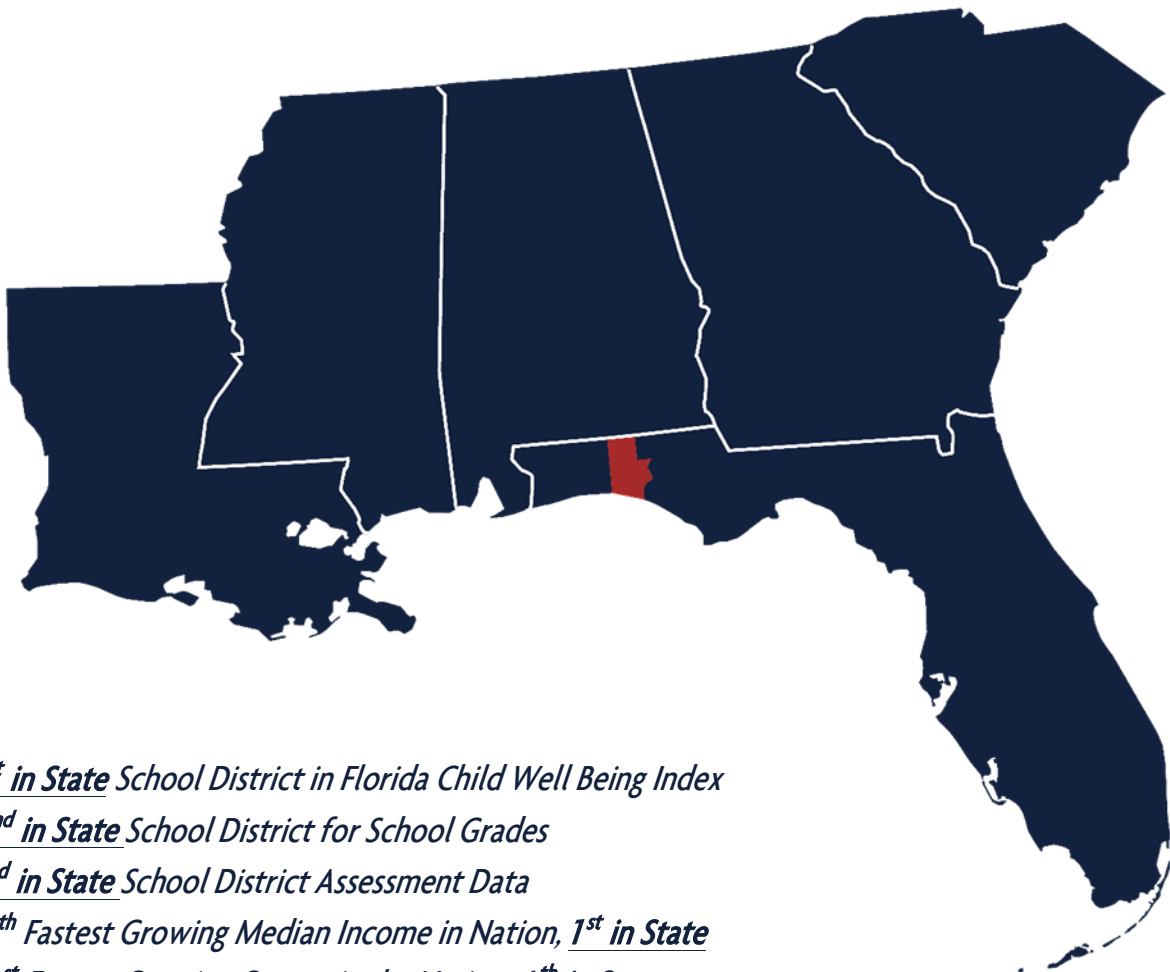




**WONDERFUL
WALTON**
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

2026 Investors Guide

Be Wonderful With Us!



- 1st in State School District in Florida Child Well Being Index
- 2nd in State School District for School Grades
- 3rd in State School District Assessment Data
- 11th Fastest Growing Median Income in Nation, 1st in State
- 21st Fastest Growing County in the Nation, 4th in State
- 23rd Fastest Growing Labor Force in Nation, 2nd in State
- 53rd In Nation for Innovation Intelligence Index, 2nd in State

Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com

Message from the President/CEO

Welcome to Walton County — where innovation thrives, opportunity is abundant, and the spirit of community runs deep.

Here, economic development isn't just a goal — it's a shared commitment to building a stronger future. With a strategic location along I-10, access to major transportation networks, a talented workforce, and an exceptional quality of life, Walton County offers a strong foundation for growth.

What sets us apart is our collaborative approach. Local government, business leaders, and residents work together to create an environment where businesses can launch, expand, and succeed. Whether you're exploring new opportunities or planning your next investment, you'll find a community ready to move forward with you.

Welcome to Walton County. Let's build the future together.

— JJ Harris, President/CEO

Together, We Build What's Next

Economic development is no longer just the job of local government—it's a shared mission, powered by businesses like yours. At Wonderful Walton, we've embraced a true public-private partnership model. Today, private sector investors are helping shape the region's future by funding programs, unlocking new opportunities, and accelerating long-term growth.

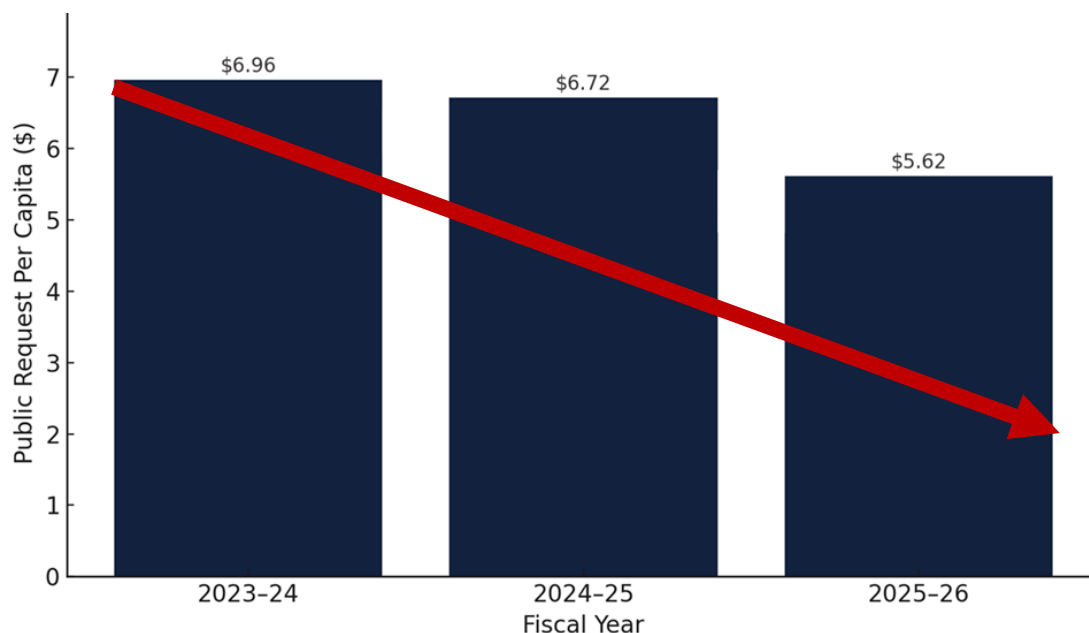
Your investment doesn't just fund an organization—it strengthens the foundation of our economy, reduces the burden on taxpayers over time, and positions your business as a leader in the region's transformation.

We're inviting you to be part of this. Join us in building a more resilient, connected, and prosperous Walton County. Together, we won't just grow—we'll lead.

Your Investment Delivers Impact to our Government Partners

Private Sector Success Drives Public Sector Savings

We want YOU to be a contributor to this Wonderful story!



Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com

Our Leadership Team

Todd Jackson

CHAIR

CEO

HCA Twin Cities

Todd Bierbaum

VICE CHAIR

Councilmember | Seat 1

City of DeFuniak Springs

Stacey McGilvray

TREASURER

Senior Vice President

Hancock Whitney

AJ Brown

SECRETARY

Area Manager

Wharton Smith

A. Russell Hughes

Superintendent

Walton County School District

Danny Glidewell

Commissioner | District 2

Walton County

Chad Pippin

Senior Vice President

White Construction

Doug Constantine

Councilmember

City of Paxton

Emily Cowan

Vice President

CHELCO

Katie Robison

Sales Director

LiveOak Fiber

Kevin Brown

Associate Vice President

Northwest Florida State College

Russ Barley

Mayor

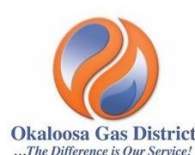
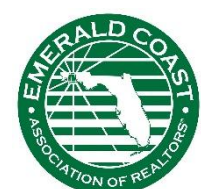
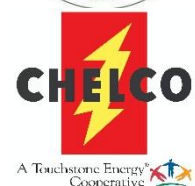
City of Freeport

Tony Anderson

Commissioner | District 5

Walton County

Trustee Investors



Corporate Investors

Emerald Coast Logistics Center

CareerSource Okaloosa-Walton

Best Western DeFuniak Springs

LJA Engineering

Dunlap & Shipman

Associate Investors

Freeport Merchants Association

Building Industry Association Okaloosa-Walton

Walton Area Chamber of Commerce

Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com

The Impact of Your Investment: Building a Future We Can All Believe In

Every dollar you invest in Wonderful Walton isn't just a contribution—it's a catalyst. Thanks to your support, we've gone from hopeful to unstoppable.

By joining this alliance, you're helping to relieve the burden on taxpayers, strengthen the regional economy, and accelerate our shared mission like never before. Private investment has unlocked a level of momentum we simply couldn't reach alone.

Here's how you've already helped transform vision into real-world results:

Expanded Team, Expanded Capacity

We grew from a one-person staff to 2.5 team members—a 150% increase—enabling greater outreach, deeper partnerships, and faster results. AND we have added Medical, Dental, Vision, and 401k to ensure attraction of quality employees! We are actually now an organization built to last, built to serve.

A Headquarters That Welcomes Opportunity

Our modern office at the Chautauqua Center serves as the home base for business engagement and a welcome center for the economy of Walton County.

Collaboration with Team Eglin

Your support has strengthened ties with our defense partners. We secured backing for two SR 20 infrastructure projects and brought Team Eglin executives to brief county leaders on national priorities.

A Broader Leadership Table

Our Executive Committee has grown to 13 members—now representing cities, utilities, schools, and private enterprise—ensuring every perspective is heard.

A Stronger Brand and Digital Voice

With a patriotic color scheme, the iconic circle of Lake DeFuniak, and a rising arrow, our refreshed brand celebrates Walton's upward trajectory. We've also launched a strategic presence on LinkedIn to amplify success.

Insights That Matter

We deliver advanced, customized data reports—helping businesses and prospects make confident, informed decisions about choosing Walton County.

Relationships with Site Selection Experts to Attract Opportunity

We have participated in shared site selection conferences and even hosted teams right here in Walton County through relationships built the old-fashioned way.

Let's keep building something remarkable—together. Your investment moves Walton forward.

Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com

Investor Levels & Leadership Opportunities

As Walton County experiences exponential growth, now is the time to help shape its future. With economic development powered by a public-private partnership model, your investment in the Wonderful Walton Economic Development Alliance puts you at the center of transformation.

When you join as an investor, you gain access to strategic leadership, key insights, and powerful regional connections. You also play a critical role in creating jobs, attracting talent, and increasing prosperity throughout Walton County.

Local Government: A Strong Foundation

Each of Walton County's municipalities and the County Commission contribute on a per capita basis and are seated on our Executive Committee—with Walton County holding two seats. Their participation shapes infrastructure, policy, and incentive strategies.

Private Sector: Driving Growth

Businesses like yours influence who we attract, what we prioritize, and how we grow. Your voice matters—and your investment unlocks impact.

Four Ways to Engage

Choose the level that aligns with your goals and capacity. All members receive newsletters, member-only events, co-marketing opportunities, working group access, and use of the Alliance's conference room.

Trustee – \$5,000/year

Full leadership access. Eligible to serve on the Executive Committee, exclusive Business Leadership Council membership, premium recognition, and permanent Founding Trustee status for the first 20 organizations. *This is our most often selected level of membership.*

Enterprise – \$3,000/year

Enhanced recognition, general membership, invitations to exclusive programming and working groups.

Corporate – \$1,000/year

General recognition, membership access, and entry into all core programming.

Associate – \$500/year

Tailored for nonprofits and small businesses (3 or fewer employees). Full access to communications and general events.

This is more than membership—it's your chance to help lead Walton County's next chapter.

Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com

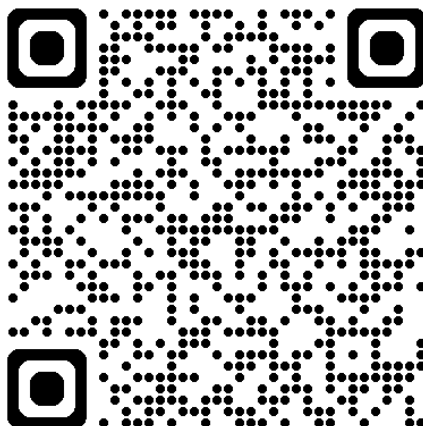
Choose Your Level of Wonderful

Benefits	Associate	Corporate	Enterprise	Trustee
Access to Community Data Reporting	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Member Only Communications	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Member Only Events	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
General Member Voting at Annual Meeting	✓	✓	✓	✓
Opportunities to Volunteer as needed	✓	✓	✓	✓
Personalized Directory webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition on Website and Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
Including Networking Opportunities	\$	\$	✓	✓
May Join President/CEO Working Groups	1	1	2+	2+
Complimentary Use of Conference Room		✓	✓	✓
Access to Co-Marketing Opportunities			✓	✓
Early Access to Research Reports			✓	✓
Priority Personal Introductions to Leaders in Region			✓	✓
Primary Logo & Link on Newsletter				✓
Secondary Logo & Link on Newsletter			✓	
Access to Customized Data				✓
Executive Committee Leadership Opportunity				✓
Homepage Investor Recognition (Scrolling Logo)				✓
May Attend 1 Business Leadership Council Event			✓	
Membership to the Business Leadership Council				✓

We looking forward to Being Wonderful With You!

Ready to invest? Contact Jordan Johnson, VP of Economic Development, at 850-520-3065 or jordan@wonderfulwalton.com, visit the link below, or scan the QR code to get started today.

<https://www.wonderfulwalton.com/investors>



Your Business, Our Community, A Wonderful Future!

DeFuniak Springs | Freeport | Paxton | Walton County
www.WonderfulWalton.com