

Trending Developments



FALL RIVER OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Amazon Project Making Great Progress in First Two Months of Construction

Since purchasing land on Innovation Way in late November, Amazon has made great strides in constructing a 1,000,000 SF distribution facility in the Southcoast Life Science and Technology Park at Fall River.

Based on the progress seen thus far it is anticipated that the project will indeed comply with the anticipated fall

of 2016 start up date. As such it is anticipated that job recruitment for the hundreds of employment opportunities Amazon will be looking to fill will begin in the spring of 2016.

To date 79% of contracts for the project have been awarded and of the contracts

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Below: An aerial view of the Amazon location within the Southcoast Life Science and Technology Park at Fall River

973 Jobs Available

Looking for a job?

Visit froed.org then select the "Current Employment Opportunities" tab. Next click "Job Search" and this will launch an interactive database.

Within this database alone there are currently **973** employment opportunities within a 5 mile radius of Fall River.



Commonwealth Landing

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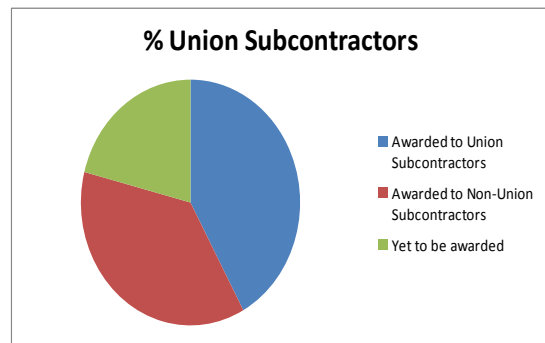
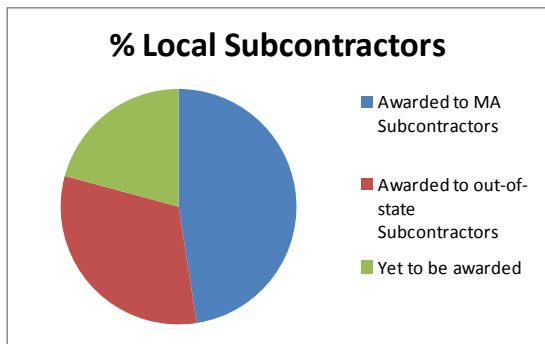
awarded 53% have been awarded to unions and 60% have been awarded to Massachusetts based subcontractors.

Thus far the project has made great strides with site work, infrastructure, the perimeter foundation and panel erection.

Kenneth Fiola, Jr., Executive Vice President of the Fall River Office of Economic Development is pleased with the progress of the project noting that he is “optimistic based on the progress to date that

Amazon, barring any unforeseen inclement weather conditions, will be meeting their projected opening date of fall 2016. Throughout the next couple of months we will work closely with Amazon as well as the Fall River Career Center and the Massachusetts Labor and Workforce Development Offices to coordinate job recruitment fairs and outreach programs.”

Below are chart renderings of the total percentages of contracts awarded to local subcontractors and union subcontractors to date.



Portions of Fall River Boardwalk Reopened



Above: Fall River Boardwalk

The Commonwealth’s Department of Conservation and Recreation recently reopened a substantial portion of the boardwalk which had previously been closed for repairs and renovations.

The total project cost is estimated to be \$3.5 million and includes approximately 30,000 SF of replaced boardwalk.

The project is running slightly behind schedule due to severe weather last winter; however, full completion of the project is expected by April 30, 2016.

The upgrades have been substantial and include high quality materials that will not only make for a more enjoyable experience for

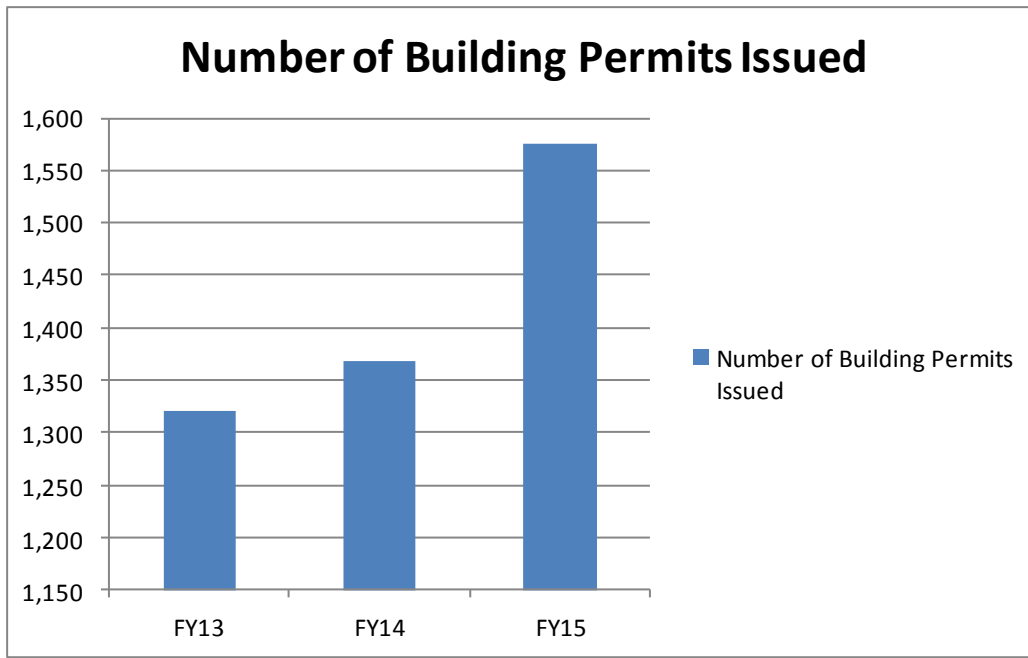
those using the boardwalk, but will minimize the need for maintenance on the boardwalk.

The boardwalk begins in Battleship Cove and continues north to the newly restored Bicentennial Park and the Commonwealth Landing site. There have been discussions about extending the boardwalk even further north to the Veterans Memorial Bridge according to DCM officials.

It is the hopes of the City that these new renovations will attract people to the waterfront, one of Fall River’s greatest assets.

Fall River by the Numbers...

Fall River Building Permits Issued Annually



Source: City of Fall River Building Department

FROED Hires Technical Assistance Specialist

In September, 2015 the Fall River Office of Economic Development hired Michael Motta as the office's Technical Assistance Specialist. In this capacity he works with Fall River small businesses, obtaining necessary financing, and working with them to improve their businesses by advising them on marketing, financial, and technical issues.

Mr. Motta is a Fall River native, born, raised and educated in Fall River. He is also a graduate of UMass Dartmouth where he earned

a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering Technology.

Recently, Mr. Motta earned his certification as a Practice Workflow & Information Management Redesign Specialist.

In his consulting practice, he has worked with large companies and agencies such as Textron, Bendix, and the Federal Transit Administration, as well as local agencies and smaller, local companies. In each of these engagements, which ran as long as five

years, and as little as three months, he was successful at quickly and accurately determining the client needs, working with internal company representatives and outside contractors to develop a solution plan, executing and overseeing the implementation of the plan, and developing metrics, training and follow-up programs to ensure continued and long-term success.

Mr. Motta has identified and submitted Grant

Proposals, secured funding from State and Federal Grants, and was awarded, and successfully completed the contracts.

As an elected official, he has served on the Freetown Planning Board, and is currently an Assessor in the Town of Freetown. In these roles, he utilizes his unique combination of talent effectively. His excellent interpersonal skills, ability to quickly analyze the details of varying situations and proposals, deep technical

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Keeping Fall River working in Fall River.

FALL RIVER OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Michael Motta

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knowledge, and wide range of business experience enables him to render decisions fairly and compassionately.

Mr. Motta has recently completed a contract with the City of Fall River, serving as the City's Business Liaison. In this role, he met with area business owners, built a database of existing services, identified underutilized commercial properties, and assisted individual businesses in developing and expanding their offerings.

Thus far Mr. Motta has been a great asset to the office and we are happy to have him on board. Welcome Mr. Motta!



Fall River's Finest: Napoleon "Nap" Lajoie

Nap Lajoie was born in 1874, the youngest of eight children to Jean Baptiste and Celina Guertin Lajoie.

As a child Lajoie and his siblings were responsible for supporting his family following the untimely death of his father. The young Lajoie worked in a textile mill and as a horse and buggy taxi driver to help his family.

Lajoie began his baseball career playing for the Fall River Indians before advancing to a major league career that lasted 22 years.

He played in Major League Baseball for the Philadelphia Phillies, Philadelphia Athletics, and the Cleveland Naps, a team he also managed.

While in Cleveland, Lajoie's popularity led to locals electing to change the club's name from the Bronchos to the Napoleons, "Naps" for short.

In 1902, Lajoie and dozens of National League players joined the newly formed American

League. While playing for Connie Mack's Athletics, Lajoie set the all-time single-season mark of .426 for the highest batting average. His career statistics include a .339 batting average, 3,252 hits, 1,599 RBIs, and 82 home runs.

During his career he won the Triple Crown, was a 5 time AL batting champion, AL home run leader and 3 time RBI leader.

In 1916 Lajoie retired from the Philadelphia Athletics as a player but joined the International League as a manager and player and at age 42 led the league in batting. Lajoie managed 700 games with a 377-309 record. He retired completely from baseball in 1918.

In 1937 Lajoie was elected a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame. He died in Daytona Beach, Florida in 1959.

(Source: "Cream of the Crop—Fall River's Best and Brightest" by John B. Cummings Jr.)

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Mission statement of the Fall River Office of Economic Development:

Incorporated in 1978 as a 501(c)(4) corporation to promote the prosperity and general welfare of the citizens of Fall River through the stimulation of economic strength and expansion of new and existing business.

For more information please visit our website:
www.froed.org