



Abstract of Presentation by Harris L. Kempner, Jr. & Jeffrey G. Sjostrom

Galveston Economic Development Partnership

Readiness for Recovery: Galveston Recovery Model

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Consider and enable the economic drivers of community recovery:

Provide temporary housing post disaster for those who want to return to get their businesses or institutions up and running, whether a cruise ship, trailers or space. Structure permit ordinances to expedite building of temporary and permanent housing.

Budget and manage to develop sufficient emergency reserves, such as to sustain for three months, to handle the cost of obligations post disaster.

Establish tax incentives to attract return and new businesses.

Create a capital lending pool for cities ahead of time.

The business community must create tools and resources and pre-plan for business recovery post disaster while city managers focus on public safety, infrastructure and communications, both internally and externally: Business owners must prepare before an event in order to mitigate financial hardships and psychological strain encountered after the storm.

Pre-plan by accelerating the permit process to expedite a business owner's ability to rebuild.

Harris L. Kempner, Jr.
President
Kempner Capital Management, Ltd.
kempner@kempnercapital.com

Jeffrey G. Sjostrom
President
Galveston Economic Development Partnership
sjostrom@gedp.org