



Putnam County Economic Development Activity Report

January-March 2025

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.

I. New & Existing Business Development:

- Currently working with **18** clients interested in either attraction/relocation or expanding existing operations in Putnam County. Of the **18** clients, **5** are confidential attraction leads from Florida Commerce/JAXUSA, **10** are organic Attraction Leads and **3** are local Existing Industries considering Expanding Operations.
- These represent collectively **4,045** new jobs and over **\$2.3 Billion** in capital investment to the county if they come to fruition.
- Reviewed **8** other RFPs but Putnam County ineligible as requests were for existing buildings that we do not have available.
- Continue retention visits and meetings with local businesses/industry.
- 2023 Announced Expansion Project at CertainTeed Gypsum is under-construction with a planned opening in early 2025.
- Supporting significant Tourism Resort Project in South Putnam

II. Related Agencies:

- Maintained working relationships with Florida Commerce, JAXUSA Partnership, FPL, Clay Electric, NFEDP, FEDC, SEDC, IEDC, CSX, TECO Gas and other economic development agencies.
- Represented Putnam County at NFEDP Board & Executive Committee meetings and we hosted the February 7th Quarterly NFEDP Board Meeting at Ravine Gardens with over 130 people representing 15 counties.
- Represented Putnam County at JAXUSA Regional Partner & Business Development Committee meetings.
- Presented Putnam County Update at JAXUSA "State of the Region" event in JAX.
- Continue to work with Local Technology Planning Team on broadband initiatives.
- Continue to work with SBDC representative on local business/entrepreneurial assistance.

III. Other Activities:

- *Florida Scorecard* named Putnam County the #1 County for Job Growth in 2024! (See attached) Putnam had a 2.4% growth rate of primary jobs. In comparison, St Johns had 1.2%, Clay 1.1%, Bradford 0.2%, and Alachua 1.1%.
- Hosted first 2025 PCEDC Quarterly Investor Luncheon in March with 65 attendees.
- Hosted first 2025 Elevate Putnam Investor Advisory Council Meeting
- Attended Rural County Days in Tallahassee and supported Putnam County Legislative Priorities
- Continue to meet with City of Palatka in support of water/wastewater infrastructure solutions.
- Attended First Coast Expressway Summit – FDOT reported Phase III is scheduled to be complete in 2030.
- Relaunched the Putnam Chamber Workforce Development Task Force bringing together all local educational training providers, CareerSource, and major employers in Putnam County.
- Maintained website for economic development and the PCEDC. Site contains content to attract site selectors and prospective businesses looking to relocate. The site can be found here: www.putnamcountyleconomicdevelopment.com
- Monitor/Post Content on PCEDC LinkedIn page and PCEDC Facebook page
- Attended Site Selectors Guild Annual Conference, Orlando, FL
- Chamber staff attended IEDC Leadership Summit, Washington DC
- Attended Florida Power & Light Illumination Conference, Jupiter, FL

Jobs Year Over Year Change

1,103

(Gain)

Growth Rate

4.1%

(Positive)

**2024: PUTNAM COUNTY
HAD THE LARGEST
PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL
JOB GROWTH IN FLORIDA!**

