

Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico

Third Round Promise Zone Designee



Lead Organization:

Local Redevelopment Authority for Roosevelt Roads

Population:

33,813

Poverty Rate:

45.77%

Unemployment rate:

17.34%

Key Partners:

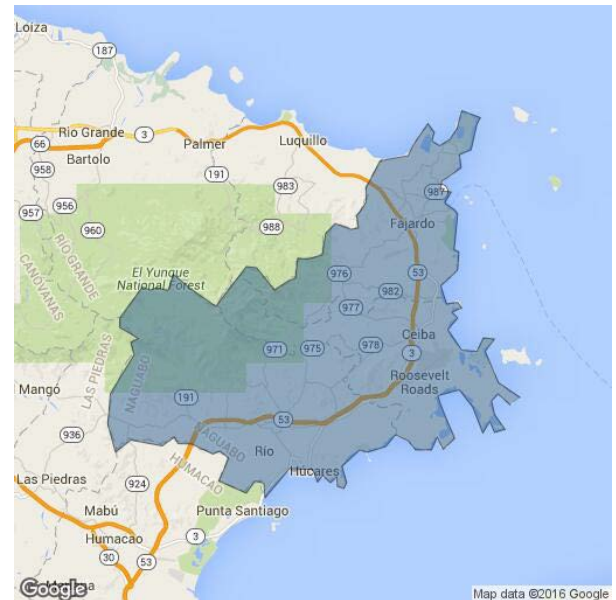
Municipalities of Ceiba; Fajardo and Naguabo; Calthorpe Associates; Marine Environmental Remediation Group; MidAtlantic Shipyards LLC; Puerto Rico Fast Ferries, LLC; Flagship Services Corp; Municipal Police Departments; Puerto Rico Department of Justice; Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture; Desarrollos Planificados, Inc.; Florece Hidroponia; Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority

About the Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico Promise Zone

The Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico Promise Zone is comprised of the three communities of Ceiba, Fajardo, and Naguabo in the Northeast corner of Puerto Rico. The area suffered a big financial loss when the Roosevelt Roads Naval Station closed in 2004. The three communities affected by the closure have joined forces to form the Local Redevelopment Authority for Roosevelt Roads (LRA). The LRA plans to not only improve community infrastructure but also to rejuvenate economic activity in the region, increase access to health care, improve educational opportunity, reduce violent crime, and jumpstart job creation. In 2013, the Navy completed the transfer of 3,409 acres and 1,600 facilities to LRA.

Leadership and Goals

The Local Redevelopment Authority for Roosevelt Roads in partnership with more than 10 organizations will lead the Promise Zone initiative in eastern Puerto Rico. With an unemployment rate of 17.34%, job creation is a key priority for the region. The LRA plans to spearhead job growth by partnering with MidAtlantic Shipyards to construct the Roosevelt Roads Marina and target film and TV projects. They also plan to build an advance ship recycling facility.



The LRA master plan is designed to improve infrastructure and increase access to education and healthcare.

The LRA's goals include:

- Increasing economic activity by introducing a "Fast Ferry" service and refurbishing neglected hotels
- Improving educational opportunities by investing in science and math education and creating a Roosevelt Roads Science Park
- Promoting community safety by creating a prisoner reentry program
- Supporting wellness by establishing a food hub and promoting healthy food options
- Upgrading community infrastructure by refurbishing 505,000 square feet of existing facilities and leveraging community financing

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