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Impressions of the USFSP 20/20 community input forum

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What a wonderful opportunity I had as a participant in the USFSP 20/20 Community Input Forum. I commend Regional Chancellor Wisniewska and the University for seeking input from community stakeholders to assist in charting their future.

Our group discussed the importance of an economic development partnership with the University and small businesses. Since the majority of Americans are employed by small businesses, it is extremely important to have USFSP lend/extend its intellectual and business assets to assist in building capacity of small businesses in the redevelopment areas (Midtown and Childs Park) of St. Petersburg.

Every great University is a major player in the ongoing economic development in the community in which it resides. The hope of our group is that USFSP will not be an exception to that rule. We look forward to having another co-laborer assisting the other stakeholders such as the City's Economic Development Department (i.e. the Business Greenhouse) and Chamber of Commerce in business development, retention and expansion.

We have a very bright future,

Claude S. Williams,
Economic Development Coordinator
The Greenhouse

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