

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



Economic Views



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SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

The Florida Five Year Strategic Plan - Public Comment Period

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity is pleased to announce the opening of the public comment period for the Florida Five Year Strategic Plan for Economic Development. Please visit www.floridajobs.org/FL5yrPlan to access all the tools you'll need to submit feedback for consideration as we prepare the final document. Submission forms are due **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2012 AT 5:00PM EST.** You will find the following resources on the webpage:

1. At-a-Glance document. This one page, color-coded overview outlines the core components of the plan, which we are seeking your feedback on.
2. Public Comment form. First page has instructions for use. Please use this interactive .PDF format to submit your recommendations.
3. Recorded webinar. DEO staff provides an overview of the history, data collection and context of the draft plan to date. Especially helpful for those with no prior exposure to the plan or the process.

Additional resources from the regional meetings, such as data, economic indicators and background on the Six Pillars of Florida's Future Economy™ can be found by clicking here. We encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and constituents.

If we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to email FL5yrPlan@deo.myflorida.com or call (850) 717-8960.

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<p>June 21, 2012 - June 24, 2012 CALOOSA CATCH & RELEASE FISHING TOURNAMENT Captiva Island Contact: www.caloosacatchandrelease.com/</p> <p>June 23-24, 2012 BASS BUSTERS TOURNAMENT Clewiston Contact: (941) 756-8814</p> <p>June 29, 2012 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Laboratory Theater of Florida, Fort Myers Contact: (239) 332-3624</p> <p>June 30, 2012 KID'S 4TH OF JULY FISHING TOURNAMENT Fort Myers Beach Contact: (239) 454-7500</p> <p>July 2, 2012 4TH ANNUAL "BOOM BOOM ON THE BAY" Longboat Key Contact: (941) 383-2466</p>	<p>ANNUAL FREEDOM SWIM Fishermen's Village, Punta Gorda http://www.fishville.com/</p> <p>ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION Fishermen's Village, Punta Gorda Contact: http://www.fishville.com/</p> <p>4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION Charlotte Harbor</p> <p>GASPARILLA PIRATE FESTIVAL FIREWORKS Lemon Bay, Englewood</p> <p>4th of July Fireworks McCleod Park, Everglades City</p> <p>4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA Naples Pier</p> <p>4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION Sugden Park, Naples</p> <p>Community Fireworks Alvin Ward Boat Ramp, Moore Haven</p> <p>4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION Sugarland Park, Clewiston Contact: (863) 983-1492</p> <p>13th ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION Estero Contact: (239) 948-3766</p>	<p>STAR-SPANGLED BONITA FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION Bonita Springs Contact: (239) 949-6200</p> <p>INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON SANIBEL Various Sanibel Island Locations Contact: (239) 472-1080 www.sanibel-captiva.org</p> <p>RED WHITE AND BOOM Cape Coral Contact: (239) 549-6900</p> <p>FOURTH OF JULY FORT MYERS BEACH Contact: (239) 454-7500, (888) 916-7263 www.FortMyersBeachChamber.org</p> <p>4TH OF JULY FREEDOM FEST Downtown, Fort Myers</p> <p>FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR OVER SARASOTA BAY Sarasota</p> <p>22ND ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY AND PARTY Siesta Key</p> <p>VENICE AREA FIREWORKS Venice</p> <p>9TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FESTIVAL North Port Contact: (941) 429-PARK (7275)</p>	<p>July 2-4, 2012 RED WHITE AND TUNES Marina Village, Cape Coral</p> <p>July 3, 2012 FREEDOM FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL Veterans Park, Lehigh Acres</p> <p>July 3, 2012 INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION Miromar Outlets, Fort Myers</p> <p>July 3, 2012 INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS Charlotte Sports Park, Port Charlotte</p> <p>July 6, 2012 FORT MYERS ART WALK Downtown Fort Myers www.fortmyersartwalk.com</p> <p>July 12, 2012 FREE GARDENING WORKSHOPS Warm Mineral Springs, North Port. Contact: www.warmineralsprings.com</p>
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AIRPORT ACTIVITY

Airport passenger activity for the Southwest Florida Region decreased 23.4% in April 2012 from March 2012. Airport passengers visiting and leaving the region totaled 934,940 as compared to 1,221,237 in the previous month. All three airports reported a decrease in passenger activity from the previous month.

In April 2012, total airport activity for the region decreased 14.1% from the previous year. All three airports reported a decrease in passenger activity from the previous year.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The regional unemployment rate for April 2012 was 8.4%, which was lower than the revised rate of 8.7% for March 2012. Hendry County at 10.7%, had the highest unemployment rate in the six-county region, with Charlotte and Sarasota Counties second at 8.6%. Collier County had the lowest unemployment rate at 7.4%. The April 2012 regional unemployment rate of 8.4% was slightly lower than the state at 8.7%. The regional unemployment rate decreased by 19.4% from April 2011 to April 2012, while the state rate decreased by 16.2% during the same time period.

AIRPORT PASSENGERS

AIRPORT		APR. 12	MAR. 12	APR. 11	% CHANGE	
					MAR. 12/ APR. 12	APR. 11/ APR. 12
S.W. Fla. Int'l	ARRIVALS	361,403	515,613	422,865	-18.0%	
	DEPARTURES	428,919	508,608	484,967	-15.7%	
Sarasota/ Bradenton	ARRIVALS	62,306	85,605	67,705	-27.2%	
	DEPARTURES	72,969	84,781	76,079	-13.9%	
Charlotte County	ARRIVALS	4,478	13,474	16,670	-66.8%	
	DEPARTURES	4,865	13,156	19,724	-63.0%	
AIRPORT TOTALS = ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES						
					MAR. 12/ APR. 12	APR. 11/ APR. 12
S.W. Fla. Int'l		790,322	1,024,221	907,832	-22.8%	-12.9%
Sarasota/Brad.		135,275	170,386	143,784	-20.6%	-5.9%
Charlotte County		9,343	26,630	36,394	-64.9%	-74.3%
REGION		934,940	1,221,237	1,088,010	-23.4%	-14.1%

SOURCE: Local Airport Authorities.

LABOR FORCE FIGURES

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT	
	APR. 12 (PRELIM)	MAR. 12 (REVISED)	APR. 12 (PRELIM)	MAR. 12 (REVISED)	APR. 12 (PRELIM)	MAR. 12 (REVISED)
CHARLOTTE	68,979	69,496	63,070	63,246	5,909	6,250
COLLIER	151,357	152,795	140,102	140,897	11,255	11,898
GLADES	5,008	5,133	4,590	4,690	418	443
HENDRY	18,137	18,303	16,202	16,314	1,935	1,989
LEE	279,114	282,278	255,305	257,034	23,809	25,244
SARASOTA	160,111	161,318	146,388	147,213	13,723	14,105
REGION	682,706	689,323	625,657	629,394	57,049	59,929
STATE	9,255,000	9,283,000	8,451,000	8,447,000	804,000	837,000

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

COUNTY	% CHANGE*				
	APR. 12 (PRELIM)	MAR. 12 (REVISED)	APR. 11 (REVISED)	MAR. 12/ APR. 12	APR. 11/ APR. 12
CHARLOTTE	8.6%	9.0%	10.7%	-5.5%	-19.8%
COLLIER	7.4%	7.8%	9.7%	-5.4%	-19.3%
GLADES	8.3%	8.6%	8.3%	-5.6%	-12.7%
HENDRY	10.7%	10.9%	12.8%	-2.7%	-16.6%
LEE	8.5%	8.9%	10.8%	-5.7%	-19.7%
SARASOTA	8.6%	8.7%	10.6%	-2.7%	-19.3%
REGION	8.4%	8.7%	10.5%	-4.8%	-19.4%
STATE	8.7%	9.0%	10.4%	-3.9%	-16.2%

Note: Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding.

* Calculation of percent change is by actual revised numbers.

Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for all urban consumers measures the cost of items in several specific categories and is used as an indicator of the general rate of inflation through time. The CPI-U during April 2012 showed no increase or decrease 0.0% from March 2012. The CPI-U for April 2012 was 229.2, an increase of 1.9% from April 2011.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP	% CHANGE				
	MAR. 12/APR. 11/				
	APR. 12	MAR. 12	APR. 11	APR. 12	APR. 12
ALL ITEMS	229.2	229.1	224.9	0.0%	1.9%
FOOD & BEVERAGES	233.0	232.5	226.2	0.2%	3.0%
HOUSING	222.0	221.5	217.9	0.2%	1.9%
APPAREL	125.6	125.2	122.2	0.3%	2.8%
TRANSPORTATION	218.6	219.8	216.9	-0.5%	0.8%
MEDICAL CARE	411.5	410.2	398.8	0.3%	3.2%
RECREATION	144.4	114.6	113.4	26.0%	27.3%
EDUCATION/ COMMUN.	133.6	133.4	130.6	0.1%	2.3%
OTHER GOODS/SVCS	395.5	392.0	386.2	0.9%	2.4%

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar.

1982-1984= \$1.00 APR 12=0.435

1967= \$1.00 APR 12=0.145

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor

SALES ACTIVITY

Sales activity in Southwest Florida is measured by gross and taxable sales for each county. For April 2012, gross and taxable sales in the region totaled approximately \$5.0 million and \$3.0 million, respectively. This is a 8.1% increase in gross sales and a 6.0% increase in taxable sales from April 2011. Glades County reported a decrease in gross and taxable sales this month as compared to the previous year.

Gross sales in the region between April 2012 and March 2012 increased 17.6%. Taxable sales increased 13.3% during the same period. By incorporating the change in the cost of living (1.91%) and the average annual population growth rate (2.3%) for the same time period, real gross sales increased 3.6% per capita. Real taxable sales increased 1.7%.

SALES ACTIVITY

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	GROSS SALES (\$000)				
	APR. 12	MAR. 12	APR. 11	MAR. 12/ APR. 2011/	APR. 2012/
CHARLOTTE	374,101	321,937	352,532	16.2%	6.1%
COLLIER	1,201,277	1,062,247	1,123,428	13.1%	6.9%
GLADES	7,862	5,569	9,125	41.2%	-13.8%
HENDRY	166,725	135,065	116,853	23.4%	42.7%
LEE	1,858,296	1,593,700	1,733,534	16.6%	7.2%
SARASOTA	1,196,240	965,233	1,107,699	23.9%	8.0%
REGION	4,804,501	4,083,751	4,443,172	17.6%	8.1%

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	TAXABLE SALES (\$000)				
	APR. 12	MAR. 12	APR. 11	MAR. 12/ APR. 2011/	APR. 2012/
CHARLOTTE	208,851	189,419	200,340	10.3%	4.2%
COLLIER	686,068	626,480	645,743	9.5%	6.2%
GLADES	2,308	2,390	2,363	-3.4%	-2.3%
HENDRY	28,530	27,012	25,681	5.6%	11.1%
LEE	1,095,145	950,608	1,041,619	15.2%	5.1%
SARASOTA	613,319	528,545	569,987	16.0%	7.6%
REGION	2,634,222	2,324,454	2,485,732	13.3%	6.0%

SOURCE: Florida Department of Tax Research.

LEPC INFORMATION

For information on upcoming LEPC Courses and Training, please contact John Gibbons at jgibbons@swfrpc.org.

SWFRPC MEETING SCHEDULE

Regional Planning Council	Third Thursday of each month
CEDS Committee	Quarterly
LEPC	Quarterly
Disaster Preparedness	Thursday after LEPC meeting
Glades/Hendry Trans. Disadvantaged	Quarterly
Brownfields Committee	Quarterly

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BUILDING PERMITS

Residential building activity is measured by the number of single-family and multi-family building permits issued during a given month. In April 2012, 339 residential permits were issued in Southwest Florida. This is 36 more permits than were issued in March 2011. The number of units covered by these permits increased by 43 from 331 in April 2011 to 374 in March 2012. Compared with the figures reported for March 2012, the number of units for April 2012 decreased by 31. From March 2012 to April 2012, permits issued decreased by 57.

The region reported a residential building valuation of \$88,229,934, in April 2012. This is a decrease of 11.8% compared to the valuation of residential permits issued in April 2011, which totaled \$100,019,382.

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY								
APRIL 2012*					MARCH 2012**			
COUNTY	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE
CHARLOTTE	37	0	0	\$7,401,087	30	0	0	\$5,445,757
COLLIER	100	6	40	\$30,619,385	97	0	0	\$50,619,215
GLADES	0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$0
HENDRY	2	0	0	\$130,000	0	0	0	\$0
LEE	124	1	2	\$28,905,633	178	0	0	\$36,940,871
SARASOTA	69	0	0	\$21,173,829	90	1	10	\$22,926,918
REGION*	332	7	42	\$88,229,934	395	1	10	\$115,932,761

APRIL 2011***					UNIT CHANGE		% CHANGE OF VALUE	
COUNTY	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	APR. 12/ MAR. 12	APR. 11/ APR. 12	MAR. 12/ APR. 12	APR. 11/ APR. 12
CHARLOTTE	22	0	0	\$3,438,138	7	15	35.9%	115.3%
COLLIER	88	4	14	\$37,475,300	43	38	-39.5%	-18.3%
GLADES	0	0	0	\$0	0	0	n/a	n/a
HENDRY	2	0	0	\$154,444	2	0	n/a	n/a
LEE	98	2	6	\$20,681,196	-52	22	-21.8%	39.8%
SARASOTA	83	4	18	\$38,270,304	-31	-32	-7.6%	-44.7%
REGION*	293	10	38	\$100,019,382	-31	43	-23.9%	-11.8%

*Data does not include Everglades City, Hendry County and Fort Myers Beach for April 2012.
 Data does not include the total valuation figure for Collier County, not available due to system upgrade.
 **Data does not include Everglades City, Hendry County and Fort Myers Beach for March 2012.
 ***Data does not include Everglades City for April 2011.

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SUMMARY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATORS	APRIL 2012 (PRELIM)	APRIL 2011 (REVISED)	% CHANGE
UNEMPLOYMENT			
State	8.7%	10.4%	-16.2%
Region	8.4%	10.5%	-19.4%
County			
Charlotte	8.6%	10.7%	-19.8%
Collier	7.4%	9.7%	-19.3%
Glades	8.3%	8.3%	-12.7%
Hendry	10.7%	12.8%	-16.6%
Lee	8.5%	10.8%	-19.7%
Sarasota	8.6%	10.6%	-19.3%
LABOR FORCE			
State	9,255,000	9,200,000	0.6%
Region	682,706	671,039	1.7%
EMPLOYED			
State	8,451,000	8,241,000	2.5%
Region	625,657	600,253	4.2%
UNEMPLOYED			
State	804,000	959,000	-16.2%
Region	57,049	70,786	-19.4%
AIRPORT PASSENGERS			
Region	934,940	1,088,010	-14.1%
S. W. Int'l Airport	790,322	907,832	-12.9%
Sarasota/Bradenton	135,275	143,784	-5.9%
Charlotte County	9,343	36,394	-74.3%
BUILDING PERMITS			
Regional	339	303	11.9%
Single Family	332	293	13.3%
Multi-Family	7	10	-30.0%
TOTAL VALUE			
Residential	\$88,229,934	\$100,019,382	-11.8%
All Permit Activity	\$142,116,396	\$255,490,386	-44.4%
REGIONAL SALES (\$000)			
Taxable Sales	\$2,634,222	\$2,485,732	6.0%
Gross Sales	\$4,804,501	\$4,443,172	8.1%
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX			
	229.2	218.0	5.1%
PRIME INTEREST RATE			
	3.25%	3.30%	-1.5%

