

Economic Development in the Glades

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Second Quarter—2016



We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter which is produced through the partnership of the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance (LORE) and the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County (BDB). Its purpose is to inform those located both in and out of the Glades region of the economic news occurring in the area.

Economic Development Report

The BDB-LORE partnership has seen great success in the Glades Region!

The BDB's strong relationship with LORE ensures a solid pipeline of economic development opportunities like the potential projects highlighted below:



Successes

Passages Belle Glade



225 Jobs

Belle Glade

Prospects in the Glades

Prospect	Jobs	Status	City
Project Cecil	25	Possible	Glades Region
Project Sesame	175	Possible	Belle Glade
Project Krieger	10	Possible	Pahokee
Project Fry	15	Possible	South Bay
Project Wings	5	Possible	Belle Glade
Project Tiger	71	Likely	Glades Region
Total Potential Jobs	301		

Spotlights

Glades Region Economic Development Website Officially Launches

The BDB, in partnership with LORE and the marketing agency, Alchemy Communications Group, has launched PBCglades.org. The website features the attractive business attributes of South Bay, Belle Glade, Pahokee, and the unincorporated territory around the tri-cities and contributes greatly to marketing the area to a diverse range of potential new companies for the Glades Region.

[View PBCglades.org](http://PBCglades.org)



City of South Bay Municipal Report Submitted to Commission on May 4th

Luke Jackson, the BDB's VP of the Glades Region, presented the Municipal Report for the City of South Bay during the city's recent commission meeting on May 4. It featured information obtained from interviews with city commissioners about their vision pertaining to economic development. The report identified the City of South Bay's strengths and weaknesses, provided action plans for job creation, and encouraged investment opportunities. The report focused on the South Bay Park of Commerce (SBPC), which is the only available commercial acreage above five acres in South Bay. There are five distinct options for the city commission to review. The BDB recommends that the City of South Bay should reengage Florida Crystals for the sale of the SBPC with the specific outcome of creating the long-awaited Intermodal Logistics Center (ILC). This project would create 4,000 direct jobs and lead to an economic renaissance for the City of South Bay and the entire region.

[View the Report Here](#)

The City of South Bay's Path Forward

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County's
review of the City of South Bay's options to maximize
economic growth.

Author:

Luke Jackson, VP Economic Development

Edited by:

Kelly Smallridge, President & CEO

Lynne Stein Benzion, VP Strategic Planning

The Business Development Board of
Palm Beach County, in partnership
with the Lake Okeechobee Regional
Economic Alliance.



Palm Beach County International Agricultural Summit

Kelly Smallridge, the BDB's President & CEO, and Luke Jackson, the BDB's VP of the Glades Region, attended the Palm Beach County International Agricultural Summit on May 4 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. The summit was co-hosted by the Economic Council of Palm Beach County and the Florida Chamber Foundation. The summit convened diverse stakeholders from Palm Beach County that sought to educate the public about the intricate business of modern agriculture and its role in advancing our quality of life and the economy. Guest speakers included industry experts and agricultural leaders, including the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, Adam H. Putnam.

"The show was definitely a success! There were familiar faces from LORE and the Glades Region in attendance, but I was pleasantly surprised to see so many attendees, as well. There were experts presenting about everything ranging from private equity's role in agriculture to cutting-edge irrigation techniques in farming."

Luke Jackson, BDB VP of the Glades Region



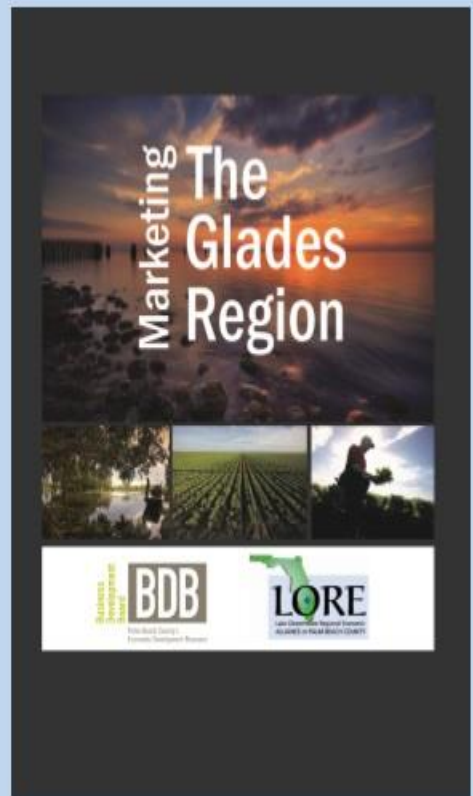
Patricia Lebow, Clifford Hertz, and Kelly Smallridge
Photo Credit - Broad and Cassel



Photo Credit - Palm Beach County Convention Center

BDB Presents Three-Year Progress Report to LORE

The BDB partnered with LORE to host the first three-year stakeholders' update on March 8. Participants received copies of the Marketing The Glades Region report. Click on the image to the right to review the comprehensive document.



Please take a moment to enjoy this video featuring the assets and attributes of the Glades region.



Upcoming Events:

Sunshine State Biomass Cooperative to Undergo Permit Review with the Solid Waste Authority in June



The Sunshine State Biomass Cooperative (SSBC) will undergo its re-permitting review from the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County on June 8 at 9:00 a.m. during its regularly scheduled public meeting located at 7501 N Job RD in West Palm Beach.

The re-permitting review is necessary to address and correct previous hazard concerns to ensure that residents of Pahokee and the surrounding areas are not negatively impacted by day-to-day plant operations.

Career Readiness to take place on June 13

The Glades Career Readiness Roundtable (GCRR) will meet at 10:00 a.m. on June 12 at the West Technical Education Center in Belle Glade located at 2625 State RD 715. The GCRR exists to discuss and promote a better trained workforce in the Glades by assembling partners from the public, private and non-profit sectors. Please consider attending this important meeting as it is open to the public.

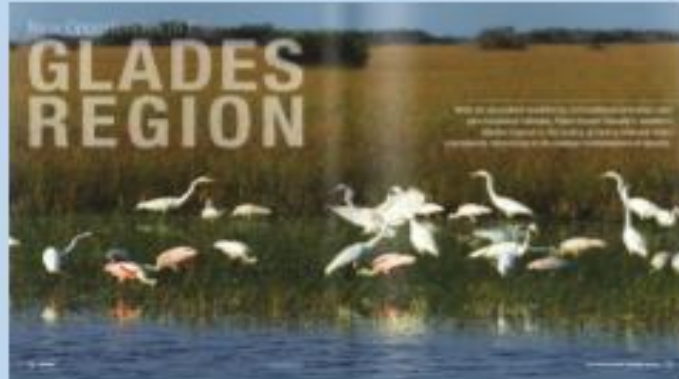
LORE Meetings to Resume on June 14

The Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance (LORE) meeting will take place on June 13 at 3:00 p.m. at the CareerSource Center in Belle Glade located at 1085 South Main Street. LORE exists to discuss and promote economic development initiatives in the Glades by assembling partners from the public, private, and non-profit sectors.



Did You Know the Glades Region Has Been Featured in Four Recent BDB Publications?

1



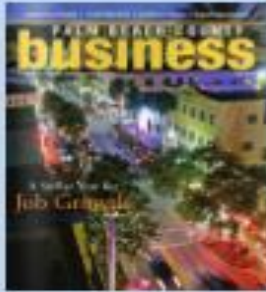
**Annual
Profile Magazine
2015**

2



**Quarterly
Palm Beach County Business Magazine
Winter 2015**

3



Quarterly
Palm Beach County Business Magazine
Fall 2014

4



Quarterly
Palm Beach County Business Magazine
Fall 2015

Learn more about the Glades Region

What's in the Glades?

What the **Glades** region offers

14 fresh vegetable packinghouses **3** major sugar manufacturing mills
1 world class sugar refinery **476** horticultural nurseries

#1 in the nation in the production of sugar cane, citrus, sweet corn and winter leaf crops

Major sugar and molasses port shipping facility

Rice processing and packaging mill

Major hydroponic tomato growing operation

One of the largest county retail garden centers' annual sales in the state at \$279 million

Agricultural by-product electrical cogeneration plant

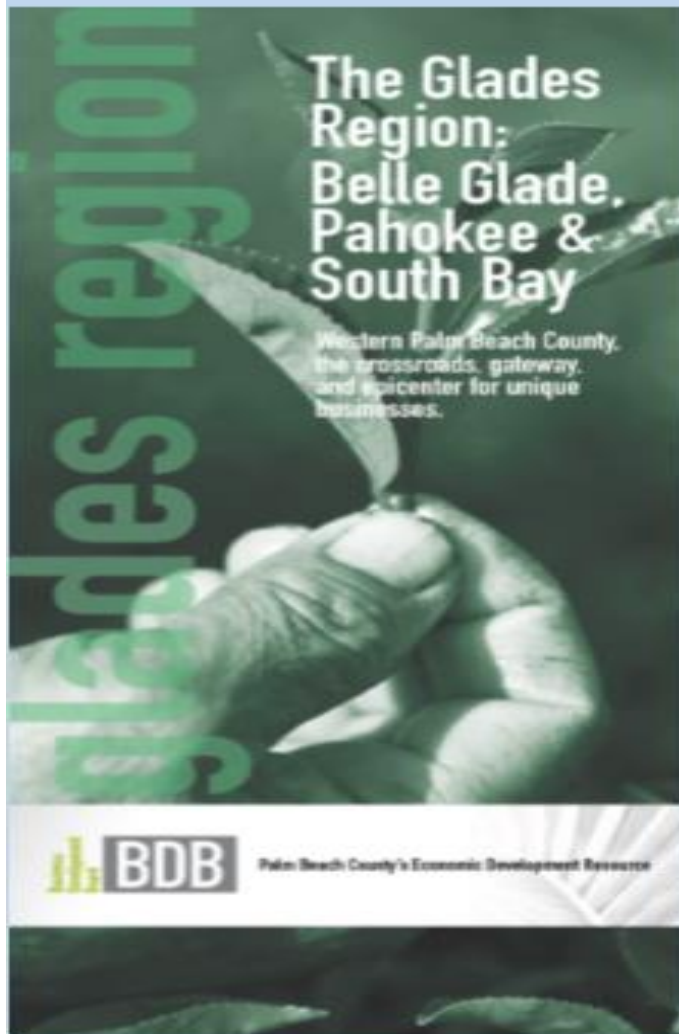
The largest county landscape and landscape maintenance annual revenue in the state at \$450 million

Palm Beach County is 3rd in the state in nursery production

One of the largest agriculturally-dedicated landmasses in the USA

Sugar in Florida has an annual \$2 billion impact

BDB



Glades Brochure

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**Thank you for your continued support of
economic development in the Glades Region!**

www.bdb.org

