

August 12, 2016

EDC Seeks “Fiber Ready” Certification for Locust Business Park

Stanly County EDC staff has reached out to officials with AT&T to secure a “fiber ready” certification for the Meadow Creek Business Park in Locust.

The designation identifies a business or industrial park as a location where AT&T has high-speed fiber infrastructure in place and is ready to deliver advanced services.

The “fiber ready” branding enhances the marketability of the site and ensures fiber optic facilities are immediately available to assist prospective businesses who demand access to faster upload and download speeds for data intense files and programs.

Staff will keep the Board posted as the designation/certification process moves forward.

Livestock Arena Planning Update

Construction documents and material specification worksheets have been finalized for the proposed livestock arena at the Agri-Civic Center. This information will be utilized by the community based planning committee to help secure private funding and in-kind donations for the project.

The planning committee plans to immediately begin the process of raising public awareness and soliciting contributions to offset the projected \$1 million cost.

It is anticipated the process of securing private funds and in-kind donations will take approximately 90 to 120 days. Once complete, all material and in-kind service donations will be incorporated into the bid documents. As such, it is likely the project will be ready for bid in late 2016.

Plan Review Timeliness Improves

The County’s Inspections Department has significantly improved the timeliness of commercial plan review since hiring additional staff to meet growing demand in April 2016.

County’s goal has been to review 90% of commercial plans within ten (10) business days or less. However, beginning in April 2015, the County’s performance began to dip significantly due to an increased volume of commercial development.

The County reduced staff during the recession but had not hired any additional staff when the local economy and commercial development began to improve. As such, the County’s performance declined. Only an average of 70.5% of plans were reviewed in 10 business days or less during the twelve (12) month period from April 2015 through March 2016.

However, since hiring additional staff in April 2016, the County is once again meeting the performance target of 90%. More importantly in the past three (3) months no less than 95% of commercial plans have been reviewed in 10 business days or less.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Regular Board Meeting	Tuesday, September 6 7:00 PM Commons Meeting Room
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