



MCKINNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

June 15, 2012

To: MEDC Board

From: John Valencia

Director of BRE & ET Programs

Subject: June 19, 2012 MEDC Board Meeting; BREP Report/Update

MEDC General Activity on my Desk

Since last we met, it seems that my time has been spent on much follow up (BREP projects and ET companies) and listening. The listening part has come in the form of communicating the 75 construction project to the business and property owners along the “work zone”. The Mayor’s Office, along with the City Manager and his Traffic Control Team has engaged me, in part due to my BREP role, in helping the communication effort. Since this is a TXDOT project there isn’t a lot the City has control over, but we can certainly be a conduit for getting the word out and being an extra set of ears in listening to them, as they have to deal with it each and every day at a very intimate level! There is “pain in the progress”... but at least we are letting them know someone is there for them to communicate directly.

I joined my first joint session between the Council and the MEDC Board which was a good experience. I trust in the future, these will continue on a regular basis.

In general there is a lot of activity here at the MEDC. Following is a brief update in the particular areas of work

BREP

During this calendar year there have been five BREP designated proposals to the Board. Of these, one is in progress, two are pending and two did not qualify. (Specific details and new opportunities will be discussed in Executive Session)

In the past 30 days, I have made 22 direct BREP related contacts in our community.

Emerging Technology

A number of our past and recent Emerging Technology companies are one by one... getting going, getting moved in, rescheduling and in one case, falling out. We have been kept busy getting all the legal documents in order and the processes in place.

Of the nine presented to the Board this calendar year, here is their status: 4 fully engaged; 2 are delayed and rescheduling; 2 did not make the vetting process and one fell out. (Specific details and new opportunities will be discussed in Executive Session)

McKinney Connect (previously known as: Project McKinney Turbo Wi-Fi)

This project has become a bit more challenging than first thought. And the main reason is, there are so many moving parts! At the May Board meeting during discussion on this topic, I was asked to prepare a scope of work, so that the board would have a better understanding of what the project actually was and what the objectives were. The following, titled: *Project McKinney Turbo Wi-Fi* was initial information about what the project was about and dated August 11, 2011. In working it, over the past 6 months, it's evolving a bit different. A draft "scope of work" will be presented during the Executive Session for review and comment.

Project McKinney Turbo Wi-Fi

Goal: Bring super high speed internet access using "Line of Sight" technology to our Commercial sector, McKinney will become the fastest internet city in North Texas for commercial users

Action: Bring together a small committee to research the possibilities and feasibilities

Suggested Possible Members:

Two from MEDC Board?

Dep. City Mgr.?

Dir. Of Public Works Dept.?

City IT Director?

Non-conflicted wireless technology expert(s)?

MEDC Staff

Current Research

- *There were 879 [Wi-Fi](#) based WISPs in the [Czech Republic](#) as of May 2008,^{[4][5]} making it the country with most [Wi-Fi](#) access points in the whole [EU](#).^{[6][7]}*

- Typically, the way that a WISP operates is to pull a large and usually expensive point to point connection to the center of the area they wish to service. From here, they will need to find some sort of elevated point in the region, such as a radio or water tower, on which to mount their equipment. The WISP may also connect to a PoP ([Point of Presence](#)) and then backhaul to their towers, reducing the need to pull a point to point connection to the tower.
- Licensed Microwave service has been used since the 1960s to transmit very large amounts of data. The [AT&T Long Lines](#) coast to coast backbone in the USA was largely carried over a chain of microwave towers. These systems have been largely using 3700-4200 MHz and 5000-6200 MHz. The 5 GHz band was even known as the "common carrier" band. This service typically was prohibitively expensive to be used for Local Loop, and was used for backbone networks. In the 80s and 90s it flourished under the growth of cell towers. This growth spurred research in this area, and as the cost continues to decline, it is being used as an alternative to T-1, T-3, and fiber connectivity.
- "Line of Sight" Wi-Fi technology from tall structures can possibly bring 1 Gig download and 1 Gig upload speed.
- There are approximately 8 tall structures in Mckinney including City Elevated Water Towers, Church Steeples, and Airport Control Tower to utilize

Abby and I continue work hard and promote our wonderful community. These are exciting times and we are blessed to be a part of McKinney!

Respectfully Submitted,

John Valencia

Director of

Business Retention, Expansion & Emerging Technology

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