

COMMUNICATION PACKAGE

FEBRUARY 2016

	Page
Letter from Dr. Marc C. Bruner, Chief Administrative Officer, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County, dated January 6, 2016 to Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council regarding <i>Availability of Solid Waste Disposal Capacity</i>	1
January 2016 Newsletter from Florida Department of Transportation regarding <i>SR 5/US-1 Federal Highway Bridge</i>	2
Flyer from Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization regarding <i>PBC Commuter Challenge</i>	4
<i>Unemployment Summary – Treasure Coast Region – January 22, 2016</i>	5
<i>Overview of the CareerSource Research Coast Region – January 22, 2016</i>	7
<i>Overview of CareerSource Palm Beach County Region – January 22, 2016</i>	9

January 6, 2016



RECEIVED

JAN - 8 2016

TREASURE COAST
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
421 SW Camden Avenue
Stuart, FL 34994

Subject: Availability of Solid Waste Disposal Capacity

Greetings:

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County hereby provides certification that the Authority has disposal capacity available to accommodate the solid waste generation for the municipalities and unincorporated county for the coming year of 2016. This letter also constitutes notification of sufficient capacity for concurrency management and comprehensive planning purposes. Capacity is available for both the coming year, and the five and ten year planning periods specified in 9J-5.005(4).

As of September 30, 2015, the Authority's North County Landfills had an estimated 25,557,627 cubic yards of landfill capacity remaining. In addition, the Authority has completed the construction of a second Waste-to-Energy facility, and began operation of the facility in 2015. This will significantly extend the useful life of the landfill.

Based upon the existing Palm Beach County population, the most recently available population growth rates published by the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business and Research (BEBR), medium projection, and projected rates of solid waste - generation, waste reduction and recycling, the Solid Waste Authority forecasts that capacity will be available at the existing landfill through approximately the year 2047.

The Authority continues to pursue options to increase the life of its existing facilities and to provide for all of the County's current and future disposal and recycling needs. As part of its responsibility, the Authority will provide an annual statement of disposal capacity, using the most current BEBR projections available. Please provide copies of this letter to your plan review and concurrency management staff. If you have any questions or I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Marc C. Bruner, Ph.D.
Chief Administrative Officer



SR 5/US-1 Federal Highway Bridge

From CR-A1A to Beach Road
Palm Beach County, Florida
Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study

Financial Project ID 428400-2-22-02
ETDM# 14199



January, 2016

NEWSLETTER

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The SR 5/US-1 Federal Highway Bridge is a low-level bascule bridge originally constructed in 1958 and located in the Town of Jupiter, Palm Beach County. It spans over the Loxahatchee River and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW) connecting communities within the Town of Jupiter to the south and the Village of Tequesta to the north.

The September 2014 bridge inspection showed the bridge was structurally deficient justifying replacement for the following reasons:

- The overall fitness of the bridge scored only slightly above an "unsatisfactory" rating
- The corrosive condition of the bridge deck received a "poor" rating

The existing bridge is expected to deteriorate further as it operates beyond its original 50 year service life. Coupled with the corrosive environment continuing to degrade the bridge, if not replaced, it will require costly repairs.

The vertical clearance between mean high water (MHW) and the bottom of the superstructure of the existing bridge is 25 feet which meets the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) 21-foot vertical clearance requirement. The existing horizontal clearance does not meet the USCG 125-foot requirement, with only 80 feet clearance between fenders.



The current bridge is functionally deficient because it lacks bicycle and pedestrian accommodations which is a concern as pedestrians and bicyclists cross the bridge. Based on various studies conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) over the last several years, project stakeholders including the Town of Jupiter and the Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) expressed the need to provide dedicated facilities for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Based on the bridge inspection and engineering evaluation it is not feasible to add these facilities to the existing bridge structure.

OBJECTIVES

This PD&E Study will evaluate the environmental and engineering aspects of the proposed improvements to the SR 5/US-1 Federal Highway Bridge. All elements of this study will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Public involvement activities throughout the study will be considered in the development of the design alternatives.

The bridge replacement alternatives being studied will address the structural and functional deficiencies of the existing moveable bascule bridge, improve traffic operation, and improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.



Project Location Map and Meeting Location



UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETING

The Public Kick-Off Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, **February 17, 2016** will begin as an open house at 5:30 p.m. with a formal presentation at 6:00 p.m. Members of the public may provide verbal comments and submit written comments at the meeting or by contacting Ms. Vanita Saini, P.E., Consultant Project Manager (contact information below). She may also be contacted by persons with disabilities who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) at least seven (7) days prior to the Public Kick-Off Meeting.



COMMUNITY COORDINATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Communicating project-related information to interested people, groups, and government organizations will occur through newsletters, the project website, public information meetings, inquiries made by the public, and at the Public Hearing.

Newsletters will be mailed to state and local officials, all interested people, and all property owners within the project limits, in accordance with Florida Statutes Section 339.155(5)(c).

The project website www.jupiter1bridge.com provides information regarding current project status, upcoming events, frequently asked questions, and comment forms.

Please see the Project Schedule at right for more information.

ACTIVITY	2015	2016	2017
Begin Study	★		
Public Kick-off Meeting		★	
Public Input		[Blue bar spanning 2016 and 2017]	
Develop Build Alternatives		[Green bar spanning 2016]	
Alternatives Public Meeting		★	
Public Hearing No-Build and Build Alternatives Presented			★
Study Complete/Location Design Concept Acceptance			★

The preliminary schedule for the SR 5 / US-1 Federal Highway Bridge PD&E Study is subject to change as the project progresses.

FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

The next newsletter will be mailed prior to the Alternatives Public Meeting which is tentatively scheduled for the Fall of 2016.

To obtain project information, be added to the mailing list, request information, or arrange a group meeting, please contact:

FDOT Project Manager: Ms. Vanita Saini, P.E.

FDOT District Four

3400 West Commercial Boulevard • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309-3421
Ph: (954) 777-4468 • Toll Free (866) 336-8435, extension 4468
vanita.saini@dot.state.fl.us

Project website:

<http://www.JupiterUS1Bridge.com>

PUBLIC KICK-OFF MEETING

February 17, 2016
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Jupiter Community Center
200 Military Trail
Jupiter, Florida 33458

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.

Work in Palm Beach County? Join the Challenge!



Palm Beach Commuter Challenge

March 2016

www.PBCommuterChallenge.org

#PBCommuterChallenge



**Plan your trip with Transit App | Track your miles commuted
Improve your health | Save money | Help the environment**



Unemployment Summary - Treasure Coast Region January 22, 2016

Highlights

- **Unemployment in the region fell to 4.7 percent in December, down from 5.1 percent in December of the previous year.**
 - **17,400 new nonagricultural jobs year over year from December 2014 to December 2015.**
 - **Job gains primarily in education and health services; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; trade, transportation and utilities; and retail trade.**
-
- 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 4.7 percent in December 2015, down 0.4 percentage points from the December 2014 rate of 5.1 percent. The Region's unemployment rate was the same as the state's unemployment rate of 4.7 percent and 0.1 percentage points lower than the national unemployment rate of 4.8 percent. Out of a labor force of 947,605 there were 44,634 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 December 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined metropolitan areas of the Region was 780,600 an increase of 17,400 jobs over the previous year.

Unemployment Rates*			
Geographic Area	December 2015	November 2015	December 2014
Indian River County	5.9	6.1	6.2
Martin County	4.7	4.8	5.2
Palm Beach County	4.5	4.7	4.8
St. Lucie County	5.3	5.5	6.3
Treasure Coast Region	4.7	4.9	5.1
Florida	4.7	4.9	5.4
United States	4.8	4.8	5.4

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 (+4,600); professional and business services (+6,700); leisure and hospitality (+2,700); trade, transportation and utilities (+3,800); and retail trade (+3,000).
- Industries that lost jobs over the year were financial Activities (-2,000); and manufacturing (-400)

Port St. Lucie Metro Area:

The major industries that gained jobs over the year were: education and health services (+1,600 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+900 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+600 jobs); government (+400 jobs); other services (+200 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+100 jobs). Manufacturing (-400 jobs); financial activities (-200 jobs); and professional and business services (-100 jobs) lost jobs over the year. Information remained 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:

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

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

The industries with job gains over the year were: professional and business services (+6,900 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities and education and health services (+3,100 jobs each); leisure and hospitality (+1,600 jobs); government (+1,100 jobs); construction (+300 jobs); and other services (+100 jobs). Industry sectors that lost jobs over the year were financial activities (-1,800 jobs); manufacturing (-200 jobs); and information (-100 jobs).

**Overview of the CareerSource Research Coast Region
Not Seasonally Adjusted
January 22, 2016**

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Research Coast region (Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie counties) declined by 0.7 percentage points over the year to 5.3 percent in December 2015. Out of a labor force of 259,705, there were 13,774 unemployed residents in the region.
- Unemployment rates in the counties that make up the CareerSource Research Coast region were: 4.7 percent in Martin County, 5.3 percent in St. Lucie County, and 5.9 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 December 2015, nonagricultural employment in the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas was 188,000, an increase of 3,300 jobs (+1.8 percent) over the previous year.
- In the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas, the major industries that gained jobs over the year were: education and health services (+1,500 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+1,100 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+700 jobs); other services and government (+300 jobs each); and information (+100 jobs). The industries losing jobs were manufacturing, financial activities, and professional and business services (-200 jobs each); and mining, logging, and construction (-100 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 139,100 jobs in December 2015, an increase of 3,100 jobs from December 2014 (+2.3 percent).
- The Port St. Lucie metro area had the second-highest over the year growth in education and health services employment (+6.8 percent) and tied for second highest over the year growth with the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metro Division in government employment (+2.1 percent) out of all other Florida metro areas.
- Annual employment growth in education and health services (+6.8 percent); leisure and hospitality (+5.2 percent); and government (+2.1 percent) was faster in the metro area than statewide.
- The major industries that gained jobs over the year were: education and health services (+1,600 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+900 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+600 jobs); government (+400 jobs); other services (+200 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+100 jobs). Manufacturing (-400 jobs); financial activities (-200 jobs); and professional and business services (-100 jobs) lost jobs over the year. Information remained unchanged.

Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area

- Nonagricultural employment was 48,900 in the Sebastian-Vero Beach metro area in December 2015, an increase of 200 jobs (+0.4 percent) from the previous year.
- The Sebastian-Vero Beach area was tied with the Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent metro area for largest over the year gains in information employment (+100 jobs) out of all Florida metro areas.
- Information (+16.7 percent); manufacturing (+9.5 percent); and other services (+3.6 percent) grew faster in the metro area than in the state.
- The major industries that gained jobs over the year were: manufacturing and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs each); and trade, transportation, and utilities, information, and other services (+100 jobs each). Mining, logging, and construction (-200 jobs) and professional and business services, education and health services, and government (-100 jobs each) lost jobs over the year. Financial activities was 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)			
	Dec-15	Nov-15	Dec-14
CareerSource Research Coast	5.3%	5.5%	6.0%
Indian River County	5.9%	6.1%	6.2%
Martin County	4.7%	4.8%	5.2%
St. Lucie County	5.3%	5.5%	6.3%
Florida	4.7%	4.9%	5.4%
United States	4.8%	4.8%	5.4%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Port St. Lucie Metropolitan Statistical Area				Sebastian-Vero Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area			
	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent change	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	139,100	136,000	3,100	2.3	48,900	48,700	200	0.4
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,300	8,200	100	1.2	2,900	3,100	-200	-6.5
Manufacturing	5,600	6,000	-400	-6.7	2,300	2,100	200	9.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	31,200	30,600	600	2.0	10,500	10,400	100	1.0
Wholesale Trade	4,800	5,000	-200	-4.0	800	800	0	0.0
Retail Trade	22,100	21,100	1,000	4.7	8,900	8,800	100	1.1
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	4,300	4,500	-200	-4.4	800	800	0	0.0
Information	1,400	1,400	0	0.0	700	600	100	16.7
Financial Activities	5,200	5,400	-200	-3.7	2,400	2,400	0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	16,900	17,000	-100	-0.6	5,100	5,200	-100	-1.9
Education and Health Services	25,100	23,500	1,600	6.8	9,500	9,600	-100	-1.0
Leisure and Hospitality	18,100	17,200	900	5.2	7,400	7,200	200	2.8
Other Services	7,800	7,600	200	2.6	2,900	2,800	100	3.6
Government	19,500	19,100	400	2.1	5,200	5,300	-100	-1.9

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	CareerSource Research Coast Combined Metropolitan Statistical Areas				Florida			
	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent change	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	188,000	184,700	3,300	1.8	8,284,600	8,049,400	235,200	2.9
Mining, Logging, and Construction	11,200	11,300	-100	-0.9	447,200	418,900	28,300	6.8
Manufacturing	7,900	8,100	-200	-2.5	342,000	332,800	9,200	2.8
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	41,700	41,000	700	1.7	1,738,400	1,697,500	40,900	2.4
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,800	-200	-3.4	344,100	335,200	8,900	2.7
Retail Trade	31,000	29,900	1,100	3.7	1,116,100	1,094,100	22,000	2.0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	5,100	5,300	-200	-3.8	278,200	268,200	10,000	3.7
Information	2,100	2,000	100	5.0	135,200	137,100	-1,900	-1.4
Financial Activities	7,600	7,800	-200	-2.6	548,000	534,800	13,200	2.5
Professional and Business Services	22,000	22,200	-200	-0.9	1,253,300	1,201,600	51,700	4.3
Education and Health Services	34,600	33,100	1,500	4.5	1,236,100	1,191,100	45,000	3.8
Leisure and Hospitality	25,500	24,400	1,100	4.5	1,150,900	1,107,200	43,700	3.9
Other Services	10,700	10,400	300	2.9	343,200	332,100	11,100	3.3
Government	24,700	24,400	300	1.2	1,090,300	1,096,300	-6,000	-0.5

Population	2015	2014	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	581,137	571,821	9,316	1.6
Indian River County	143,326	140,955	2,371	1.7
Martin County	150,062	148,585	1,477	1.0
St. Lucie County	287,749	282,281	5,468	1.9
Florida	19,815,183	19,507,369	307,814	1.6

Average Annual Wage	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	\$38,038	\$37,078	\$960	2.6
Indian River County	\$38,718	\$37,075	\$1,643	4.4
Martin County	\$39,009	\$38,149	\$860	2.3
St. Lucie County	\$36,728	\$36,173	\$555	1.5
Florida	\$44,810	\$43,651	\$1,159	2.7

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
January 22, 2016**

- The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Palm Beach County region declined by 0.3 percentage point over the year to 4.5 percent in December 2015. The region's jobless rate was 0.2 percentage point lower than the state rate. Out of a labor force of 687,900 in the metro area, there were 30,860 unemployed persons.
- Nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division was 592,600 in December 2015, up 14,100 jobs (+2.4 percent) from December 2014.
- In December 2015, the West Palm Beach metro area was among the top two metro areas in the state for jobs gains over the year in government (+1,100 jobs).
- The over the year job growth rate for professional and business services (+6.6 percent); trade, transportation, and utilities (+2.8 percent); and government (+1.8 percent) exceeded the state rate.
- The industries with job gains over the year were: professional and business services (+6,900 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities and education and health services (+3,100 jobs each); leisure and hospitality (+1,600 jobs); government (+1,100 jobs); construction (+300 jobs); and other services (+100 jobs).
- Industry sectors that lost jobs over the year were financial activities (-1,800 jobs); manufacturing (-200 jobs); and information (-100 jobs).

Note: All data are subject to revision.

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

Unemployment Rates			
(not seasonally adjusted)			
	Dec-15	Nov-15	Dec-14
CareerSource Palm Beach County	4.5%	4.7%	4.8%
Florida	4.7%	4.9%	5.4%
United States	4.8%	4.8%	5.4%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent	Dec-15	Dec-14	change	percent
				change				change
Total Employment	592,600	578,500	14,100	2.4	8,284,600	8,049,400	235,200	2.9
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,500	5,800	-300	-5.2
Construction	29,500	29,200	300	1.0	441,700	413,100	28,600	6.9
Manufacturing	16,700	16,900	-200	-1.2	342,000	332,800	9,200	2.8
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	114,500	111,400	3,100	2.8	1,738,400	1,687,500	40,900	2.4
Wholesale Trade	23,800	23,300	500	2.1	344,100	335,200	8,900	2.7
Retail Trade	79,200	77,300	1,900	2.5	1,116,100	1,094,100	22,000	2.0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	11,500	10,800	700	6.5	278,200	268,200	10,000	3.7
Information	10,100	10,200	-100	-1.0	135,200	137,100	-1,900	-1.4
Financial Activities	37,900	39,700	-1,800	-4.5	548,000	534,800	13,200	2.5
Professional and Business Services	111,600	104,700	6,900	6.6	1,253,300	1,201,600	51,700	4.3
Education and Health Services	94,400	91,300	3,100	3.4	1,236,100	1,191,100	45,000	3.8
Leisure and Hospitality	82,800	81,200	1,600	2.0	1,150,900	1,107,200	43,700	3.9
Other Services	31,800	31,700	100	0.3	343,200	332,100	11,100	3.3
Government	63,200	62,100	1,100	1.8	1,090,300	1,096,300	-6,000	0.5

Population	2015	2014	change	percent
				change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	1,378,417	1,360,238	18,179	1.3
Florida	19,815,183	19,507,369	307,814	1.6

Average Annual Wage	2014	2013	change	percent
				change
CareerSource Palm Beach County	\$49,860	\$48,218	\$1,642	3.4
Florida	\$44,810	\$43,651	\$1,159	2.7

Note: All data are subject to revision.

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