

COMMUNICATION PACKAGE

SEPTEMBER 2015

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Intergovernmental Affairs Activity Report *July 1 – 31, 2015*

Following is an overview of activities and work performed during the month of July 2015.

OUTREACH

Drafted Summer issue of FRCA newsletter and edited contributions from Executive Directors for targeted August publication. Ongoing, some RPC contributions pending.

Participated as Policy Committee Member in FDOT Safe Mobility for Life Coalition meeting on 7/27.

Registered and prepared for APA Florida Chapter Annual Conference/Exhibition in September.

Attempted to secure exhibit space in sold-out Florida League of Cities Marketplace (conference expo).

Attended ARPC Directors meeting on 7/30.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT /CAPACITY BUILDING

Monitored/Distributed notices and news of interest to Executive Directors.

Preliminary coordination with 1st Vice President of Policy Board re: "Path Forward" Brainstorming Committee next steps.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

n/a

OPERATIONS

Drafted Summaries of June EDAC and Partners meetings for Chair review.

Managed all tasks associated with planning and organizing July 9 EDAC Business Meeting and July 10 Policy Board Meeting.

Prepared new layout for 2014-15 Annual Report publication. Gathered new content from Directors, updated content, and edited new content and graphics for targeted August publication. Drafted President's letter.

Florida Regional Councils Association
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs Activity Report
July 2015

Reserved meeting spaces and made preliminary plans for September EDAC and Partners Meetings.

Produced mementos for retiring FRCA Directors.

Updated FRCA website.

Updated FRCA Meeting calendar.



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Intergovernmental Affairs Activity Report

August 1-31, 2015

Following is an overview of activities and work performed during the month of August 2015.

OUTREACH

Completed and distributed Summer issue of FRCA newsletter. Updated FRCA distribution list. Placed newsletter on website.

Attended 8/ 21 REDI meeting at DEO.

Prepared new exhibit design concept for APA Florida Chapter Annual Conference/Exhibition in September and prepared materials.

Drafted news release announcing FRCA officers and policy board president.

Met with Carmen Monroy, FDOT, discussed areas of interest to RPCs and recruited Carmen to speak at 9/30 EDAC meeting.

Invited Partners to Sept.30 EDAC meeting.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT /CAPACITY BUILDING

Monitored/Distributed notices, news of interest, grants info to Executive Directors.

Coordinated and provided staff support to Path Forward Committee. Invited members to join and coordinated various conference calls to launch Committee. Drafted summary of discussion at 8/27 meeting of Lee Constantine, Barbara Todd and Michael Busha.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

n/a

OPERATIONS

Drafted preliminary summaries of July EDAC and Policy Board meetings.

Updated FRCA 2015/16 Meetings Calendar.

Continued Annual Report production with goal of early-mid September publication.

Florida Regional Councils Association
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs Activity Report
August 2015

Confirmed plans and logistics for September EDAC and Partners Meetings. Drafted Business Meeting agenda for Chair review.

Confirmed venues and room blocks for November 2015- March 2016 EDAC/Partners and Policy Board meetings in Tallahassee. Initiated contact with several Partners for presentations at future meetings.

Reported quarterly RPC performance data to DEO.

Met with Lobbytools rep for introductory training.

Reviewed progress on Dir. of Intergovernmental Affairs Work Plan June- November 2015



Indian River County
Board of County Commissioners
Department of Emergency Services

4225 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida 32967

July 3, 2015

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

RE: 2015 LEPC Biennial Regional HazMat Exercise

Dear Mr. Busha,

The Indian River County EOC, on June 29, 2015, served as a host facility for the District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Biennial Regional Hazardous Materials Exercise.

The exercise planning was led by Kathryn Boer, Emergency Programs Director and District 10 LEPC Coordinator. Her planning and leadership skills were fully demonstrated with this exercise. Ms. Boer provided attention to detail and was determined to provide a quality experience. To that end, she even worked with former LEPC member Mr. John Gojkovich to create a realistic diorama for the participants.

With approximately 65 in attendance, Ms. Boer effortlessly kept the participants fully engaged and saw that they stayed on track and focused from beginning to end in order to meet the exercise objectives.

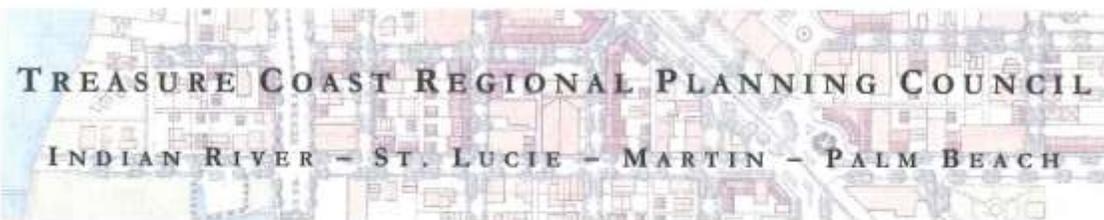
I have been a member of the District 10 LEPC for a very long time and have worked with Kate since she started at the TCRPC. I have witnessed her develop and facilitate a number of exercises but am pleased to say that this exercise was among her best.

For days following the exercise I heard compliments about what a learning experience Kate provided. Comments ranged from the exercise providing a positive networking experience to the importance of having such a thought provoking scenario.

I wanted you to know what an exceedingly good job Kate did and to let you know how much her planning and exercise skills are respected here in Indian River County and throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Etta LoPresti, Emergency Management Coordinator



TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
INDIAN RIVER - ST. LUCIE - MARTIN - PALM BEACH

July 13, 2015

Jim Boxold, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Subject: Pedestrian Safety Requirements for All Aboard Florida Project

Dear Secretary Boxold:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify parties responsible for carrying out required pedestrian safety improvements along the Florida East Coast (FEC) rail corridor for the proposed "All Aboard Florida" (AAF) project. With the introduction of 32 daily high-speed passenger trains into an existing freight corridor, the AAF project will result in a significant change to the railroad operating environment, triggering the need for safety enhancements along the corridor. Local governments have raised concerns regarding the type of pedestrian improvements (e.g., sidewalks, pedestrian gates, barrier fencing) as well as funding for construction, operations and maintenance. Several local governments have been informed by AAF representatives that costs for these safety improvements are local. This appears to be inconsistent with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) guidelines and prior FDOT correspondence.

In its review of the FEC's corridor safety assessments, the FRA acknowledged the need for pedestrian safety improvements, noting "trespassing is an epidemic" along the corridor (see Attachment 1: FRA On-Site Engineering Field Report, Part 1, 3/20/2014). To address the critical safety needs, FRA strongly emphasized the importance for the AAF project to be developed in accordance with FRA's Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Guidelines for High-Speed Passenger Rail (FRA Guidelines). Former FDOT Secretary Prasad confirmed FDOT will require AAF to comply with the FRA Guidelines in a letter to Council dated 6/4/2014 (included as Attachment 2). This FDOT commitment is reflected in a subsequent FRA report, titled "FRA On-Site Engineering Field Report, Part 2," published 9/23/2014 (included as Attachment 3). Further, FRA officials are requiring AAF to "bridge the gap" at all of those respective grade crossing locations where existing sidewalks terminate on each side of the crossing, prior to the railroad right-of-way. It has been Council's understanding that all FRA-required safety improvements (including the construction of sidewalks through railroad property and installation of railroad pedestrian gates and barrier fencing) are part of the AAF project and; therefore, costs for constructing these improvements will not be passed onto local governments.

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Jim Boxold, Secretary
July 13, 2015
Page Two

AAF has recently provided 90 percent design plans and other communications to local governments along the FEC corridor. The design plans and other information provided appear inconsistent with the FRA Guidelines, particularly with respect to pedestrian safety improvements. Several local government officials indicate AAF has informed them that municipalities will be responsible for funding both construction and operations/maintenance of two key pedestrian safety infrastructure components: (a) sidewalks and pedestrian gates, and (b) barrier fencing along the corridor. FRA's HSR Guidelines clearly address the need for pedestrian infrastructure as necessary safety improvements. Under "Pedestrian and Trespass Considerations," the guidelines state:

Pedestrian treatments at vehicular crossings and associated sidewalks, including pedestrian pathways, are an essential safety element (p. 13, highlight added).

Trespassing on railroad property is the single largest cause of deaths associated with railroad operation. High-speed rail corridors should be clearly posted against entry, and consideration should be given to use of **tamper-resistant fencing**, video surveillance, and similar measures in high-traffic areas (p. 14, highlight added).

Given the emphasis on these pedestrian safety improvements in the FRA Guidelines as required safety elements, once again it is the Council's understanding that such enhancements are to be funded by the AAF project as part of the overall package of required safety improvements. Accordingly, these costs are not to be passed on to local governments. Finally, the operations and maintenance of these improvements, especially the "tamper-resistant fencing," appears to also be part of the required on-going safety improvements, to be funded by AAF.

In summary, Council is respectfully seeking clarification regarding the Department's position towards pedestrian-oriented safety improvements, including which entity – AAF or the local governments – will be required to fund construction and on-going operations and maintenance. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Busha, AICP
Executive Director

MJB/KD:kd

Attachments

cc: Tod Mowery, TCRPC Chair



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

JIM BOXOLD
SECRETARY

July 22, 2015

RECEIVED

JUL 27 2015

TRANSPORTATION
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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

Dear Mr. Busha,

Thank you for expressing the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's concerns regarding pedestrian safety improvements along the All Aboard Florida (AAF) project. We value your comments and understand that public and agency involvement will better ensure that the All Aboard Florida (AAF) project provides a service that benefits the communities along the proposed passenger rail corridor.

Safety is the Department's highest priority with transportation programs and facilities. As indicated previously we are requiring AAF to comply with the Federal Railroad Administration's guidelines and Florida laws and regulations pertaining to highway-rail grade crossings.

The Department does not have jurisdiction over the structure of agreements between the rail company and the local governments requesting rights to cross railroad right-of-way.

Thank you again for continuing to express your Council's views related to the AAF project.

Sincerely,


Jim Boxold
Secretary

cc: Todd Gruenemeier, Manager, Florida Rail Office

www.dot.state.fl.us



FLORIDA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

THE VOICE OF AGRICULTURE

July 20, 2015

Honorable Chairman Tod Mowery, Commissioner St. Lucie County
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
421 SW Camden Avenue
Stuart, Florida 34994

Dear Chairman Mowery:

Re: Comments concerning Impediments to Implementation of the Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan

I attended the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council Meeting on Friday July 17th, 2015 and wanted to take this opportunity to comment on Agenda Item 11 concerning "Impediments to Implementation of the Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan" (IRL BMAP). First and foremost the Florida Farm Bureau Federation supports the Everglades and Estuaries restoration process that is based on sound scientific evidence and cost-benefit analysis. As such we are steadfast in our efforts to educate the public, local governments, and regional planning councils in order to help clarify misperceptions about agriculture and their land management practices that are more anecdotal rather than based on sound science.

There was some brief discussion and comment concerning the presumption of compliance with state water quality standards agriculture receives through the BMAP process. The presumption of compliance is memorialized in Florida Statutes 373.4595, 403.067, 576.045 and 597.004 and the release from liability as provided by 576.045(4) Florida Statutes for producers who have implemented appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) on their farms. Florida Farm Bureau Federation strongly supports this legislation because it is based on sound science through years of testing of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs). The common misunderstanding of the presumption of compliance by the lay public and environmental groups stems mostly because there is no requirement for on farm water quality testing associated with BMP implementation for those operations who participate in the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' (FDACS) BMP program. It is important to note agricultural BMPs like urban stormwater BMPs have undergone several decades of rigorous water quality testing to determine their effectiveness in reducing nutrient concentrations in stormwater run-off from agricultural operations. As such urban stormwater systems designed through an Environmental Resource Permitting process carry the same presumption of compliance. Also, BMAPs are expected to be reiterative in nature with the ability to incorporate new information from ongoing water quality studies and research on BMP effectiveness.

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We strongly encourage the Council and the Council's consultants to review FDACS BMP manuals that are industry standards for agricultural BMP implementation. It is also recommended that the Council consult with Dr. Del Bottcher of Soil and Water Engineering Technology, Inc. who has developed BMP efficiencies for agriculture as well as urban stormwater systems as they pertain to new and existing developments. We also encourage consultation with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the South Florida Water Management District, and FDACS concerning your constituent's perceived impediments to the Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan (IRL BMAP). More specifically review with these agencies their historic water quality data collection programs and how the data has been and is currently being used to evaluate water quality improvements based on implementation of the IRL BMAP as well as the other regional BMAP initiatives. This information may assist in answering some of the perceived impediments the local governments have identified.

As always please feel free to contact me should you have any questions in regards to the implementation of BMPs within the agricultural community.

Sincerely,



Gary Ritter
Assistant Director of Government and Community Affairs
Florida Farm Bureau Federation

cc:
Peter G. Merritt
Michael J. Busha

NADO P R O



Volume 2, Issue 4

September 9, 2015

NADO PRO is a publication for NADO Members. For more information, please contact Susan Howard at 202.624.8590 / showard@nado.org or Ted Stiger at 202.624.8467 / tstiger@nado.org.

CONGRESS FACES FY2016 SPENDING SHOWDOWN

The House and Senate are back in session this week following a month-long recess. Lawmakers face the immediate challenge of avoiding a repeat of the government shutdown that shuttered federal agencies for two weeks in October 2013. Fiscal year (FY) 2016 begins October 1 and work on appropriations bills is far from complete, making a continuing resolution (CR) of some duration an inevitability. While the House has passed 6 of their 12 FY2016 appropriations bills, there is little time or impetus to continue work on the more difficult to pass spending bills. The Senate has been able to move 11 of 12 bills through their appropriations committee, but Democratic discontent over the current budget framework of discretionary spending caps means there is no way to cross the required 60-vote threshold to move appropriations bills to the floor. A clean CR may be the best lawmakers can hope for. September's congressional schedule is already truncated, with only 10 legislative days in the House and 15 in the Senate and debate over the proposed Iran nuclear deal holding top priority. Congress probably has only one shot at passing a CR and avoiding a government shutdown before October 1.

WHAT ABOUT A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN?

There was lots of speculation during the August congressional recess about the prospect of another government shutdown. No consensus has emerged on how to avoid a shutdown and any scenario is rife with political landmines. The big question is: will federal funding for Planned Parenthood become the lynchpin for a shutdown? There are certainly many members of the House who feel passionate enough about de-funding the organization in the wake of recent controversies to force action on the issue. The question is whether those members can be satisfied with a promise of later action (an omnibus spending package that strips Planned Parenthood of federal funding for instance) or if they will insist on attempting to hold up passage of a CR (and hence forcing a shutdown) over the issue.

LOOKING BEYOND FY2016

As the endgame for FY2016 spending takes shape, the issue of FY2017 appropriations looms large. Many in Congress would like to see a long-term budget agreement reached for FY2017 (and beyond) to avoid the budget caps enacted by the Budget Control Act of 2011. These defense and domestic discretionary spending caps make it incredibly difficult to move spending bills through Congress. It is not clear yet whether a new budget framework can be enacted in the current political environment. But until a long-term budget deal emerges, future appropriations processes will look very much like this year's: limited action by the House and Senate appropriations committees with difficulty crossing the finish line, ultimately leading to a CR.

ALSO ON THE AGENDA: SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

In addition to considering the proposed Iran nuclear deal, Congress must also arrive at a deal on surface transportation reauthorization by the end of October or pass another extension. Before adjourning for their August recess, the Senate passed a six-year surface transportation reauthorization bill, the Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy (DRIVE) Act. While the bill authorizes

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surface transportation programs for six years, the Senate Finance Committee was only able to identify three years of offsets to finance the bill. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has been hard at work drafting their own reauthorization bill. The House appears settled on a fully paid-for bill and with no new funding identified as of yet, that means level funding with slight inflationary increases. Senate leaders will press the House to just accept their bill and its uncertain pay-fors, but for the time being the House appears committed to moving forward with their own bill. As previously mentioned, the time frame for action in September is extremely compressed. While we may see some action in the House Transportation Committee this month, it seems unlikely that floor action will happen before October. That would leave a few weeks for the House and Senate to try and negotiate a final deal before the current extension expires.

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Unemployment Summary - Treasure Coast Region August 21, 2015

Highlights

- **Unemployment falls to 5.9 percent in July, down from 7.0 percent in July of the previous year.**
 - **21,500 new nonagricultural jobs year over year from July 2014 to July 2015.**
 - **Job gains primarily in education and health services; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; 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 5.9 percent in July 2015, down 1.1 percentage points from the July 2014 rate of 7.0 percent. The Region's unemployment rate was 0.2 percent higher than the state's unemployment rate of 5.7 percent and 0.3 percentage points higher than the national unemployment rate of 5.6 percent. Out of a labor force of 937,185 there were 55,251 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 July 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined metropolitan areas of the Region was 746,100, an increase of 21,500 jobs over the previous year.

Unemployment Rates*			
Geographic Area	July 2015	June 2015	July 2014
Indian River	7.7	7.2	8.9
Martin	5.8	5.5	6.7
Palm Beach	5.6	5.2	6.5
St. Lucie	6.9	6.6	8.8
Treasure Coast Region	5.9	5.6	7.0
Florida	5.7	5.6	6.7
United States	5.6	5.5	6.5

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 (+5,200); professional and business services (+7,800); leisure and hospitality (+3,700); retail trade (+2,500) and trade, transportation and utilities (+3,600).

Port St. Lucie Metro Area:

- Six of ten major industries gained jobs in the Port St. Lucie metro area over the year. Education and health services and trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,300 jobs each) gained the most jobs, followed by leisure and hospitality (+1,100 jobs); professional and business services (+600 jobs); other services (+400 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+200 jobs). Manufacturing (-500 jobs) and government (-200 jobs) lost jobs over the year, while information and financial activities were unchanged. 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.

Sebastian-Vero Beach Metro Area:

- Five industries gained jobs over the year including trade, transportation, and utilities (+400 jobs); manufacturing, other services, and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs each); and information (+100 jobs). Mining, logging, and construction (-300 jobs) lost jobs over the year. Financial activities, professional and business services, education and health services, and government were unchanged over the year.

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

- The West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division gained 16,500 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job gains were primarily in professional and business services (+7,200 jobs) and education and health services (+3,900 jobs). Job gains also occurred in leisure and hospitality (+2,400 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,900 jobs); other services (+1,500 jobs); financial activities (+500 jobs); and manufacturing (+200 jobs).

**Overview of the CareerSource Research Coast Region
Not Seasonally Adjusted
August 21, 2015**

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Research Coast region (Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie counties) declined by 1.5 percentage points over the year to 6.8 percent in July 2015. Out of a labor force of 256,606, there were 17,476 unemployed residents in the region.
- Unemployment rates in the counties that make up the CareerSource Research Coast region were: 5.8 percent in Martin County, 6.9 percent in St. Lucie County, and 7.7 percent in Indian River 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). In July 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas was 179,000, an increase of 5,000 jobs over the previous year.
- In the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas, six of the ten major industries gained jobs over the year. Trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,700 jobs) gained the most jobs, followed by education and health services and leisure and hospitality (+1,300 jobs each); other services and professional and business services (+600 jobs each); and information (+100 jobs). The three industries losing jobs were manufacturing (-300 jobs); government (-200 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (-100 jobs). Financial activities was unchanged.

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 132,100 jobs in July 2015, an increase of 4,200 jobs from July 2014 (+3.3 percent).
- Annual employment growth in leisure and hospitality (+6.8 percent); other services (+5.8 percent); education and health services (+5.7 percent); trade, transportation, and utilities (+4.5 percent); and professional and business services (+3.8 percent) was faster in the metro area than statewide.
- Six of ten major industries gained jobs in the Port St. Lucie metro area over the year. Education and health services and trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,300 jobs each) gained the most jobs, followed by leisure and hospitality (+1,100 jobs); professional and business services (+600 jobs); other services (+400 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+200 jobs). Manufacturing (-500 jobs) and government (-200 jobs) lost jobs over the year, while information and financial activities were unchanged.

Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area

- Nonagricultural employment was 46,900 in the Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area in July 2015, an increase of 800 jobs (+1.7 percent) from the previous year.
- Information (+16.7 percent); manufacturing (+9.5 percent); other services (+7.7 percent); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+4.2 percent) grew faster in the metro area than in the state.
- Out of all metro areas in Florida, Sebastian-Vero Beach had the highest annual job growth rate in information, manufacturing, and other services.
- Five industries gained jobs over the year including trade, transportation, and utilities (+400 jobs); manufacturing, other services, and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs each); and information (+100 jobs). Mining, logging, and construction (-300 jobs) lost jobs over the year. Financial activities, professional and business services, education and health services, and government were unchanged over the year.

Note: All data are subject to revision.

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

Unemployment Rates			
(not seasonally adjusted)	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-14
CareerSource Research Coast	6.8%	6.4%	8.3%
Indian River County	7.7%	7.2%	8.9%
Martin County	5.8%	5.5%	6.7%
St. Lucie County	6.9%	6.6%	8.8%
Florida	5.7%	5.6%	6.7%
United States	5.6%	5.5%	6.5%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Port St. Lucie Metropolitan Statistical Area				Sebastian-Vero Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area			
	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	132,100	127,900	4,200	3.3	46,900	46,100	800	1.7
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,300	8,100	200	2.5	2,900	3,200	-300	-9.4
Manufacturing	5,500	6,000	-500	-8.3	2,300	2,100	200	9.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	30,000	28,700	1,300	4.5	10,000	9,600	400	4.2
Wholesale Trade	4,800	4,900	-100	-2.0	800	800	0	0.0
Retail Trade	21,100	19,800	1,300	6.6	8,500	8,100	400	4.9
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	700	700	0	0.0
Information	1,400	1,400	0	0.0	700	600	100	16.7
Financial Activities	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	2,400	2,400	0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	16,500	15,900	600	3.8	4,900	4,900	0	0.0
Education and Health Services	24,000	22,700	1,300	5.7	9,200	9,200	0	0.0
Leisure and Hospitality	17,400	16,300	1,100	6.8	6,900	6,700	200	3.0
Other Services	7,300	6,900	400	5.8	2,800	2,600	200	7.7
Government	16,500	16,700	-200	-1.2	4,800	4,800	0	0.0

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	CareerSource Research Coast Combined Metropolitan Statistical Areas				Florida			
	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	179,000	174,000	5,000	2.9	7,979,000	7,702,700	276,300	3.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	11,200	11,300	-100	-0.9	432,800	407,100	25,700	6.3
Manufacturing	7,800	8,100	-300	-3.7	335,600	331,300	4,300	1.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	40,000	38,300	1,700	4.4	1,661,500	1,606,000	55,500	3.5
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,700	-100	-1.8	333,100	326,600	6,500	2.0
Retail Trade	29,600	27,900	1,700	6.1	1,069,300	1,027,700	41,600	4.1
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	4,800	4,700	100	2.1	259,100	251,700	7,400	2.9
Information	2,100	2,000	100	5.0	135,200	136,900	-1,700	-1.2
Financial Activities	7,600	7,600	0	0.0	537,100	523,200	13,900	2.7
Professional and Business Services	21,400	20,800	600	2.9	1,202,100	1,159,900	42,200	3.6
Education and Health Services	33,200	31,900	1,300	4.1	1,191,000	1,140,700	50,300	4.4
Leisure and Hospitality	24,300	23,000	1,300	5.7	1,143,600	1,080,400	63,200	5.9
Other Services	10,100	9,500	600	6.3	335,200	321,900	13,300	4.1
Government	21,300	21,500	-200	-0.9	1,004,900	995,300	9,600	1.0

Population	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	571,821	568,814	3,007	0.5
Indian River County	140,955	139,586	1,369	1.0
Martin County	148,585	148,077	508	0.3
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	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	\$38,041	\$37,077	\$964	2.6
Indian River County	\$38,725	\$37,075	\$1,650	4.5
Martin County	\$39,010	\$38,149	\$861	2.3
St. Lucie County	\$36,728	\$36,173	\$555	1.5
Florida	\$44,803	\$43,651	\$1,152	2.6

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
August 21, 2015**

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Palm Beach County region declined by 0.9 percentage point over the year to 5.6 percent in July 2015. The region's jobless rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than the state rate. Out of a labor force of 680,579 in the metro area, there were 37,775 unemployed persons.
- Nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division was 567,100 in July 2015, up 3.0 percent from July 2014.
- Employment growth in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division (Palm Beach County) was strongest in the professional and business services industry sector, which increased 7.1 percent from July 2014 to July 2015.
- In July 2015, the West Palm Beach metro area led the metro areas in Florida for gains over the year in other services (+1,500 jobs).
- The West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division gained 16,500 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job gains were primarily in professional and business services (+7,200 jobs) and education and health services (+3,900 jobs). Job gains also occurred in leisure and hospitality (+2,400 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,900 jobs); other services (+1,500 jobs); financial activities (+500 jobs); and manufacturing (+200 jobs).
- Industry sectors that lost jobs over the year were information (-600 jobs); construction (-300 jobs); and government (-200 jobs).

Note: All data are subject to revision.

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

Unemployment Rates			
(not seasonally adjusted)			
	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-14
CareerSource Palm Beach County	5.6%	5.2%	6.5%
Florida	5.7%	5.6%	6.7%
United States	5.6%	5.5%	6.5%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change	Jul-15	Jul-14	change	percent change
	Total Employment	567,100	550,600	16,500	3.0	7,979,000	7,702,700	276,300
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,600	5,800	-200	-3.5
Construction	28,300	28,600	-300	-1.1	427,200	401,300	25,900	6.5
Manufacturing	16,100	15,900	200	1.3	335,600	331,300	4,300	1.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	107,800	105,900	1,900	1.8	1,661,500	1,606,000	55,500	3.5
Wholesale Trade	22,700	22,100	600	2.7	333,100	326,600	6,500	2.0
Retail Trade	74,300	73,500	800	1.1	1,069,300	1,027,700	41,600	4.1
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	10,800	10,300	500	4.9	259,100	251,700	7,400	2.9
Information	10,100	10,700	-600	-5.6	135,200	136,900	-1,700	-1.2
Financial Activities	39,100	38,600	500	1.3	537,100	523,200	13,900	2.7
Professional and Business Services	108,400	101,200	7,200	7.1	1,202,100	1,159,900	42,200	3.6
Education and Health Services	91,700	87,800	3,900	4.4	1,191,000	1,140,700	50,300	4.4
Leisure and Hospitality	77,500	75,100	2,400	3.2	1,143,600	1,080,400	63,200	5.9
Other Services	31,500	30,000	1,500	5.0	335,200	321,900	13,300	4.1
Government	56,500	56,700	-200	-0.4	1,004,900	995,300	9,600	1.0

Population	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	1,360,238	1,345,632	14,586	1.1
Florida	19,507,369	19,259,543	247,826	1.3

Average Annual Wage	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	\$49,823	\$48,238	\$1,605	3.3
Florida	\$44,803	\$43,651	\$1,152	2.6

Note: All data are subject to revision.

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