

## **Putnam County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Activity Report**

### **Quarterly Report July -September 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:***

- Worked on 3 projects - combined estimate would bring over \$10 million in capital investment and over 300 jobs to the county should they come to fruition
- Responded to 6 requests for information from firms considering Putnam County.
- Continue to provide technical assistance to businesses, these included manufacturers, consultants, retail, and commercial businesses.
- Continue retention visits and meetings with local businesses.

#### **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.
- Represented Putnam County at a NFEDP Board meeting, JAXUSA meeting and a Florida Trend Regional update luncheon
- Participated in virtual meetings with representatives from DEO and Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Committee to discuss rural economic growth
- Continue to work with Rural Economic Development Initiative committee on various grant opportunities to embrace economic growth
- Continue to work with SBDC representative on local business assistance
- Continue weekly participation with EOC for ESF-18 duties as needed

#### **3. *Other Activities:***

- Produced a full-page ad to run in Site Selector Magazine advertising and promoting Putnam County as a great place to relocate a business
- Began production of business attraction video segments to be used in targeted digital and television campaigns to entice new business relocation
- Participated in Putnam Legislative Delegation meeting
- Participated in Barge Port Stakeholder meeting
- Coordinated a success story on JAXUSA's website for Comarco
- Worked with JAXUSA on an EDA Grant for a regional workforce study
- Continue to work on the NE Florida Spotlight feature for the January 2022 Florida Trend issue

- Continue to work with Education/Talent Supply Subcommittee on workforce development issues
- Continue to monitor Putnam County economic data metrics, including unemployment rates, currently 6.5% - which has been trending down since June (7.6%) and job year over year change now at +1,319