

# COMMUNICATION PACKAGE

## JUNE 2015

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

RECEIVED  
JUN - 1 2015  
TREASURE COAST  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

May 28, 2015

Mr. Michael J. Busha, AICP  
Executive Director  
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council  
421 SW Camden Avenue  
Stuart, FL 34994

Dear Mr. Busha:

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to congratulate you and confirm that the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council was selected as one of the entities EPA will begin negotiations with to award a cooperative agreement for an assessment coalition grant. The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council submitted an outstanding grant proposal, and we deeply appreciate the tremendous commitment of time and energy that went into its preparation.

Through the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002, EPA is working to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfield sites. We fully expect that these brownfield projects will provide benefits to the environment and economy of local communities. Barbara Alfano, your Regional Brownfields Coordinator, will work closely with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to negotiate the cooperative agreement prior to the grant award. Please contact Barbara Alfano at 404-562-8923 or [alfano.barbara@epa.gov](mailto:alfano.barbara@epa.gov).

Again, congratulations on being selected! We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

David R. Lloyd, Director  
Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

cc: Barbara Alfano

## **Brownfields 2015 Grant Fact Sheet Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, Southeastern Florida**

### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### **Assessment Grant**

\$300,000 for hazardous substances  
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council for a brownfields assessment coalition grant. Community-wide hazardous substances and petroleum grant funds will be used to perform up to 14 Phase I and up to 14 Phase II environmental site assessments, and prepare up to 10 cleanup plans. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community involvement activities, including up to 12 community meetings. Coalition partners are the South Florida Regional Planning Council and Palm Beach County.

### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the [EPA Brownfields Web site](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields) (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team  
404-562-8923  
EPA Region 4 Brownfields Website: <http://www.epa.gov/region4/rcra/bflr/brownfields.html>

Grant Recipient: Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, FL  
772-221-4060

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

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United States  
Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Solid Waste  
and Emergency  
Response (5105T)

May 2015

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– **PRESS RELEASE** –

**FLORIDA BROWNFIELDS ASSOCIATION**

*EPA awards Florida Communities over \$4Million in grant funding for Brownfields*

**June 3, 2015** - The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on May 28, 2015 that it has awarded \$4,187,300 in funding for Brownfields-related activities in Florida. A total of \$192,300 is earmarked for a job training program to be managed by the Florida State College at Jacksonville; \$195,000 was awarded for cleanup of contaminated property in Pasco County and the remaining \$3.8 million will be used for conducting assessment-related activities within the Cities of Cocoa, Jacksonville, Live Oak, Opa-Locka, Palatka and Sanford, Pasco and Manatee Counties and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. The total amount awarded for EPA Region 4 communities was \$8,166,000.

“The long history of success of Florida Brownfields program has been recognized by EPA over the years,” explained Nadia Locke, President of the Florida Brownfields Association. Locke further indicated that “EPA’s interest in awarding Florida more than half of the funding allocated for all of Region 4 in such a highly competitive process demonstrates their confidence in Florida’s ability to leverage those funds to provide job creation and site rehabilitation that will increase capital investment, and enhance our quality of life.”

The Florida Brownfields Association, founded in 2002, is a non-profit organization composed of a range of Brownfield stakeholders in Florida, including local, state, and federal agency representatives, community group leaders, developers, consultants, attorneys, landowners, planners, and academics. For more information about the Florida Brownfields Association please visit <http://www.floridabrownfields.org>.

Florida Brownfields Association Contact

FBA President:

Nadia Locke, (954) 484-8500, [nlocke@esciencesinc.com](mailto:nlocke@esciencesinc.com)

# Join the conversation...



## Florida Transportation Plan Strategic Intermodal System Policy Plan

### Regional Workshops

At the December 2014 Transportation Summit and the Regional Forums held earlier this year, we heard from you about long-term transportation needs in Florida. Now, we need your ideas on state, regional, and local transportation policy that will support these long-term needs.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to share your thoughts about Florida's transportation system.

Hosted by



**Monday, June 22, 2015**

**Lake City**

FDOT District Two Office - Madison Conference Room  
1109 South Marion Avenue  
Lake City, Florida 32025  
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

**Tuesday, June 23, 2015**

**Ft. Myers**

Lee Tran  
3401 Metro Parkway  
Ft. Myers, Florida 33916  
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

**Wednesday, June 24, 2015**

**Ft. Lauderdale**

FDOT District Four Office  
3400 W. Commercial Blvd.  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309  
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

**Thursday, June 25, 2015**

**The Villages**

The Villages Sumter County Service Center  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, Florida 34785  
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

For more information and to register:

[www.FloridaTransportationPlan.com](http://www.FloridaTransportationPlan.com)



Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Paula San Gregorio at Toll Free 1-866-374-3368, extension 4800 or 850-414-4811 at least seven days prior to the meeting.

## Unemployment Summary - Treasure Coast Region May 22, 2015

### Highlights

- **Unemployment falls to 5.0 in April, down from 6.0 in previous year.**
- **26,200 new nonagricultural jobs year over year from April 2014 to April 2015.**
- **Job gains primarily in education and health services; professional and business services; other services; retail trade; and trade, transportation and utilities.**

- This unemployment summary is derived from statistical reports - *Overview of the CareerSource Research Coast Region* (Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie counties) and *Overview of CareerSource Palm Beach County Region* (Palm Beach County) prepared by the two workforce development boards in the Treasure Coast Region. Their respective reports follow this regional summary.
- The unemployment rate for the Treasure Coast Region was 5.0 percent in April 2015, down 1.0 percentage points from the April 2014 rate of 6.0 percent. The Region's unemployment rate was 0.2 percent lower than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent and 0.1 percentage points lower than the national unemployment rate of 5.1 percent. Out of a labor force of 941,521, there were 46,785 unemployed residents in the Treasure Coast Region.
- The Treasure Coast Region contains three metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), the Port St. Lucie MSA (Martin and St. Lucie counties), the Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA (Indian River County), and the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach MSA (Palm Beach County). In April 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined metropolitan areas of the Region was 770,400, an increase of 26,200 jobs over the previous year.

<b>Unemployment Rates*</b>			
<b>Geographic Area</b>	<b>April 2015</b>	<b>March 2015</b>	<b>April 2014</b>
Indian River	6.2	6.3	7.3
Martin	5.0	5.3	5.6
Palm Beach	4.7	5.0	5.6
St. Lucie	6.0	6.2	7.8
Treasure Coast Region	5.0	5.3	6.0
Florida	5.2	5.5	6.0
United States	5.1	5.6	5.9

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.  
\* Not seasonally adjusted.

- In the combined metropolitan areas, job gains were primarily in the education and health services (+4,200); professional and business services (+9,700); other services (+2,400); retail trade (+2,800) and trade, transportation and utilities (+4,000). Other services includes, but is not limited to, businesses such as: automotive repair; personal household goods repair; dry cleaners; hair salons and barber shops; funeral homes; pet care services; and religious organizations.

- The industry that lost jobs over the year was Information (-100 jobs).

- **Port St. Lucie Metro Area:**

Annual employment growth in other services (+10.1 percent); information (+7.7 percent); professional and business services (+7.2 percent); education and health services (+4.8 percent); and financial activities (+3.9 percent) was faster in the metro area than statewide. The Port St. Lucie metro area had the highest annual growth rates in other services (+10.1 percent) and information (+7.7 percent) out of all metro areas in Florida.

- **Sebastian-Vero Beach Metro Area:**

Manufacturing (+9.5 percent) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+4.1 percent) grew faster in the metro area than in the state. The Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area had the highest annual growth rate in manufacturing (+9.5 percent) out of all metro areas in Florida.

- **West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division:**

Employment growth in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division was strongest in the professional and business services industry sector, which increased 8.4 percent over the year.

**Overview of the CareerSource Research Coast Region  
Not Seasonally Adjusted  
May 22, 2015**

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Research Coast region (Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie counties) was 5.7 percent in April 2015. The April 2015 rate was 1.3 percentage points below the region's year ago rate of 7.0 percent, but 0.5 percentage point above the April 2015 state rate of 5.2 percent. Out of a labor force of 274,729, there were 15,786 unemployed residents in the region.
- Unemployment rates in the counties that make up the CareerSource Research Coast region were: 6.2 percent in Indian River County; 6.0 percent in St. Lucie County; 5.6 percent in Okeechobee County; and 5.0 percent in Martin County.
- The CareerSource Research Coast region contains two metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs); the Port St. Lucie MSA (Martin and St. Lucie counties) and the Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA (Indian River County). Okeechobee County is not included in an MSA. In April 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas was 184,500, an increase of 5,600 jobs over the previous year.
- In the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas, eight of the ten major industries gained jobs over the year. Education and health services (+1,400 jobs) gained the most jobs, followed by professional and business services (+1,300 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,200 jobs); other services (+800 jobs); mining, logging, and construction and leisure and hospitality (+400 jobs each); financial activities (+200 jobs); and information (+100 jobs). Manufacturing was unchanged, while government lost 200 jobs.

**Port St. Lucie metro area**

- The majority of the nonagricultural employment in the CareerSource Research Coast region was in the Port St. Lucie metro area. This metro area accounted for 135,900 jobs in April 2015, an increase of 4,500 jobs from April 2014 (+3.4 percent). Statewide employment increased by 3.7 percent over the year.
- Eight of ten major industries gained jobs in the Port St. Lucie metro area over the year. Professional and business services, and education and health services (+1,100 jobs each) gained the most jobs, followed by trade, transportation, and utilities (+800 jobs); other services (+700 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+500 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+400 jobs); financial activities (+200 jobs); and information (+100 jobs). Manufacturing and government each lost 200 jobs.
- Annual employment growth in other services (+10.1 percent); information (+7.7 percent); professional and business services (+7.2 percent); education and health services (+4.8 percent); and financial activities (+3.9 percent) was faster in the metro area than statewide. The Port St. Lucie metro area had the highest annual growth rates in other services (+10.1 percent) and information (+7.7 percent) out of all metro areas in Florida.

**Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area**

- Nonagricultural employment was 48,600 in the Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area in April 2015, an increase of 1,100 jobs (+2.3 percent) from the previous year. The state had a 3.7 percent increase in the number of jobs over the same period.
- Five industries gained jobs over the year including trade, transportation, and utilities (+400 jobs); education and health services (+300 jobs); professional and business services and manufacturing (+200 jobs each); and other services (+100 jobs). Mining, logging, and construction (-100 jobs) lost jobs over the year. Information, financial activities, leisure and hospitality, and government were unchanged over the year.
- Manufacturing (+9.5 percent) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+4.1 percent) grew faster in the metro area than in the state. The Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area had the highest annual growth rate in manufacturing (+9.5 percent) out of all metro areas in Florida.

Note: All data are subject to revision.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Labor Market Statistics.

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)			
	Apr-15	Mar-15	Apr-14
CareerSource Research Coast	5.7	6.0	7.0
Indian River County	6.2	6.3	7.3
Martin County	5.0	5.3	5.6
Okeechobee County	5.6	6.0	6.5
St. Lucie County	6.0	6.2	7.8
Florida	5.2	5.5	6.0
United States	5.1	5.6	5.9

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Port St. Lucie Metropolitan Statistical Area				Sebastian-Vero Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area			
	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	135,900	131,400	4,500	3.4	48,600	47,500	1,100	2.3
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,400	7,900	500	6.3	3,000	3,100	-100	-3.2
Manufacturing	5,900	6,100	-200	-3.3	2,300	2,100	200	9.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	29,800	29,000	800	2.8	10,100	9,700	400	4.1
Wholesale Trade	4,900	5,000	-100	-2.0	800	800	0	0.0
Retail Trade	20,700	20,000	700	3.5	8,600	8,300	300	3.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	4,200	4,000	200	5.0	700	600	100	16.7
Information	1,400	1,300	100	7.7	600	600	0	0.0
Financial Activities	5,400	5,200	200	3.9	2,400	2,400	0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	16,400	15,300	1,100	7.2	5,100	4,900	200	4.1
Education and Health Services	24,100	23,000	1,100	4.8	9,600	9,300	300	3.2
Leisure and Hospitality	18,000	17,600	400	2.3	7,500	7,500	0	0.0
Other Services	7,600	6,900	700	10.1	2,800	2,700	100	3.7
Government	18,900	19,100	-200	-1.1	5,200	5,200	0	0.0

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	CareerSource Research Coast Combined Metropolitan Statistical Areas				Florida			
	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	184,500	178,900	5,600	3.1	8,108,400	7,821,700	286,700	3.7
Mining, Logging, and Construction	11,400	11,000	400	3.6	422,600	393,100	29,500	7.5
Manufacturing	8,200	8,200	0	0.0	334,000	328,500	5,500	1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	35,900	38,700	1,200	3.1	1,664,000	1,609,400	54,600	3.4
Wholesale Trade	5,700	5,800	-100	-1.7	336,500	326,200	10,300	3.2
Retail Trade	29,300	28,300	1,000	3.5	1,067,400	1,030,700	36,700	3.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	4,900	4,600	300	6.5	260,100	252,500	7,600	3.0
Information	2,000	1,900	100	5.3	135,500	135,800	-300	-0.2
Financial Activities	7,800	7,600	200	2.6	533,200	518,200	15,000	2.9
Professional and Business Services	21,500	20,200	1,300	6.4	1,209,300	1,156,100	53,200	4.6
Education and Health Services	33,700	32,300	1,400	4.3	1,205,400	1,158,200	47,200	4.1
Leisure and Hospitality	25,500	25,100	400	1.6	1,160,900	1,102,800	58,100	5.3
Other Services	10,400	9,600	800	8.3	338,300	324,400	13,900	4.3
Government	24,100	24,300	-200	-0.8	1,105,200	1,095,200	10,000	0.9

Population	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	611,649	608,576	3,073	0.5
Indian River County	140,955	139,586	1,369	1.0
Martin County	148,585	148,077	508	0.3
Okeechobee County	39,828	39,762	66	0.2
St. Lucie County	282,281	281,151	1,130	0.4
Florida	19,507,369	19,259,543	247,826	1.3

Average Annual Wage	2013	2012	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	\$36,858	\$36,764	\$94	0.3
Indian River County	\$37,075	\$37,174	-\$99	-0.3
Martin County	\$38,149	\$39,434	-\$1,285	-3.3
Okeechobee County	\$33,332	\$32,167	\$1,165	3.6
St. Lucie County	\$36,173	\$34,908	\$1,265	3.6
Florida	\$43,651	\$43,210	\$441	1.0

Note: All data are subject to revision.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Labor Market Statistics.

**Overview of CareerSource Palm Beach County Region  
Not Seasonally Adjusted  
May 22, 2015**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 4.7 percent in April 2015, down 0.9 percentage point from the April 2014 rate of 5.6 percent. In April 2015, Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 0.5 percentage point lower than the Florida statewide unemployment rate of 5.2 percent and 0.4 percentage point lower than the national unemployment rate of 5.1 percent. Out of a labor force of 684,402 in the county, there were 31,984 unemployed persons.
- In April 2015, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division was 585,900, up 3.6 percent over the year. Florida statewide employment increased 3.7 percent over the same time period.
- The West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division gained 20,600 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job gains were primarily in professional and business services (+8,400 jobs) and in education and health services and trade, transportation, and utilities (both +2,800 jobs). Job gains also occurred in leisure and hospitality and other services (both +1,600 jobs); financial activities (+1,200 jobs); construction (+1,100 jobs); government (+900 jobs); and manufacturing (+400 jobs).
- The only major industry sector that lost jobs over the year was information (-200 jobs).
- Employment growth in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division was strongest in the professional and business services industry sector, which increased 8.4 percent over the year.
- In March 2015, the West Palm Beach metro area was one of the top five metro areas in Florida for total nonagricultural job growth over the year (+20,600 jobs) and one of the top two metro areas in Florida for gains over the year in professional and business services (+8,400 jobs) and in other services (+1,600 jobs).

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)	Apr-15	Mar-15	Apr-14
CareerSource Palm Beach County	4.7	5.0	5.6
Florida	5.2	5.5	6.0
United States	5.1	5.6	5.9

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change	Apr-15	Apr-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	585,900	565,300	20,600	3.6	8,108,400	7,821,700	286,700	3.7
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,600	5,700	-100	-1.8
Construction	28,400	27,300	1,100	4.0	417,000	387,400	29,600	7.6
Manufacturing	16,500	16,100	400	2.5	334,000	328,500	5,500	1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	110,600	107,800	2,800	2.6	1,664,000	1,609,400	54,600	3.4
Wholesale Trade	23,400	22,900	500	2.2	336,500	326,200	10,300	3.2
Retail Trade	76,400	74,600	1,800	2.4	1,067,400	1,030,700	36,700	3.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	10,800	10,300	500	4.9	260,100	252,500	7,600	3.0
Information	10,200	10,400	-200	-1.9	135,500	135,800	-300	-0.2
Financial Activities	39,700	38,500	1,200	3.1	533,200	518,200	15,000	2.9
Professional and Business Services	108,900	100,500	8,400	8.4	1,209,300	1,156,100	53,200	4.6
Education and Health Services	91,600	88,800	2,800	3.2	1,205,400	1,158,200	47,200	4.1
Leisure and Hospitality	83,500	81,900	1,600	2.0	1,160,900	1,102,800	58,100	5.3
Other Services	32,200	30,600	1,600	5.2	338,300	324,400	13,900	4.3
Government	64,200	63,300	900	1.4	1,105,200	1,095,200	10,000	0.9

Population	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	1,360,238	1,345,652	14,586	1.1
Florida	19,507,369	19,259,543	247,826	1.3

Average Annual Wage	2013	2012	change	percent change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	\$48,218	\$47,771	\$447	0.9
Florida	\$43,651	\$43,210	\$441	1.0

Note: All data are subject to revision.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Labor Market Statistics.