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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Glades Technical Advisory Committee,

**FROM:** Vicki E. Silver, AICP,  
Planning Division

**DATE:** August 31, 2000

**RE:** Revised GTAC Mission

In 1995, GTAC formed in order to keep Palm Beach County officials abreast of economic development and community development efforts underway to enhance the Glades area. Since then, this committee has served as a clearinghouse, exchanging information from eco-tourism and business development to job training. Valuable working relationships have developed among members representing various organizations, and we have provided a forum for obtaining input on community-wide projects such as the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail Master Plan and the 1998 federal Empowerment Zone.

With development of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail (a top County priority) scheduled to start within one year, I believe GTAC can help facilitate trail-related development by tackling a project. I am suggesting this approach because it could channel our committee members' existing or future funding and technical assistance resources to achieve visible results. The following projects are provided for your organization's consideration and as a basis for other ideas:

- Helping develop a heritage/cultural tourism industry through local entrepreneurship, such as a) historic/ethnic tours, b) ethnic musical performances, and c) arts and crafts marketing
- Helping one community attract a developer for a project such as South Bay's Crossroads Lake Depot and Marketplace or the renovation of Old Pahokee High School (accelerating City Hall site redevelopment); and
- Creating a tourism/hospitality training program in conjunction with Palm Beach Community College Glades Campus, Workforce Development Board, and major employers on the coast.

I would appreciate your input on the feasibility of this approach and these specific suggestions. If you are an active member, we appreciate your continuing participation; we will discuss this memo at the August 31 meeting. If you are an absentee member (compare the participants listed in enclosed minutes to the distribution list), feel free to fax your ideas to 561-233-5365 or e-mail [vsilver@co.palm-beach.fl.us](mailto:vsilver@co.palm-beach.fl.us). If your agency does not plan to participate in GTAC, you can also use either of these numbers to request removal from our mailing list. enclosures

c: Verdenia Baker, Assistant County Administrator  
Frank Duke, AICP, Planning Director

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