



MCKINNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

January 15, 2014

To: MEDC Board

From: John Valencia

Director of BRE & ET Programs

Subject: Expansion to the Collide Center Program

It's been an amazing six months at the Collide Center and how it has grown and how many people have heard about what all is going on out there. And all this with very very little promoting or marketing. But that's about to change.

During the month of December, we finally got out broadband Internet all hooked up. In essence, we have "Lit" that place up! One of the primary and key elements of one of these centers is to have access, and lots of it, to bandwidth. Well, we now have it, so this first quarter of 2014 will be even more exciting.

And that is what brings me to share and give you some head's up on an opportunity to expand the program and in particular, the foot print (square footage) and the number of residents, mentors, partners and sponsors. I have been approached by the Executive Director of the North Texas Region Center for Innovation and Commercialization (NTXRCIC) Maria Smith-Brackenridge. Maria and her program are losing their space at UTD and thus are looking for a new home. At this time she has about 18-20 companies of about 40 people total.

Back in August when we first met, she was aware that the need for a new home might come to pass, and it has. So for the last month or so, we have been working on how we (the MEDC Emerging Tech Program and the Collide Center) could help. The quick read is; assimilate them into our program.

At this time, the biggest challenge is space, but we're working it. There are options. Then the other is how to fund it. My suggestion here it to set her program up similar to how we did Curious Complex, add them into the ET Program and then have a Management Agreement as well.

I have much details and her full program to share when the time is right, but again, the purpose here is to give the head's up.