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## Flagler economic officials get jump start on 2014



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Flagler County economic officials aren't waiting long after the holidays to take a look at what's on deck for 2014.

The county's Economic Opportunity Advisory Council is meeting Thursday morning to hear about trends on workforce development, commercial and residential construction and residential real estate from industry partners, the Daytona Beach News-Journal reports.

"I believe that it helps us, particularly even staff and our board members, to be more knowledgeable of available labor force, available real estate, what pricing is happening in real estate, and it shows the overall health of the economy of our county," Flagler County Commissioner [Barbara Revels](#) told the News-Journal.

Revels said that the prospects for 2014 — particularly those coming through **Enterprise Florida, JaxUSA Partnership** and others — are promising.

The county is looking to continue the momentum it has built up over the past two years. One of the nation's hardest-hit metro areas during the recession, the county formed a Department of Economic Opportunity in November 2011. Within the past two years, it has reeled in five new businesses.

[Helga van Eckert](#), head of Flagler County's Department of Economic Opportunity, [told the Business Journal earlier this year](#) that Flagler has become a community that not only wants economic development, but has put everybody on the same page in pursuing it.

That pursuit has attracted businesses like Aveo Engineering Group, a global manufacturer of LED lights for aerospace, marine and other industries, to the county. Aveo plans to build an airport hangar and manufacturing plant in Flagler and create 300 jobs, mainly in engineering and paying an average wage of just above \$40,000.

[Read more from the Daytona Beach News-Journal.](#)

Michael handles our digital coverage (including the website, social media accounts and videos) and covers sports business.