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# MBREDC E-Newsletter

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## DC BLOX Investing \$31.5 Million in Horry County

**The center will serve as a subsea cable landing station**

[BY CHARLES D. PERRY CHARLES.PERRY@MYHORRYNEWS.COM](mailto:CHARLES.PERRY@MYHORRYNEWS.COM)

An Atlanta-based tech firm plans to break ground on a \$31.5 million data center near Myrtle Beach International Airport in August and establish a subsea cable landing station there by the middle of next year.

DC BLOX, a company that specializes in providing data centers, is building the 40,800-square-foot center at the International Technology and Aerospace Park (ITAP) in Myrtle Beach, the company confirmed Tuesday. This will be DC BLOX's first data center in Horry County and its second in the state. The company also operates a data center in Greenville.

"The Southeast is exploding with opportunity and investments in digital infrastructure are key to its growth," DC BLOX CEO Jeff Uphues said in a news release. "We are proud to announce plans for our second data center in the state of South Carolina with this new Cable Landing Station in Myrtle Beach. Our continued investments in data centers and fiber network infrastructure is a benefit to hyper-scalers, carriers, and enterprises across the region, and we are thankful to the City of Myrtle Beach, Horry County and the state of South Carolina for their tremendous support in making this project happen."

The data center has a projected economic impact of over \$400 million, according to a news release from the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corp. (EDC), the county's industry recruitment arm.

"The investment, technology and future growth that will accompany this project will be a game changer for the Myrtle Beach International Technology and Aerospace Park and the surrounding area," EDC President Sandy Davis said in a news release.

[Read More](#)



South Carolina Department of Commerce  
**ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

## KEY S.C. INDICATORS

### Income

**+1.7%** **State Personal Income**  
increased to \$268.8 billion in the 4th quarter of 2021.  
*U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis*

**+1.4%** **Consumer Price Index**  
Cost of goods and services in the South Region rose 1.4% in Mar.  
*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

### Real Estate

**+3%** **Median Home Sales Price**  
rose \$9,000 from the prior month to \$308,000 for Mar.  
*South Carolina Association of Realtors*

**+27%** **Residential Building Permits**  
rose by 1,028 permits from the prior month to 4,829 in March.  
*U.S. Census Bureau*

### Employment

**+0.1%** **Nonfarm Employment**  
rose by 1,700 net non-seasonally adjusted jobs from the prior month.  
*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

**+0.3%** **Labor Force**  
increased by 6,017 to 2,384,364, seasonally-adjusted, in March.  
*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

**+0%** **Manufacturing Weekly Hours**  
remained flat from the prior month at 42.4 hours in Mar.  
*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

**+10.2%** **Available Online Job Postings**  
increased by 9,800 positions in March to a seasonally-adjusted 106,300 job postings.  
*The Conference Board Help Wanted Online Index*

**-0.1%** **Unemployment Rate**  
fell to 3.4 percent, seasonally-adjusted, in March.  
*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*

### About S.C. Commerce's Research Division

The Research Division is a highly-skilled, multidisciplinary team of professionals that collects, examines and disseminates data to support economic development in South Carolina. The division furnishes information to companies considering an investment in the state and produces rigorous analysis for stakeholders of all kinds.

Those who wish to receive S.C. Commerce's monthly Economic Outlook can e-mail [bwilkerson@SCcommerce.com](mailto:bwilkerson@SCcommerce.com).

### Home Sales

MSA	Indicator	Mar 21	Mar 22
Charleston	Sales Volume	2,410	2,276
	Median Price (000's)	\$330	\$376
Columbia	Sales Volume	1,461	1,320
	Median Price (000's)	\$218	\$255
Florence	Sales Volume	240	283
	Median Price (000's)	\$160	\$205
Greenville	Sales Volume	1,522	1,538
	Median Price (000's)	\$251	\$295
Myrtle Beach	Sales Volume	2,021	1,999
	Median Price (000's)	\$230	\$295
Spartanburg	Sales Volume	484	488
	Median Price (000's)	\$222	\$260
South Carolina	Sales Volume	10,998	10,397
	Median Price (000's)	\$259.9	\$308.0

Source: S.C. Association of Realtors.

### Employment

MSA	Indicator	Feb 22	Mar 22
Charleston	Employment (000's)	389.2	393.7
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	2.9
Columbia	Employment (000's)	386.5	387.0
	Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.1
Florence	Employment (000's)	91.3	92.2
	Unemployment Rate	4.2	3.4
Greenville	Employment (000's)	427.5	431.3
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	2.9
Myrtle Beach	Employment (000's)	191.8	196.6
	Unemployment Rate	5.4	4.4
Spartanburg	Employment (000's)	163.0	164.6
	Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.2
South Carolina	Employment (000's)	2,295.7	2,303.6
	Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (unadjusted MSA figures)

[Click Here](#) for more information on the Economic Outlook of the Myrtle Beach area and South Carolina

## 2022 Small Business Owner Report

A majority of small business owners report that inflation and supply chain disruptions are impacting their businesses, according to the [Bank of America 2022 Small Business Owner Report](#). The survey of more than 1,000 business owners across the country—now in its 10th year—found that business owners are navigating operational challenges including price increases and loss of customers. Despite these difficulties, business outlook remains strong, with 64% anticipating their revenue will increase in the year ahead. Conducted in March and April, the survey found:

- 88% of business owners say inflation is currently impacting their business
- 76% say supply chain issues are impacting their business
- 31% are confident the national economy will improve, down from 50% in 2021
- 39% are confident their local economy will improve, down from 56% in 2021

"Small business owners are betting on their businesses and seeking opportunities for expansion, despite concerns about the economy," said Sharon Miller, President of Small Business and Head of Specialty Banking and Lending at [Bank of America](#). "While facing a highly challenging environment, entrepreneurs are demonstrating resilience and adaptability as they focus on the operational and strategic decisions that directly impact their customers and employees."

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## Update on Early Voting in Horry County

To help prepare for the upcoming June 14 Primaries, the State Election Commission wants voters to know all their options to vote.

[Click Here for Information](#)

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### SC Works Waccamaw



The SC Works Centers within the Waccamaw Workforce Development Area provide a variety of services for both employers and job seekers. Some of the services available to employers are:

- Available interviewing space to help with recruitment
- Up-to-date labor market information
- Opportunities to network with other employers
- Staff available for assistance in accepting applications

Some of the services available for job seekers are:

- Initial and comprehensive assessment of skills and aptitudes
- Resume development
- Job search assistance
- Career information
- Financial aid assistance
- Assistance with GED
- Job readiness training, occupational skills training

Visit the [SC Works website](#) for more information

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### Upcoming Events

#### Upcoming Member Events

MBREDC June Member Event:

**Lunch, Learn, Play!**

#### Technology Workshop

Join Joe Bonanno with [Archetype SC](#) as he explores ways to consolidate your tech platforms and get the most out of your Microsoft 365.

This session will focus on the advances Microsoft has made in interoperability between platforms and how to use them to plan, meet, collaborate and deliver efficiently and securely.

**Thursday, June 9, 2022**

11:30 am- 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn

12:30- 2:30 pm: Play @ TopGolf (optional)

Location: [TopGolf](#)

2850 Robert M. Grissom Pkwy

Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

RSVP: [sjames@mbredc.org](mailto:sjames@mbredc.org)

Or call 843-347-4604

(Limited Space)

***Thank you to our presenter and sponsor:***



## Upcoming 2022 Events

August 11- Professional Headshot Session @ Hilton Garden Inn- BBB

September 22- Community Update Forum w/CCAR

October 13- Fall Social @ House of Blues- Carolina Cool & Corning Credit Union

November 10- Growing Your Business @ Miller-Motte College- Banton Media

A graphic titled "Save the Date" for the year 2022. The background is a collage of images: a palm tree on a flag, a bridge over water, and a large "2022" in the foreground. The text "Save the Date" is in a large, serif font. Below it, a list of events is provided in blue and black text. At the bottom right is the "MYRTLE BEACH REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" logo. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains contact information.

**Save the Date**

**FEBRUARY 10:** M2M Networking  
**MARCH 10:** Existing Industry Networking Event @ Grand Strand Brewing  
**APRIL 7:** Spring Social  
**MAY 12:** Workforce Recruitment & Retention  
**JUNE 9:** Technology Workshop  
**AUGUST 11:** Professional Headshot Session  
**SEPTEMBER 22:** Community Update Forum with CCAR  
**OCTOBER 13:** Fall Social  
**NOVEMBER 10:** Growing Your Business  
**JANUARY 2023:** MBREDC Annual Meeting

**MYRTLE BEACH**  
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

If you would like to receive updates, e-newsletters, and invites to events please contact us at [sjames@mbredc.org](mailto:sjames@mbredc.org) or 843.347.4604.

Interested in Sponsoring or Co-Sponsoring a 2023 event?

Contact [sjames@mbredc.org](mailto:sjames@mbredc.org) or 843-347-4604

### Benefits of sponsoring:

- Your company name/logo/hyperlink emailed in the invitation to all MBREDC members at least twice prior to the event.
- Your company name/logo displayed at the event.
- 3-5 minutes to discuss your business during the event.

- [Opportunity to handout and/or display materials during the event.](#)
- [Shared guest list after the event.](#)

Interested in becoming an MBREDC Member?

Contact [sjames@mbredc.org](mailto:sjames@mbredc.org) or 843-347-4604



[Instagram](#) [Facebook](#)

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## **Partner News**

### **A Father's Place 4th Annual Building Futures Awards Banquet and Fundraiser**

Please join us in celebrating and thanking the wonderfully generous businesses that are supporting us as sponsors for our 4th Annual Building Futures Awards Banquet and Fundraiser on June 9, 2022 at Pine Lakes Country Club.

Contact [Lyn Rumage](#) for more details.



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## **United Way of Horry County Announces New Community Game Plan**

*Heather Downing*

United Way of Horry County (UWHC) has released a new Community Game Plan to show a shift in strategy, and how the plan will be put into action through collective impact. Collective impact is the commitment of a group of individuals from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem, using a structured form of collaboration.

This Community Game Plan establishes bold community goals in four priority areas of health, education, self-sufficiency, and basic needs. Each area is narrowed down to show the key issues of Horry County and how UWHC will work to address these main needs at the root cause.

“UWHC must be a dedicated problem solver who will impact the most critical social issues in our community and build a stronger future. Every decision we have made for our new direction will indicate this, beginning with our organization’s goal to fund, advocate, educate, and collaborate,” states Blakely Roof, President & CEO of UWHC.

Learn more about the work we’re doing through the Community Game Plan, and view the full report [here](#).





[Be a Sponsor](#)  
[Register a Team](#)

[Learn About the WES Foundation](#)

#### New & Renewing Partners

##### **New Partners**

[HB Metal Builders, LLC](#)

[Coastal Grand Mall](#)

For a complete list of MBREDC  
Partners [click here](#)

Interested in becoming a [Partner?](#)

##### **Renewing Members**

[Alpha Mortgage Advantage](#)

[Tropical Smoothie](#)

[Coastal PC Support](#)

[Vines Plumbing](#)

[Carolina Cool](#)

[Burroughs & Chapin](#)

[Avison Young](#)

[Herald Office Solutions](#)

[Pee Dee Office Solutions](#)

[Sandhills Bank](#)

[City of North Myrtle Beach](#)

[Mashburn Construction](#)

[Carlisle Associates](#)

[Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Edward Jones Financial Advisor- Tammy](#)

[Hardy](#).

Thank  
you 

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## MBREDC Events

On May 12, the MBREDC hosted "Workforce Recruitment & Retention." Eileen Soisson, The Meeting Institute, spoke on working with and retaining the five generations currently in the workforce. She discussed strategies to better recruit and retain employees in all generations. The event was held at [Ground Zero](#) with refreshments provided by [Benjamin's Bakery](#). Thank you to our sponsor, [Bank of America](#), for supporting this [MBREDC](#) member event.





## BANK OF AMERICA

If you are interested in attending MBREDC Member Events, contact [Sandra James](#).

### MBREDC Chairman's Partners



To stay up-to-date on everything happening in our area that pertains to our partners and Horry County, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). For more information about the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation, contact us at [info@MBREDC.org](mailto:info@MBREDC.org) or (843) 347-4604.



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