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Monday, March 16, 2009

St. Lucie County, one of the state's most-battered housing markets, is trying to position itself for a rebound.

The **Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County** is planning a summit for April 24 at the new **Port St. Lucie Civic Center**, where elected officials and business leaders will get together to brainstorm solutions for the local economy.

"What we're trying to do is get the public and private sectors just laying it out on the line. How do we strategize a return to economic prosperity?" said **Larry Pelton**, president of the council.

He wants to leave the economic summit with concrete ideas about how St. Lucie County can become a better place for businesses to grow. Topics could include more efficient development-review guidelines, Pelton said.

"We're going to concentrate on trying to come out of it with direction and objectives," he said.

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