BANKING/FINANCE

Powell's Labor Market Worries Find Plenty of Support in the Data



"When you have people who are not taking part in the economic life of a country in a meaningful way ... then in a sense they are being left behind," Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell told CBS News'"60 Minutes."

by Jeanna Smialek

Jerome Powell says America's workforce faces serious challenges. Education levels are climbing only slowly, and both globalization and drug addiction are taking a toll on the labor market.

"When you have people who are not taking part in the economic life of a country in a meaningful way, who don't have the skills and aptitudes to play a role or who are not doing so because they're addicted to drugs, or in jail, then in a sense they are being left behind,' the Federal Reserve chairman told CBS News' "60 Minutes" in an interview aired Sunday.

Recent research backs up Powell's contention: even though unemployment is at 3.8 percent, a five-decade low, some corners of the American labor force are suffering from a many-pronged malaise. A National Bureau of Economic Research working paper explores the ties between education, globalization and declining opportunity, while a Cleveland Fed study suggests that opioid use could be sidelining workers

Americans used to pick up and move when their local labor markets soured, but that's changed, research by University of California, Davis' Katherine Eriksson, Katheryn Russ and Minfei Xu and George Washington University's Jay Shambaugh points out. Worker mobility is much lower today, which probably intensified regional economic pain when factories moved jobs overseas in search of cheaper labor.

When the China shock hit the United States from 1990-2007, the areas most exposed had lower wages, lower levels of education, less innovative capacity as measured by patents per capita, and higher unemployment rates prior to the shock," the authors write. "People in these areas were less likely to move, firms less likely to innovate or switch into different industries."

Why don't people move in search of opportunity? It's a thorny question with a lot of possible answers, but two factors could play a big role. First, less-educated workers are less likely to move, and trade-related economic disruptions hit places with low training levels. Second, high-growth places have high rent and land costs, so it might be too expensive to follow the better jobs.

If disadvantage is concentrating and leaving people behind, the opioid epidemic has been fuel to the flame. Higher prescription rates have come alongside plunging prime-age employment, according to a Cleveland Fed paper out this month: they find that for a 10 percent increase in the prescription rate, local employment rates fell by half a percentage point for men and 0.17 percentage point for women.

"For prime age men, they would imply a reduction in the labor force participation rate of 1.3 percentage points, or 44 percent of the decline from 2001 to 2015," the authors write.

While it's hard to say whether opioid abuse is causing bad labor market outcomes or vice versa, the authors make an argument for the former. They find that short-term increases in unemployment don't push up abuse, and find that both areas with weak and strong labor markets "react equivalently" to bigger exposures to legal opioids.

The result builds on earlier work. For another paper that associates lower participation and opioids, see the 2017 research by Princeton University's Alan Krueger. For a more contrarian take, check out the 2018 Janet Currie piece, which finds no simple tie in that prescriptions drive labor force outcomes

Jeanna Smialek reports for Bloomberg News



CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a Council Zoning Hearing meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 beginning at 6:00 PM, to consider the following amendment to the official zoning map of the City of Doral. The City Council will consider this item for FIRST READING. This meeting will be held at the City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166.

The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE No. 2019-12

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, REQUESTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF DORAL FROM GENERAL USE (GU) DISTRICT TO INSTITUTIONAL PUBLIC PARKS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES (IPF) DISTRICT FOR A +/- 5 ACRE PARCEL LOACTED AT 6255 NW 102 AVENUE, DORAL, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND AN PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

HEARING NO.: 19-01-DOR-07 APPLICANT: City of Doral

PROJECT NAME: Amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Doral

PROJECT OWNERS: City of Doral LOCATION: 6255 NW 102ND Avenue, Doral, Florida

FOLIO NUMBER: 35-3017-001-0360 SIZE OF PROPERTY: ± 5 Acres

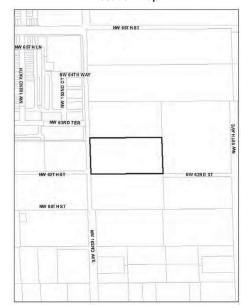
PRESENT LAND USE: Industrial

PRESENT ZONING: General Use

REQUEST: An amendment to the official zoning map of the City of Doral Land Development Code from General Use (GU) to Institutional Public Parks and Public Facilities (IPF). This location will serve as the future site for Glades Park

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 17 53 40 5 AC, FLA FRUIT LANDS CO SUB NO 1, PB 2-17, TR 61 LESS E1/2, F/A/U 30-3017-001-0360.

Location Map



Information relating the subject application is on file and may be examined in the City of Doral. Planning and Zoning Department Located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL. 33166. All persons are invited to appear at this meeting or be represented by an agent, or to express their views in writing addressed to the City Clerk, 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Fl. 33166. Maps and other data pertaining to these applications are available for public inspection during normal business hours in City Hall. Any persons wishing to speak at a public hearing should register with the City Clerk prior to that item being heard. Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes If a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

NOTE: If you are not able to communicate, or are not comfortable expressing yourself, in the English language, it is your responsibility to bring with you an English-speaking interpreter when conducting business at the City of Doral during the zoning application process up to, and including, appearance at a hearing. This person may be a friend, relative or someone else. A minor cannot serve as a valid interpreter. The City of Doral DOES NOT provide interpretation services during the zoning application process or during any quasi-judicial proceeding.

NOTA: Si usted no está en capacidad de comunicarse, o no se siente cómodo al expresarse en inglés, es de su responsabilidad traer un intérprete del idioma inglés cuando trate asuntos públicos o de negocios con la Ciudad de Doral durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación, incluyendo su comparecencia a una audiencia. Esta persona puede ser un amigo, familiar o alguien que le haga la traducción durante su comparecencia a la audiencia. Un menor de edad no puede ser intérprete. La Ciudad de Doral NO suministra servicio de traducción durante ningún procedimiento durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación

Connie Diaz, MMC City Clerk City of Doral 3/13