

Jeffrey C. Ruggieri, AICP

4085 Joann Terrace ▪ North Port, FL 34286 ▪ jeffruggieri@live.com ▪ (941) 875-7436

September 9, 2011

Nancy Doyle
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Commission
1926 Victoria Ave
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Dear Ms. Doyle:

As the Director of Building and Growth Management for Charlotte County, FL managing political perceptions, complex growth, and employee issues for 75 employees was a daily task. I faced the many challenges ingrained in the department and led the way in changing the countywide perception of the department for the better. I resolved production and negative perception issues and have proven myself a consistent, fair, and dependable leader of the county.

Being a leader and point of contact for the department I have a verifiable track record of balancing the rights of property owners with the integrity of laws, codes, and ordinances. This highly demanding and responsible position allowed me to continue to build upon my past experiences and utilize the skills I gained in development policy implementation, economic development, negotiation, staff management, problem solving, interpersonal communication, and budgeting.

An experienced manager, I understand the importance of harmonizing political directives and employee issues with overall Department production. A firm believer in acting with integrity, customer enthusiasm, and teambuilding, I have a demonstrable record leading staff in the successful completion of complex projects through coordinating tradeoffs, developing partnerships and building positive rapport with the general public, architects, engineers, elected officials, and internal clients while maintaining a high level professionalism.

I take great pride in putting staff in the best position for their success. My professional and life's experiences have fully equipped me for this leadership position with the county where I can lead the way toward the daily pursuit of high expectations, innovation, and customer enthusiasm.

Accepting challenges is the foundation of my life experiences and something I do with confidence. You will find me a totally committed individual who takes pride in being direct, respectful, and communicative with superiors and subordinates, as well as internal and external clientele.

A few relevant accomplishments:

- Project manager and point of contact for numerous high-profile economic development projects in Charlotte County.
- Innovated and implemented a nationally-recognized online interactive tool for public outreach used in policy creation.
- Created downtown redevelopment area focusing on smart growth, healthy living, place-making and community building.

Please review my résumé and the recommendations compiled on my LinkedIn profile. I believe myself to be a valuable asset in the continued growth of your area. Feel free to contact me via phone or email. I sincerely look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Ruggieri, AICP

Please view my LinkedIn Profile at: www.linkedin.com/in/jeffruggieri

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Community & Economic Development Executive

Visionary senior leader with experience in both public and private sectors—**building and leading cohesive, high-performing teams to continuously innovate...collaborate and partner with community and government entities...provide world-class service... deliver value...and streamline bureaucracy**, all to benefit the communities served.

Catalyst and advocate of change and continuous improvement; have demonstrated the ability to turn-around negative internal and external perceptions and facilitate consensus. Skilled at identifying and resolving barriers that impede growth, progress and development and developing groups of people into teams that are committed to a common purpose.

"Reputations are earned, not given, and during Jeff's time as Growth Management Director for Charlotte County he earned a reputation for fairly crafting "win-win" solutions to complex development issues that served both public and private interests." Excerpt from LinkedIn recommendation, Attorney

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Earned American Institute of Certified Planners designation in 2006

Recognized by Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation Award 2011

Winner of Florida Planning and Zoning Association Outstanding Long Range Planning Award for SmartCharlotte2050

Profiled in *Gulf Coast Business Weekly*, Government Watch in September 2008

Profiled in *Gulfshore Business* in November 2008

Named to top "40 under 40" *Gulfshore Business* in September 2009

Key Accomplishments

- Launched the North Port Economic Development Corporation, (NPEDC), a nonprofit organization with 11 current, viable projects to explore and support with anticipated \$10.3M in regional impact with partner. *Acuity Planning*
- Slashed Site Development Plan Review time from 6 to 2 weeks—removed duplication, reduced internal time parameters and eliminated non-value added procedures. *Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners (CCBCC)*
- Reestablished credibility and public's perception of the Growth Management & Building Department by defining, communicating and monitoring a comprehensive, customer-focused vision to staff and leading organization to become a more agile, responsive bureaucratic entity with a private mindset. *CCBCC*
- Completely rewrote the county's comprehensive plan, from a 1700 page, non-user friendly document to a 270 page, award-winning, usable plan (SmartCharlotte2050), and a document that can truly be leveraged to guide the growth in Charlotte County. Utilized cutting-edge technology to engage the public, gather feedback and build support from large, diverse section of the population. The program and process has since been used by governments across the U.S. *CCBCC*
- Improved productivity, service response time and enhanced processes from client's viewpoint in a number of areas—for example: streamlined Land Use Application Form from six to two pages and reduced Building Permit Review time by 30%. *CCBCC*
- Conceived of and fostered Medical Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) plan to create a live/work/play district downtown, elevate quality of life, enhance economic development and increase tax revenues from area. Some key indicators will be decreased crime, increased demand for commercial and residential property, and economic reinvestment in the area. *CCBCC*
- Conceived of and pioneered marketing of new service that generated incremental \$250K in revenues for one client alone; supported business unit's distinction as most profitable unit in Florida. *Kimley-Horn & Associates*
- Recognized by Houston Mayor and Director of Planning & Development as integral participant in visioning and implementation of first electronic subdivision submission process in the country. *City of Houston*
- Collaborated on development of an innovative, creative City Master Plan for Oxford Mississippi, as member of a team of twenty professionals. *Chris T. Nelson and Associates*

Please view my LinkedIn Profile at: www.linkedin.com/in/jeffruggieri

ACUITY PLANNING INC.

April 2011–Present

Partner

A multi-dimensional Planning and Communications firm that specializes in planning, economic development, citizen engagement, marketing, and communication.

- Engaged by three large regional land development clients to facilitate permitting process.
- Chair of newly-created North Port Development Corporation, a private economic development entity.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY BCC

Dec 2006–April 2011

Director of Building and Growth Management (*Sept 2010–April 2011*)

- Countywide consolidations added the Building Department to existing responsibilities; oversaw Building, Planning and Zoning, GIS, Engineering, and Code Enforcement staff
- Hired, managed and evaluated 75 FTE with \$8.1M department budget

Director of Growth Management (*Oct 2007–Sept 2010*)

- Hired, led, and appraised 32 FTE with \$5M department budget
- County Excavation Administrator responsible for review, approval, and monitoring of County excavations
- Created County's Comprehensive plan (SmartCharlotte2050)
- Led county in complete update of zoning code
- Analyzed development review processes and policies and implemented changes to increase efficiency and service levels
- Formulated incentive packages to attract and maintain sustainable economic development
- Created midtown Redevelopment district focused on multi-generational living and smart growth principles
- Oversaw creation, implementation and maintenance of 7 unique neighborhood plans
- Implemented 15,000 acre Babcock Ranch New Town development
- Responsible for Murdock Village CRA, a 1,100 acre public/private partnership
- Conducted numerous citizen focus groups to address growth, development, and permitting issues
- Updated Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator on growth and development issues and requested direction to proactively address future challenges
- Coordinated with area Colleges to formulate curriculum needs to support county economic development effort

Planning Services Manager (*Dec 2006–Oct 2007*)

- Organized, assigned, directed and reviewed activities of 16 professional, technical and clerical personnel and \$2.6M budget
- Oversaw the management and maintenance of the County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code
- Oversaw administration and amendment of nationally recognized Transfer of Development Units (TDU) Ordinance
- Streamlined review processes for development review, rezoning and plan amendments

KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES

May 2005–Dec 2006

Planning Manager

- Led team of land development professionals as Project Manager for numerous subdivision developments in Central and Southwest Florida and large scale (2,000+ acre) mixed used developments
- Solicited, reviewed, and selected sub-consultants to assist in land development projects
- Facilitated the development process by serving as liaison between landowners, engineers, developers and various governing entities in the Central and Southwest Florida Region
- Represented client interests in private and public settings

NORTHRUP AND ASSOCIATES INC.

June 2003–May 2005

Senior Planner

- Led team of land planners for numerous subdivision developments in Houston, TX and surrounding municipalities; facilitated the development process by serving as liaison between landowners, engineers, developers and various governing entities

Senior Planner – DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, CITY OF HOUSTON TX

Sept 1999–June 2003

Planner Assistant – CHRIS T. NELSON AND ASSOCIATES

Sept 1998–Sept 1999

EDUCATION

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Master of City Planning, Emphasis: Environmental Planning, 1999

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Bachelor of Arts, Marine Affairs, 1996