

**Subject:** Erchonia

<http://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/local/2015/07/06/texas-medical-device-firm-considers-move-melbourne/29765999/>

## Texas medical device firm considers move to Melbourne



[Dave Berman](#), FLORIDA TODAY 1:27 p.m. EDT July 6, 2015

### Story Highlights

- Texas medical laser device company Erchonia Corp. may move operations to Melbourne
- Company said it would create at least 35 jobs in Melbourne
- It plans to invest \$5.3 million in the project

A medical equipment company that may move its operations to Melbourne will come before the Brevard County Commission Tuesday seeking financial incentives.

Erchonia Corp. says it is considering building a 20,000-square-foot facility on Digital Light Drive for its medical laser device manufacturing.

Erchonia said it would create at least 35 jobs in Melbourne, paying an average of \$62,000 a year. It plans to invest \$5.3 million in the project, including \$3.3 million on construction and \$2 million on equipment.

Erchonia is seeking property tax breaks from the county of \$24,048 a year for 10 years — a total of \$240,480. During that time span, the facility would generate \$35,453 a year in new tax revenue — a total of \$354,530 over the 10-year period.

The company was founded in 1996 in Denver, and currently is based in McKinney, Texas.

Last year, senior management of Erchonia started to explore the idea of relocation to an eastern United States location "with a desirable business and personal climate for growth," the company said in a memo submitted to Brevard County commissioners. "Brevard County was considered out of a pool of potential sites ... due to its skilled labor pool, high-technology vendors, central location, desirable quality of life and, of course, great weather."

Other sites the company considered included Raleigh and Charlotte, North Carolina; Nashville, Tennessee; Birmingham, Alabama; and Jacksonville.

Erchonia said in its memo to the county that the county tax break "would be of great benefit to our growth and expansion efforts by allowing our company to better leverage its capital to increase efficiency and raise competitiveness, which will, in turn, give us the ability to add to our Brevard County and Florida client base."

The company makes medical lasers for health care and aesthetic applications. It projects to have \$12 million to \$15 million a year in sales.

"Our current and future growth will continue to provide a positive and lasting impact on the Space Coast economy," the company said.

The company said it would hire for a variety of positions, including engineers, technicians and sales staff, and expects to have its Melbourne staff in place in 2016.

The proposed Digital Light Drive site is east of Interstate 95 and south of Sarno Road

Tuesday's County Commission action on Erchonia will be the start of a multiple-step process.

Commissioners will be asked to designate Erchonia as an eligible business for the county's tax abatement program, and to authorizing scheduling a public hearing at a future commission meeting on the tax break itself.

In addition, commissioners will be asked to qualify Erchonia as a "qualified target industry business," which would make it eligible for state tax incentives.

The Brevard County Commission is scheduled discuss the Erchonia Corp. tax abatement during its meeting that begins at 9 a.m. Tuesday at Brevard County Government Center, Building C, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.

Assistant Brevard County Attorney Becky Behl-Hill says County Commissioner Andy Anderson will be able to vote on county tax incentives for Oakridge Global Energy Solutions, a Melbourne lithium batter manufacturer that proposes expanding to a former MC Assembly plant on Kirby Circle Northeast, Palm Bay.

Anderson also is Palm Bay's economic development administrator. But Behl-Hill said in an email to other officials that her opinion is that Anderson can vote as a county commissioner on the issue because his salary as economic development administrator is not tied to whether Oakridge locates in Palm Bay.

Oakridge said it would invest up to \$270 million in Palm Bay, and add 1,000 jobs paying an average of \$50,075 a year.

**Emerging Technology Program - Started: Oct 2009**

**This as of July 1, 2015**

Proj #	Date	Company Name	Emp. #	Est 2015 Payroll	Avg wage	Mo Payment	Months	Investment
9-15	Jan-10	1 Perfectly Green Corp	17	\$ 1,445,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 4,166.67	24	\$ 100,000
10-16	Apr-11	2 Servergy - 1st	0			\$ 4,166.67	24	\$ 100,000
10-17	Oct-11	3 Biscotti	0			\$ 4,166.67	24	\$ 100,000
12-xx DNE	Feb-12	4 Zynga (now Playful)	35	\$ 3,790,000	\$ 108,286	-	0	\$ -
12-04	May-12	5 Sigmetrix	19	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 3,127.00	24	\$ 75,048
12-08	Jun-12	6 Local Hitz	1	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 1,075.00	24	\$ 25,800
12-12	Jun-12	7 CredSystems OOB	0			\$ 2,000.00	8	\$ 16,000
12-18	Jul-12	8 HIE	12	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 2,427.00	8	\$ 19,416
12-09	Feb-13	9 Curious Complex 1st	2	\$ 125,000	\$ 62,500	\$ 950.00	8	\$ 7,600
13-xx	Jun-13	10 Collide/Werx Project	30	\$ 1,750,000	\$ 58,333	\$ 12,190.67	17	\$ 207,241
12-09	Oct-13	11 Curious Complex 2nd	-			\$ 4,144.00	10	\$ 41,440
12-14	Mar-13	12 Adventure Pilot	8	\$ 495,000	\$ 61,875	\$ 425.00	12	\$ 5,100
12-24	Jun-13	13 HealthQuest	0	\$ 1,828,000		\$ 4,166.67	12	\$ 50,000
13-10	Aug-13	14 Boss Fight Ent	0			\$ 2,689.29	12	\$ 32,271
14-05	May-14	15 SureShot Media	0			\$ 1,800.00	12	\$ 21,600
14-11	Jul-14	16 Servergy - 2nd	25	\$ 4,200,000	\$ 168,000	\$ 4,166.67	12	\$ 50,000
14-12	Jul-14	17 Munzee	19	\$ 650,000	\$ 34,211	\$ 4,166.67	12	\$ 50,000
14-13	Jul-14	18 Adelphoi	6	\$ 400,000	\$ 66,667	\$ 3,600.00	12	\$ 43,200
14-15	Dec-14	19 Boss Fight Ent - 2nd	48	\$ 4,080,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 2,689.29	12	\$ 32,271
15-04	Apr-15	20 PestRoutes Media - 2nd	14	\$ 950,000	\$ 67,857	\$ 2,689.00	12	\$ 32,268
15-04	Apr-15	21 PestRoutes, LLC	4	\$ 376,600	\$ 94,150	\$ 1,000.00	12	\$ 12,000
15-xx	Jun-15	22 AssessMD	21	\$ 950,000	\$ 45,238	\$ 4,144.00	12	\$ 49,728

Employees	261	\$ 24,039,600	Program Cost	\$ 1,070,984
Avg wage		\$ 92,106	Per Employee	\$ 4,103
Companies	16			

Color legend:

- Grown Out
- Did not make it
- Pilot Program
- Moved out of Mck
- Active Company



## John Valencia

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**Subject:** FW: Small business funding

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary Graham  
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2015 8:17 AM  
To: 'mike4becky12@yahoo.com'  
Subject: RE: Small business funding

Dear Mr. Phillips,

We completely understand your predicament and feel for you. And you are not alone as I am sure you know from your neighbors. There isn't a business in the Eldorado/75 area and the run from 75/121, north to Bloomdale that hasn't been impacted. Consumers included. We know and knew it was going to be painful. Progress generally is.

Unfortunately the City of McKinney, cannot use tax payer dollars in the way that you have described. The state of Texas has placed legislation, rules and laws on the use of funds and these prohibit using tax payer funds in this manner.

The reconstruction of US 75 is a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) led project, the City has been trying to relay information to business owners and residents as it becomes available in an effort to minimize impacts where possible. The project began in January of 2012 and is planned to be substantially completed by the end of this year. The reconstruction of the Eldorado and US 75 interchange has been painful for the business owners and the traveling public and the City has been encouraging TXDOT to complete this section of work as quickly as possible. The current plan is to have the new Eldorado Bridge open in August.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Gary Graham, PE, PTOE  
CIP & Transportation Engineering Manager City of McKinney  
(972) 547-7438  
[ggraham@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:ggraham@mckinneytexas.org)

-----Original Message-----

From: Samantha Frison  
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 7:59 AM  
To: Gary Graham; Daniel Still  
Subject: FW: Small business funding

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Phillips [<mailto:mike4becky12@yahoo.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 7:06 AM  
To: Construction  
Subject: Small business funding

I am a business owner on Highway 75 and Eldorado. I started my business almost 4 years ago. Things were growing, and sales were up each month for the first 3 years. That all came to a halt about a year ago when the ongoing construction started on 75. We are now losing about 25,000 a month in sales when compared to last year at this time. I haven't been able to take a paycheck in almost a year and we are hurting bad. I need financial help due to this ongoing issue. Our decline is without a doubt, 100% a result of what you guys are doing with the roads. I know that you have funds to assist

in these situations, I do not want to lose my business, and all of my retirement that is invested in this business. Please get back with me and let me know to what extent you can help. Thank you, Mike

**John Valencia**

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**Subject:** FW: U.S. 75 Overnight Closures July 8 and July 9

**From:** Daniel Still **On Behalf Of** Construction  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 08, 2015 3:52 PM  
**To:** Construction  
**Subject:** U.S. 75 Overnight Closures July 8 and July 9

As part of the ongoing TxDOT project to widen U.S. 75 from the Sam Rayburn Tollway (SRT) to White Avenue in McKinney, TxDOT has informed the City of the following closures, both weather permitting:

**U.S. 75 Northbound Main Lanes Closed Tonight, July 8**

TxDOT will close the northbound main lanes of U.S. 75 in McKinney starting at 9 p.m. tonight, July 8, to install new signage. Northbound drivers will be diverted to the frontage road south of Eldorado Parkway then under Eldorado Parkway then through the intersections at Virginia Parkway, White Avenue, and U.S. 380 to the entrance ramp near Bray Central Drive. All lanes are expected to be open again by 5 a.m. tomorrow.

**U.S. 75 Southbound Frontage Road Closed at Virginia Parkway Tomorrow Night, July 9**

TxDOT will close the U.S. 75 southbound frontage road just north of Virginia Parkway starting at 9 p.m. Thursday, July 9, to install an underground drainage pipe. Southbound drivers will be directed to the main lanes by the entrance ramp north of Virginia Parkway then to the exit ramp south of Virginia Parkway. All lanes are expected to be open again by 5 a.m. the following day.

As a reminder, this TxDOT construction project to widen U.S. 75 from the SRT to White Avenue in McKinney to four main lanes in each direction and three frontage road lanes in each direction will provide much needed extra capacity through McKinney. The project is anticipated to be complete in January 2016.

Please be safe when traveling through the work zone and always observe traffic warning signs. If you have any questions, please contact Danny Still at (972) 547-7631 or [dstill@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:dstill@mckinneytexas.org). Thank you for your cooperation.

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**John Valencia**

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**Subject:** FW: Park View Avenue at U.S. 75 to be Closed for Approximately One Month

**From:** Daniel Still **On Behalf Of** Construction  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 07, 2015 2:28 PM  
**To:** Construction  
**Subject:** Park View Avenue at U.S. 75 to be Closed for Approximately One Month

As part of the ongoing TxDOT project to widen U.S. 75 from the Sam Rayburn Tollway (SRT) to White Avenue in McKinney, TxDOT has informed the City of the following closure:

**Park View Avenue at U.S. 75 to be Closed for Approximately One Month Starting Wednesday, July 8**  
Weather permitting, TxDOT will close Park View Avenue directly under U.S. 75 starting Wednesday, July 8, until mid-August to reconstruct Park View Avenue directly under U.S. 75. The new roadway will be elevated slightly, which will lessen the impact of flooding in the future. During the closure, drivers can cross U.S. 75 at Virginia Parkway and Eldorado Parkway. To access the Community Center during the closure, please use the driveway along the northbound frontage road. For questions, please call the Community Center directly at 972-547-2690.

As a reminder, this TxDOT construction project to widen U.S. 75 from the SRT to White Avenue in McKinney to four main lanes in each direction and three frontage road lanes in each direction will provide much needed extra capacity through McKinney. The project is anticipated to be complete in January 2016.

Please be safe when traveling through the work zone and always observe traffic warning signs. If you have any questions, please contact Danny Still at (972) 547-7631 or [dstill@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:dstill@mckinneytexas.org). Thank you for your cooperation.

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**John Valencia**

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**Subject:** FW: U.S. 75 Overnight Closures, June 26

**From:** Matt Sneed  
**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** Construction  
**Subject:** U.S. 75 Overnight Closures, June 26

As part of the ongoing TxDOT project to widen U.S. 75 from the Sam Rayburn Tollway (SRT) to White Avenue in McKinney, TxDOT has informed the City of the following overnight closure, weather permitting:

**Sam Rayburn Tollway (SRT) Ramp to U.S. 75 Northbound Closure Tonight, June 26**

TxDOT will close the connector ramp from the northbound SRT to northbound US 75 main lanes starting at 10:00 pm tonight, June 26, until 1:00 am. Northbound SRT drivers will be diverted onto the northbound US 75 frontage road then continue underneath Eldorado Parkway to the next northbound entrance ramp near Rockhill Road.

**U.S. 75 Southbound Frontage Road Closure Tonight, June 26**

TxDOT will close the southbound frontage road between North Brook Parkway and Eldorado Parkway starting at 11:00 pm tonight, June 26, to install overhead signs along the frontage road. Drivers intending to head south along US 75 should use the southbound entrance ramp north of Virginia Parkway and travel the southbound main lanes, or find alternate routes. All lanes are scheduled to be open again by 3:00 am tomorrow.

As a reminder, this TxDOT construction project to widen U.S. 75 from the SRT to White Avenue in McKinney to four main lanes in each direction and three frontage road lanes in each direction will provide much needed extra capacity through McKinney. The project is anticipated to be complete in January 2016.

Please be safe when traveling through the work zone and always observe traffic warning signs. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Sneed at (972) 547-2634 or [msneed@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:msneed@mckinneytexas.org). Thank you for your cooperation.

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## John Valencia

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**Subject:** FW: U.S. 75 Overnight Closure, June 24

**From:** Matt Sneed  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2015 4:21 PM  
**Subject:** U.S. 75 Overnight Closure, June 24

As part of the ongoing TxDOT project to widen U.S. 75 from the Sam Rayburn Tollway (SRT) to White Avenue in McKinney, TxDOT has informed the City of the following overnight closure, weather permitting:

**U.S. 75 Northbound and Southbound Main Lane Closure Tonight, June 24**

TxDOT will close the northbound and southbound main lanes of U.S. 75 beneath Eldorado Parkway starting at 9 p.m. tonight, June 24, to pour concrete for the new Eldorado Parkway Bridge. Northbound drivers will be diverted to the frontage road south of Eldorado Parkway then along the frontage road to the entrance ramp near Rockhill Road. Southbound drivers will be diverted to the frontage road near Rockhill Road then under Eldorado Parkway then along the frontage road to the entrance ramp south of Ridgeview Drive. All lanes are scheduled to be open again by 5 a.m. tomorrow.

As a reminder, this TxDOT construction project to widen U.S. 75 from the SRT to White Avenue in McKinney to four main lanes in each direction and three frontage road lanes in each direction will provide much needed extra capacity through McKinney. The project is anticipated to be complete in January 2016.

Please be safe when traveling through the work zone and always observe traffic warning signs. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Sneed at (972) 547-2634 or [msneed@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:msneed@mckinneytexas.org). Thank you for your cooperation.

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