

Putnam County Economic Development Activity Report

April 2021-June 2021

Pursuant to the provisions of the Economic Development Agreement made and entered into between the Putnam County Board of County Commissioners and the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce.

1. New & Existing Business Development:

- Hosted 2 on-site prospect visits.
- Responded to 8 requests for information from firms considering Putnam County.
- Continued to provide technical assistance to businesses, these included manufacturers, consultants, retail, and commercial businesses.
- Continue retention visits and meetings with local businesses.
- Currently working with 3 active clients.
- Continuing to update buildings & sites listing on website:
<https://www.putnamcountychamber.com/econdev/sites-and-buildings/>

2. Related Agencies:

- Maintained working relationships with Enterprise Florida, the Department of Economic Opportunity, JAXUSA Partnership, FPL, Clay Electric, North Florida Economic Development Partnership, the Florida Economic Development Council, CSX and other economic development agencies.
- Met and maintaining working relationship with new local SBA representative.
- Partnered with Next Move Group to stay on top of national/regional EDC trends.
- Attended NEFDP Board meeting early June. Also serve on NFEDP Board.

3. Other Activities:

- Running a full-page ad in Site Selector Magazine in July issue advertising and promoting Putnam County.
- Monitoring current Putnam County unemployment rates, holding steady just over 6%
- Continue to provide small businesses services and connecting them to resources, mainly centered on COVID-19 issues.
- Had meeting and tutorial with EOC Director for ESF 18 responsibilities and fully prepared for hurricane season and other emergencies.
- Worked with workforce development partners regarding unemployment and potential retraining needs.
- Engaging with local community organizations such as Rotaries and Kiwanis
- Will resume monthly meetings with County Executive Director of Planning & Development Services once hired.
- Attended IEDC (International Economic Development Council) Economic Development course.