

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CATCH THE RISING TIDE

For Immediate Release June 23, 2022

> Carolina Food Service expanding operations in Horry County Investing more than \$3.7 million and will create 71 new jobs

MYRTLE BEACH, SC – <u>Carolina Food Service of Loris</u> announced plans to expand operations in Horry County. The company will hire approximately 71 new employees over five years and make a capital investment of \$3.78 million.

Established in 2009, Carolina Food Service of Loris is an independently owned, full-service food distributer company located in Loris, South Carolina. Carolina Food Service offers services to all food establishments in the Carolinas but specializes in food distribution for Hispanic and Latino restaurants throughout North and South Carolina. Some of their products include Beef, Pork, Poultry, Seafood, Produce, Oils/Shortenings, Condiments, Spices, Paper & Disposable Goods, Cleaning Chemicals, Janitorial, Equipment, and more. Carolina Food Service has seen tremendous growth in recent history, and expansion to the current facility is needed to meet forecasted demand.

To expand operations in Horry County, the company will purchase an additional 9 acres within the Loris Commerce Park and will add 20,000 square ft to the existing facility to accommodate growth. Carolina Food Service will hire a broad range of employees, including sales, operators, managers, clerical, and more. The new addition will allow the company to increase its business and workflow.

The company will advertise positions with SC Works.

Quotes

"I am truly excited and beyond grateful with our CFS Family, for all the hard work and relentless efforts, that have put us in an accelerated pace of growth. And for closing in on accomplishing our goal of becoming a relevant player in the regional Food Service scenario.

Also, and just as important, is to recognize and appreciate the strong and favorable business environment provided by the State of South Carolina. Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation, City of Loris, Horry County, SCDOC, Governor McMaster, our deepest appreciation for all your support, and for setting a healthy stage for

businesses like ours, to thrive." - Carolina Food Service President-Carolina Food Service CEO Juan Serrato

"South Carolina is known for world-famous cuisine, and our thriving food distribution industry is a testament to that. Today, we congratulate Carolina Food Service on their more than \$3.7 million investment that will create 71 new jobs, and we look forward to strengthening our partnership." **-Gov. Henry McMaster**

"We are excited that a company like Carolina Food Service continues to find success in our state. South Carolina has an appetizing food distribution industry where companies can thrive, and Carolina Food Service is proof of that. We look forward to their continued growth in Horry County and the entire state of South Carolina."-Secretary of Commerce Harry M. Lightsey III

"Carolina Food Service of Loris has been an asset to our area for more than a decade. We are proud of their success and trust in our area. The expansion of Carolina Food Service proves our area has the business climate, workforce, infrastructure, community support and belief in our leaders to be successful in Horry County. Today we celebrate with Carolina Food Service and look forward to being a part of their growth. On behalf of the county council and all partners involved we congratulate Carolina Food Service of Loris and look forward to many more exciting things to come!" - Horry County Council Chairman Johnny Gardner

"I'm truly grateful for Carolina Food Service and the decision to expand the operation in Loris Commerce Center. The company has been a major contributor to our work force since it started. This is a business owned and operated by people who truly have the community's best interests in mind, as has been proven by opening the doors to the public during the trying times we have recently gone through during the pandemic! By contributing to the local community events and Loris Parks, Recreation & Tourism, they have helped open new doors for the children and citizens of Loris and the surrounding communities. Thank you to "everyone" involved in this decision! Thank you to "God" for blessing us with this wonderful company and the fantastic people who work there." - **City** of Loris Mayor, Todd Harrelson

FIVE FAST FACTS

- Carolina Food Service is expanding operations in Horry County.
- Project will invest \$3.78 million over the next five years.
- **Carolina Food Service** is a food distribution company located in Loris, South Carolina.
- The company will expand to its current facility, adding 20,000 square-ft, and approximately 71 new jobs over 5 years.
- Carolina Food Service, located in the Loris Commerce Park, specializes in food distribution for Hispanic and Latino restaurants.

About MBREDC

The MBREDC is a public-private partnership that works closely with new and existing industries, site selectors, and economic development professionals to promote economic growth in Horry County. Since January of 2012, the MBREDC has announced over 2,300 new jobs including announcements in advanced manufacturing, aerospace, back-office support, health-care, and technology-related businesses. For more information, visit www.mbredc.org.

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