



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

April 2015

✓ Announcements on City Projects

The City of New Smyrna Beach is moving forward with a number of projects with positive economic development impacts:

- Opening of proposals for the AOB property at 160 N. Causeway: Two proposals were received and will be made public April 9. The proposals will be discussed at the April 14 City Commission meeting.
- Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Colony Park Road extension: The opening of the nearly half-mile extension of Colony Park Road is scheduled for 9 a.m. on April 8. The extension provides a much needed connection from S.R. 44 to Pioneer Trail.
- Schedule for bid review of the N. Causeway project: The bids for the approximately \$1 million improvement project to the North Causeway will be presented April 14 to the City Commission.
- S.R. 44 sewer assessment project: A contract has been executed with Parker Mynchenberg & Associates for the design of infrastructure to provide central sewer on the south side of S.R. 44 from South Glencoe Road to Walker Road.
- Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Alonzo "Babe" James Community Center expansion: Scheduled for 6 p.m., April 29.
- Airport projects: Airport Board meeting to review schedule for Master Plan update at 2 p.m., April 10, City Commission Chambers.
- Civic Center (former Brannon Center site) bids: To be presented at the April 14 City Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Commission chambers.
- N Causeway Boat Ramp Park renovation: This project is well underway and is anticipated that work will be completed within the next 90 days.
- "Tabby House" White Challis Redevelopment Co. project at 103 Faulkner Street: This project has received zoning and final plat approval and is moving towards a closing date this month.

✓ US 1 Scavenger Hunt

The eight cities on U.S. 1 in Volusia County are holding a Scavenger Hunt to promote business activity in the U.S. 1 corridor. The scavenger hunt takes place from April 11-19. Entry forms are available at the City Halls for the eight cities, participating businesses, Chamber of Commerce locations, or on the City websites or Facebook pages.

All completed entry forms can be dropped off at one of the City Halls no later than 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 21. A drawing will be held for five prizes from the correctly completed entry forms. The total prize value is over \$800.

✓ *Economic Development Advisory Board Action*

The City's Economic Development Advisory Board welcomed three new members at the March meeting. They are new chair Commissioner Judy Reiker, Chase Herbig, and Michael Kolody. The board is working on an update to the City's Economic Development Plan, which will include efforts to increase the inventory of available sites for light manufacturing firms. Many of the objectives in the current plan, such as establishing an Economic Development Advisory Board and streamlining the City's development process, have been achieved. The next Economic Development Advisory Board meeting will be held at 6 p.m., April 15, in the City Commission Chambers.

✓ *Important Notes*

- ATTENTION EXPANDING BUSINESS OWNERS! In November voters approved a Tax Incentive program that provides expanding businesses that meet program criteria with abatements of City property taxes. If your business is in the expansion mode, please call Tony Otte for more information.
- The cities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, and Oak Hill have jointly been awarded a U.S. EPA grant to provide free environmental site assessments for approved sites. The Phase 1 and Phase 2 assessments are performed to identify contaminants including soil and groundwater pollutants, mold, asbestos, lead paint. In some cases grant funds may be used for the removal of underground storage tanks. For information on how to apply for grant services, please contact Ms. Donna Banks: dbanks@cityofnsb.com or 386.314.4849.
- The "City Ready" service provides a meeting at no charge with City staff members to discuss how to maximize the use of a commercial building and/or property. Such meetings normally take less than one hour and provide a wealth of useful information for business planning.

In addition, City staff can obtain information from the City's partner economic development resource agencies. For example, the Volusia County Department of Economic Development is a source of information for the exporting of products, and Team Volusia can provide demographic data (including the number of residents, average household income, etc.) for 1, 3 and 5 miles from a prospective site.

- For prominent commercial/industrial properties for sale or lease, please go to Volusiasites.com and click on New Smyrna Beach. Sites can be added to this list by contacting Tony Otte.

For more information, please contact Tony Otte:
totte@cityofnsb.com; 386.424.2265 (office) or 386.566.3941 (cell)