



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

December, 2015

✓ 2015: A Great Year for Economic Development!

This year has been another banner year for economic development activities in New Smyrna Beach, with both private property projects and public projects facilitating positive movement in the local economy. Notable activities include:

- The paving of Colony Park Rd to the east of Home Depot on SR 44 was completed. The new section is now the site for two new medical buildings and an Aldi grocery store that are all under construction;
- The site of the former Daytona Beach Community College at the corner of US 1 and Wayne Ave was purchased and is in the permitting process for the development of an assisted living facility;
- The FEC property on S US 1 was purchased.
- The City of New Smyrna Beach was consistently among the leaders in the County for the number and value of new commercial and residential structure building permits;
- The \$1 million improvement project for the North Causeway roadway is now underway;
- The construction of the new civic center in Riverside Park is well-underway and is scheduled for completion late next year;
- Geosam Capital announced that they are moving their U.S. corporate headquarters to Venetian Bay;
- New businesses that opened on Canal St in 2015 include the Corkscrew Restaurant, which filled the last open space in the former Pennysaver Building;
- Several prominent buildings on Flagler Ave were renovated in 2015 including Flagler Tavern and the Beacon Restaurant. Jewelry of Joy is completing a new two story building east of Cooper St.;
- A gateway feature was completed at Third Ave and Peninsula Drive, and Norwood's Restaurant nearby opened a "treehouse" feature;
- The sale of the AOB site at 160 N Causeway continues in negotiations;
- The movie theatre on S US 1 has been renovated by a new operator and has re-opened; and
- City assistance to business owners includes Brownfield environmental site assessments, demographic data and traffic counts for specific locations, and commercial property site reviews for business operations.

Another banner year for economic development activity in the City of New Smyrna Beach!

✓ *The draft Update of the NSB Economic Development Plan is available for review! We want your input!*

The Economic Development Plan for the City of New Smyrna Beach was presented to the City Commission in 2010, and is now being updated by the City Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB). The draft Update is available on the City website: www.cityofnsb.com/Economic-Development. The EDAB is inviting business owners, managers, and citizens to review the plan and provide comments and suggestions before the plan is presented to the City Commission. The plan will be discussed at the EDAB meeting on Wednesday, December 16 at 6 pm in the City Commission Chambers and again in January (see January Newsletter for meeting notice).

The City's Economic Development Plan Update is an important document, guiding the City's Economic efforts for the next three years. The draft plan update cites the target industries for business retention, expansion, and recruitment to be:

- Aviation and Aerospace
- Creative Class, including High Tech
- Light Industry, including Manufacturing
- Medical
- Professional Office, including Corporate Headquarters
- Recreation

For further information or to provide comments contact Tony Otte at 566-3941 or email totte@cityofnsb.com.

✓ *Business Resources*

- Information available at no charge: For information concerning commercial and industrial properties, demographic data identifying potential customers, traffic counts, and city-related questions: call Tony Otte, CRA/Economic Development Director, (386) 566-3941 (cell phone).
- Assistance with hiring employees: Career Source Flagler Volusia, 329 Bill France Blvd, Daytona Beach. (386) 323-7001
- Training Opportunities:
 - Training offered at Daytona State College at the NSB/Edgewater campus
 - Certified Production Technician, January 11 – February 18, 2-5:30 pm, \$975. To register or get further information call (386) 506-4224.

- Training offered by SCORE
 - Score offers many NO CHARGE business training classes on a variety of subjects. For more information go to Score87.org or info@Score87.org.
- NO CHARGE Business Assistance – Expansion and Growth for Existing Business
 - Volusia County Department of Economic Development: (386) 248-8048 – services include exporting assistance
 - Small Business Development Center at Daytona State College: (386) 506-4723 – services include preparation of business plans, assistance in seeking loans, business consulting.
- NO CHARGE Business Assistance – Entrepreneurs
 - SCORE: (386) 255-6889 – services include preparation of business plans, business consulting.
- City Property Tax Exemption for expanding businesses: In November 2014 voters approved a Tax Exemption 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 (contact information below) for further information.
- The cities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, and Oak Hill have jointly been awarded a US EPA grant to provide environmental site assessments, free of charge, for approved sites. The Phase 1 and Phase 2 assessments are performed to identify contaminants including soil and groundwater pollutants, mold, asbestos, lead paint; and 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. Please call Tony Otte (contact information below.)
- 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 (contact information below).

For further information contact Tony Otte: totte@cityofnsb.com; or call 386.566.3941 (office/cell)