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**MAYOR REDD ESTABLISHES BUSINESS GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT
TEAM WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Appoints Osbudsman To Serve As Focal Point of Contact For Businesses

CAMDEN – At the Cooper’s Ferry Development Association and Greater Camden Partnership (CFDA/GCP) annual meeting on Thursday, Mayor Dana L. Redd outlined her economic development agenda for the City. As part of her plan to enhance economic activity and development in the City of Camden, Mayor Redd established a Business Growth and Development Team within the Office of the Mayor.

“In order to move Camden forward, I am intent on making City government more business friendly,” Mayor Redd said. “With public safety as a top priority, economic development, which creates jobs and sparks growth, will be another priority I will focus on this year. Because we have demonstrated that Camden is becoming more fiscally prudent, responsible, and independent, while still providing services in a cost efficient manner, we are ready to move Camden to the next level – not next year, not six months from now, but today.”

The Business Growth and Development Team will be tasked with developing economic development policy, project execution, and assist in expediting development approvals. During the meeting, the Mayor named the members of the new Business Growth and Development Team. The members include Anthony Perno, CEO of the CFDA/GCP; Dave Foster, President of the CFDA/GCP; Dr. Edward Williams, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Camden; Vince Basara, UEZ Coordinator for the City of Camden; Iraida Afanador, Director of Code Enforcement for the City of Camden; and Sandra Johnson, Executive Director of the Camden Redevelopment Agency.

To further help move new, existing, and potential projects that are identified by the Mayor’s Administration and the Business Growth and Development Team, Mayor Redd also appointed Vince Basara as the Osbudsman for the City of Camden.

(more)

The Osbudsman will serve as the point person for providing technical assistance for businesses and entrepreneurs at all levels. For all those interested in doing business with the City, they should contact the Mayor's Office at 856-757-7200.

"The days of separate economic development agendas are over," Mayor Redd said. "By strengthening our partnerships, we can begin to invest in our neighborhoods where all our stakeholders can participate in Moving Camden forward. Sustaining progress is challenging under perfect conditions, but I will continue to work with all our partners to make our City safe and a place where residents and businesses are proud to call home."

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