



Rescheduled Small Business Power Day Set for November 2nd

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Parish Small Businesses Focus of Power Day Events

August flooding postponed Power Week and will now be November 1st-3rd. At the workshops, business owners will learn from small business development experts, network with business leaders from the surrounding area, and learn about the Small Business Program offered by Louisiana Economic Development. Information about business recovery programs will also be available. **To register, visit:**

WWW.SMALLBIZPOWERWEEK.EVENTBRITE.COM

SBA Offers Loans for Cash Flow / Working Capital Needs

Impacted businesses can apply for loans to cover cash flow or working capital needs. The loans, called Economic Injury loans, will have 4% interest rates and may be applied for until May 15, 2017. For more information visit: <https://www.sba.gov/blogs/sbas-disaster-loan-program-explained>.

AEDC forms Tax Exemption Task Force, awaits State Guidelines to Review

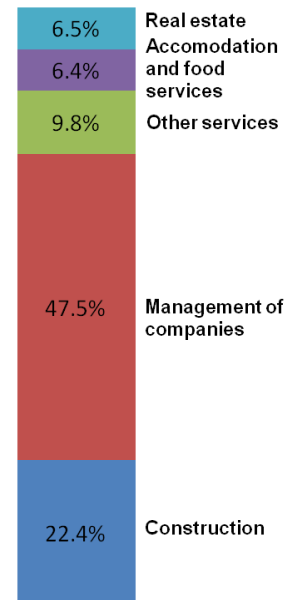
Under the Governor's Executive Order, all new application for Industrial Tax Exemption (ITEP) will require supporting resolutions from local government entities. The AEDC Task Force will determine procedures to address processing, on average, 70 projects per year. Mike Eades, AEDC President/CEO said, "This is a game changer and processing applications in a timely fashion may be critical to the success of many projects." Members include the Parish Government, School Board, Sheriff's Office, the Assessor's Office, the Industrial Development Board, the Cities of Gonzales and Donaldsonville, and the Town of Sorrento. The Task Force will begin its review process once state guidelines are received.

Parish Economic Development Employment Remains Steady

For the latest reported month(August) employment was 58,340; an increase of 469 jobs from one year ago, but down 976 from July as summer workers returned to school. Growth in the Parish Labor Force continues to outpace the Region and the State with a 31% increase since August 2006.

AEDC staff is working on a number of **Projects in the Pipeline** which have the potential to create another 2,280 jobs, \$123 million in annual new payroll, and represent over \$17.4 billion in potential new investment. The level of activity in all three categories increased since last quarter by 20%-50%.

Top Employment Growth Sectors 1st Qtr 2015 - 1st Qtr 2016



AEDC Board of Directors

Dwight Poirrier, Chairman
Don Hanna, Vice Chair
Dee LeJeune, Secretary/Treasurer

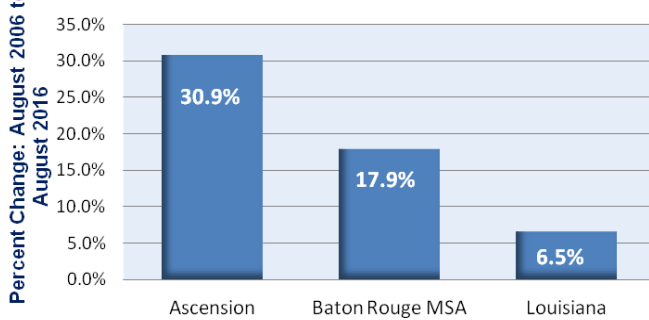
Kirk Boudreaux
Butch Browning
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Bill Dawson
Douglas Diez
Stevie Graugnard

Benny Johnson
Roger Keese
Brent Landry
Chuck LeBlanc
Donald Schexnaydre

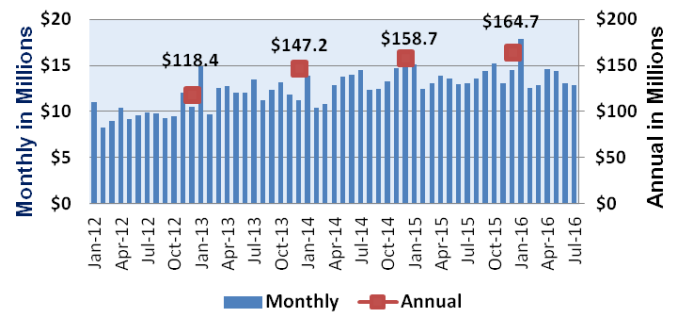
what's new in *Ascension* is our quarterly newsletter. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send an email to: mtaillon@ascensionedc.com.

ECONOMIC UPDATE

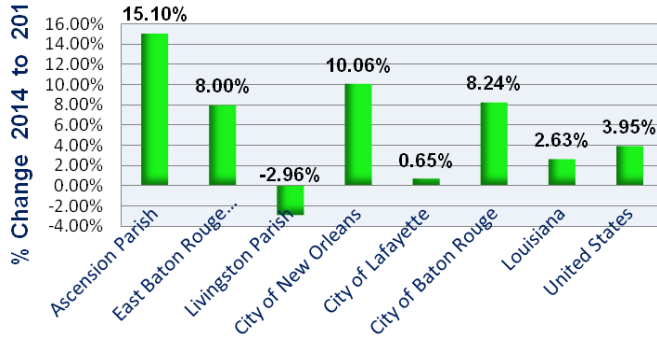
10 - year growth in civilian labor force exceeds MSA and State



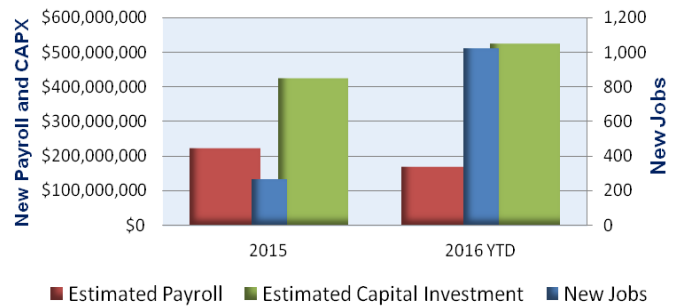
2016 sales tax collections ahead of 2015 over first 6 months



Ascension's growth in median household income leads State / Nation



2016 Incentive application commitments for jobs/capital investment exceed 2015

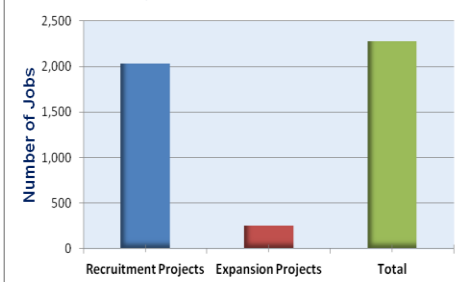


Sources: Louisiana Workforce Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics for employment, Louisiana FastLane for project application, Greater Baton Rouge Association of Realtor's

PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE

Projects in the Pipeline represents potential projects discussed or inquiries made to AEDC that may occur over the next several years.

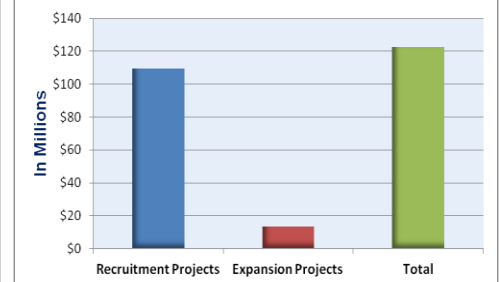
2,280 Potential New Jobs



\$17.4 Billion in Potential New Capital Investment



\$122.8 Million Potential Annual Payroll



For a list of available buildings and sites within the parish visit our home page at: <http://www.ascensionedc.com>