

Economic Development DIGEST

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Womble Carlyle's Economic Development Digest aggregates news, opportunities and legislation impacting business in the United States.

In this week's Economic Development Digest:

California

- [Gas reduction dropped from California climate change bill](#), *Los Angeles Times* (September 8, 2015)
California Governor Brown wanted \$3.6 billion in annual funding for road repairs, but the concept is not receiving adequate support. Business and labor groups want road improvements to help create jobs and promote economic development.

Florida

- [Florida DOR announces 2015 legislative changes for Enterprise Zone Program](#), *TaxAnalysts.com* (September 8, 2015)**
The Florida Department of Revenue has announced that except for some extensions provided for in state law, the enterprise zone program expires on December 31, 2015; for businesses that do not qualify for the extension program, enterprise zone credits or refunds will be approved after December 31 only if statutory requirements are met.

Georgia

- [Are Georgia lawmakers willing to gamble on casinos and horses?](#), *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* (September 13, 2015)
Georgia legislature to examine gambling.
- [Crocker Partners and MidCity plan Sandy Springs project along Georgia 400](#), *Atlanta Business Chronicle* (September 16, 2015)
MidCity Real Estate Partners and Crocker Partners want to develop NorthPlace, which could include up to 370,000 square feet of office space.
- [VMWare to expand Atlanta-based AirWatch unit, create 300-plus jobs](#), *Atlanta Business Chronicle* (September 16, 2015)
VMWare is planning a major expansion that will create more than 300 jobs in its Atlanta location.
- [Shipt heads to Atlanta, plans to hire 300](#), *Atlanta Business Chronicle* (September 16, 2015)
Shipt LLC will launch its on-demand grocery delivery service and will hire 300 shoppers for the Atlanta expansion.
- [2015 good year for job creation in Georgia](#), *Atlanta Business Chronicle* (September 16, 2015)
Georgia added 26,951 jobs during the last fiscal year.
- [Norfolk Southern plans \\$75 million Atlanta expansion, will bring 250-plus jobs](#), *Atlanta Business Chronicle* (September 15, 2015)
Railway operator Norfolk Southern Corp will create more than 200 jobs as part of an Atlanta expansion.

National

- [Obama invokes free-market principles to promote clean-energy plan](#), *Los Angeles Times* (August 24, 2015)
The Obama administration announces plans to award \$24 million for 11 projects in seven states aiming to develop "innovative solar technologies" that would double the energy a solar panel could produce.

North Carolina

- [Shallotte mayor travels to Raleigh to oppose sales tax redistribution proposal](#), *The Brunswick Beacon* (September 8, 2015)
A proposed sales tax redistribution may adversely affect certain North Carolina counties.
- [N.C. Research Campus leader departing for Atlanta job](#), *Charlotte Business Journal* (September 15, 2015)
The N.C. Research Campus (featuring more than 1 million square feet of lab and office space) is losing its leader.
- [Cranes are back in Charlotte as development booms again](#), *The Charlotte Observer* (September 9, 2015)
More apartments are under construction than ever before. Office buildings are also underway uptown and in South Park.
- [Raleigh chosen for Novo Nordisk's new bio-manufacturing facility](#), *IndustryWeek* (September 2, 2015)
Novo Nordisk announced it was investing \$1.2 - \$1.85 billion over the next five years to build a new bio-manufacturing facility.
- [Telecommunications carriers extending broadband to underserved North Carolina Communities](#), *NCCommerce.com* (September 3, 2015)
Less populated North Carolina areas will receive quicker broadband service thanks to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Connect America Fund and participation from four broadband service provider partners.
- [Senate gives tentative support for final North Carolina budget](#), *The Washington Times* (September 15, 2015)
North Carolina budget gets closer to finalization.
- [New sales tax on services would benefit only rural counties](#), *The News & Observer* (September 15, 2015)
North Carolina's budget comprise creates an \$84.4 million fund - funded through the new sales taxes - that would be distributed through percentage formulas set for each county.
- [Fidelity retakes old MetLife building as part of jobs, expansion plan](#), *Triangle Business Journal* (September 6, 2015)
Fidelity Investments has signed a lease deal to take back all of its former office space at Danbury Hall in Durham.
- [Tech Venture: RTP already 2nd most important behind Silicon Valley](#), *WRAL TechWire* (September 16, 2015)
Sequoia Capital's Jim Goetz named the Triangle as the second most important area of the United States behind his native Silicon Valley.

Puerto Rico

- [Puerto Rico can't heal itself](#), *BloombergView* (September 10, 2015)
Puerto Rico has a plan to recover from its \$72 billion of public debt.

South Carolina

- [South Carolina ranked no. 1 for jobs linked to foreign investment](#), *Charleston Regional Development Alliance* (September 15, 2015)
For the third time in the last four years, South Carolina has ranked first per million inhabitants in attracting jobs through foreign investment.

Virginia

- [Start of I-64 widening project marks progress in improving Peninsula traffic](#), *Daily Press* (September 8, 2015)
Hampton Roads, Virginia breaks ground on I-64 expansion project in an effort to encourage growth and improve the quality of life of residents.

****Note: a paid subscription is required to access this article. A brief description has been provided. Please contact Womble Carlyle's Economic Development Team for more information on these developments.**

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One West 4th Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101, USA

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