Lot will be complete in 2012. It will accommodate 27 vehicles, including two ADA spaces. The addition of pavers and landscaping will create a beautiful and practical spot for tourists to stop and shop in the Historic Downtown district.



Billy Joe Rish
1932-2008

The parking lot is named after long-time resident, Billy Joe Rish. Mr. Rish graduated high school in Wewahitchka, served in the army, earned his law degree from the University of Florida College of Law, and opened his law practice in Port St. Joe. He served in the Florida House of Representatives and was Chairman of the Florida Ethics Commission. Among his accomplishments was the establishment on St. Joseph Peninsula of the very first state park for the handicapped. The Legislature surprised him in his last session by naming the park after him. Mr. Rish was honored as Chamber of Commerce in February 2008 with the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Looking Ahead

The PSJRA continues to focus on securing grant dollars to supplement existing programs and fund future projects. Infrastructure grants to benefit both the expanded and the original Redevelopment Areas are being identified and submitted.

1. US-98 landscaping is nearly complete, and the PSJRA has requested funding to finish the landscaping between Avenue A and Avenue D.
2. The PSJRA would like to see the BayFront Park area improved to include a dock and platform for swimming, kayak rentals, water slide, picnic areas, parking, and a level, grassy area for volleyball and three-legged races. We have applied for a planning grant to ensure a comprehensive and collaborative plan involving community input and visioning.
3. The PSJRA has applied for a grant to construct sidewalks on both sides of Martin Luther King Boulevard between Avenue A and Avenue D.