MBREDC E-Newsletter
Having Ready to Develop Industrial Sites is Critical to Luring New Industry

The S.C. Department of Commerce says having ready to develop industrial sites is critical to luring new industry to the state.

“Site location decisions are being made faster than ever due to aggressive business timelines,” said Commerce spokeswoman Alex Clark.

In an attempt to up the inventory of industrial acreage on hand, the agency is taking applications for a new program. The state already identifies more than 64,000 acres worth of potential sites, in various stages of development, according to Commerce’s online site locator.

The department has run a certification program before. About 40 percent of new industry locations announced in the state have been on certified sites, said Program Director Jennifer Druce, though she did not know the vacancy rate at the various sites.

The program’s latest iteration is meant to be customized, encourage more site engineering and considers factors like available workforce. Landowners can apply for a Palmetto Sites designation this year through Oct. 11, with applications being submitted twice annually in following years.

The Commerce Department isn’t worried. By encouraging development of more sites it could lead to a smattering of half-empty industrial parks around the state, Clark said.

“The concern would be not doing it and then not being as well-positioned for success,” she said.

“That’s going to happen,” Druce said of some sites going undeveloped. “All we can do is be prepared for when a company is looking in particular community.”

Commerce identifies 144 tracts of 200 acres or more across the state. Of those, 75 are identified as industrial parks.

To read more click here
Pathways2Possibilities is an interactive, hands-on career expo designed to help 8th graders link their passions to a paycheck. Professionals from 19 career pathways, aligned with the national and state departments of education, engage the students with hands-on activities in their various fields. They also share what life is like in their jobs and the training and education that is required. Each student spends two hours exploring the pathways, along with their educators and chaperones.

We expect to host about 7,000 8th graders from eight counties (Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro, and Williamsburg) over this two-day event. Mark your calendars for **Wednesday and Thursday, February 5-6, 2020** at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center. All 8th graders from public and private schools are invited to attend as are home schooled students. Students will spend two hours exploring their careers of interest and engaging with professionals who actually work in those careers. The expo will take place from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on both days.

**There is no cost to participate at P2PSC; however, they are looking for sponsors.**

**There are three opportunities for you to join the P2PSC team:**

**Pathway Professional** – facilitate hands-on activities with the students at the event—as noted above, I think your group could make meaningful impact in numerous Pathways!

**Event Sponsor** – please see attached sponsorship levels

**Community Volunteer** – event day activities such as passing out materials, monitoring flow,
signing in visitors, parking assistance, etc.

Contact Ashley Nelson at 843-237-1222 or by email anelson@bunnelle.org
Focus on the Grand Strand: Karen Riordan of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, September 10th, 2019

Today we focus on the Grand Strand of South Carolina. Karen Riordan is the CEO and President of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce. She talks about opportunities for businesses to relocate, start or expand in the region.

Click Image to Play Video

We want to let our readers learn more about our partners and their businesses/organizations in Horry County. Email us so we can set up a time to stop by to visit and highlight your company.
Upcoming Events

MBREDC & CCAR Co-host | Community Update Forum

Coastal Carolinas Association of REALTORS®  
MYRTLE BEACH REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, September 26th
Coastal Carolinas Association of Realtors
951 Shine Ave. Myrtle Beach

9AM - 12:30PM

Only 3 seats left for MBREDC partners

Click Here to RSVP

MBREDC Event | Oyster Roast Social
Thursday, October 17th

LuLu’s at Barefoot Landing
4954 Hwy 17 South
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

5PM - 7PM

Click Here to RSVP

Member News

HGTC Receives Health and Wellness Award for South Carolina

Santee Cooper Employees Power Through Hurricane Dorian

MBACC Announces New Executive Vice President of Finance

Conway Medical Receives an "A" Safety Grade for the Second Year in a Row

Duke Energy Aims to Achieve Net-Zero Carbon Emission by 2050

The Best Western Plus at Intracoastal Welcomed the American Red Cross Relief Workers During Hurricane
2-DAY CONFERENCE AND EXPO

2019 | SOUTH CAROLINA MANUFACTURING CONFERENCE AND EXPO

B2B SUPPLIER NETWORKING
The South Carolina Department of Commerce, SC Biz News, SC Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and SC Aerospace are pleased to host the B2B Supplier Networking Hall as part of the South Carolina Manufacturing Conference.

OCTOBER 29, 2019
Charleston Area Convention Center • North Charleston, SC

The B2B Supplier Networking session features OEM/Tier 1 manufacturers, all in one Hall, available to meet suppliers and learn about their products and services. The session is open format, with OEMs at various stations within the Hall. The B2B sessions will include such quality companies as Blue Cross Blue Shield, BMW, China Jushi, Continental, JTEKT, Lockheed Martin, Michelin, Proterra, Savannah River Site, Sonoco, and more.

The B2B Networking will take place in two sessions:

• SESSION 1 WILL BE FOR CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS ONLY, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (If you are an Exhibitor, you are already registered.)

• SESSION 2 WILL BE FOR ALL OTHER INTERESTED SUPPLIERS, from 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Space is limited. There is $95 registration fee for all confirmed non-exhibitor B2B Networking attendees. Session 2 is open to South Carolina Suppliers only.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AND CLOSES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019.
DON’T WAIT! Register online today at https://2019scmanufacteringb2b.eventbrite.com

If you need additional B2B Networking information, please email B2B@sccommerce.com, or contact Tammie Greene at 803-737-0585 or tgreene@sccommerce.com.

Partner Spotlight
This month we highlight MBREDC partner 5th T Innovation

5th T Innovation Group's purpose is to initiate, grow and develop the business activity of business incubation in a collaborative partnership between Coastal Carolina University, and it’s public and private sponsors, each of which contribute financially, or as otherwise agreed upon. They are a nonprofit organization with a Board of Directors from the public and private sectors in our community.

Their mission is economic development and our overall objective is to build a technology industry cluster in Conway and the Grand Strand Region. They accomplish that by assisting the creation of new technology, scientific, and local entrepreneurial ventures. These can have a large and positive impact on the economy and quality of life in our community by locally locating as developed enterprise.

New & Renewing Partners

**New Partners**
- Thomas Concrete

**Renewing Partners**
- Argos
- Circa Real Estate
- City of Conway
- Dave & Buster’s
Fairfield Inn North
Carolina Food Service
Town of Surfside Beach
Brandon Agency
Marlboro Development Team
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
Chicora Companies
Callie Wise for State Farm
North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce
5th T Innovation
The Law Office of Natasha M. Hanna
Hilton Garden Inn at Coastal Grand

MBREDC Chairman’s Partners