The CRA 2011 Annual Financial Audit Report is included in the overall St. Johns County Audit Report and can be made available upon request from the Clerk of Courts Finance Department by contacting them at:

St. Johns County: Phone (904)819-3658 Fax (904) 819-3667

Email BCC Finance: fincoc@sjccoc.us

Email COC Finance: jtillis@sjccoc.us
For additional information regarding the St. Johns County Community Redevelopment Agency, the availability of copies of this report, and the separate audit report, contact:

Tom Crawford, Director
St. Johns County Housing and Community Development
500 San Sebastian View
St. Augustine, FL 32084
Phone: 904-827-6891

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
The Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Report for St. Johns County Community Redevelopment Agency has been prepared in accordance with Section 356(3)(c), Florida Statutes. This report covers the period from October 2010 through September 30, 2011.

This report is to be transmitted with the audited year-end financial statement as required by statute.
The revitalization of the Vilano Beach Town Center has created an environment that draws people to enjoy the natural beauty as well as the organized activities and events.

Vilano Beach Annual Easter Egg Hunt brought hundreds of people to enjoy the Town Center festivities.

Vilano Beach Town Center project has been the recipient of several regional planning awards, the Sustainable Florida Award, and a Merit Award given by the Secretary of State for the Town Center Streetscape.

The Annual Florida Skimboarding Pro-Am is held in Vilano Beach where visitors are drawn the beautiful beaches and Town Center.

The July 4th Celebration brought crowds to enjoy a full day and evening of activities.

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Vilano Beach Publix

After 14 years of diligent effort by both citizens and government, the long-awaited grocery store will open in early 2012. Financing of the new grocery store construction was assisted by $5.5 million in Industrial Development Authority Bonds issued using Federal “Recovery Zone” stimulus money.

Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds are a new type of bond created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) approved by the President and Congress in 2009. They may be used to finance government projects with economic development outcomes. Under this program, counties and large municipalities with more than 100,000 in population are eligible to receive Original Allocations by formula of authority to issue a new type of tax credit bond called a “Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond” to finance economic activities in a Recovery Zone. A Recovery Zone is defined as an area having significant poverty, unemployment, home foreclosures, or general distress; or an area that has already been federally designated as an Empowerment Zone or Renewal Community. In addition to the federally designated areas, a county or municipality may designate areas within their jurisdiction as Recovery Zones. St. Johns County has successfully designated all three of its CRA areas as Recovery Zone Areas.

County Administrator Michael Wanchick said, “this is a unique opportunity to provide tax-exempt financing for a commercial project that will create approximately 80 new permanent jobs, stimulate local employment and boost supplier sales.”

County officials, Tom Crawford and staff, as well as members of the community and the Vilano Town Center Main Street and Waterfronts Florida Association participated in the ceremony and celebration.

The Publix is opening in January 2012.

Vilano Beach was the site of a Waterfront Florida quarterly two-day conference. Vilano Beach was designated a Waterfront Florida Community in 1999 and is among approximately 22 other such communities in Florida.

Vilano Beach Annual Easter Egg Hunt brought hundreds of people to enjoy the Town Center festivities.

New Businesses for Vilano Beach Town Center

Incentives for businesses in Vilano Beach include shared stormwater management, pedestrian and bicycle friendliness, live and work zones, zero lot lines, and underground utilities. Other enhancements include an overlay district to ensure quality development, on-street parking, artistic landscape design, public art and sculptures, public seating, signature sidewalk pavers, wayfinding signage, public fountains and water features. Through several public and private projects, Vilano Beach has realized millions of dollars of reinvestment in the community.

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