



Board Bulletin

February 28, 2014

Economic Development Update

Active Projects – The current number of active projects is twenty-five (25). There were no additional active projects in the past 30 days.

There were two (2) additional projects added to the suspect list during the past 30 days. The suspect leads were generated by the Charlotte Regional Partnership and a local economic development ally.

There were a total of four (4) meetings and/or site visits with prospective businesses or existing industries in the past 30 days.

Other Initiatives/Activities

- Individuals can now follow the activities and initiatives of the EDC on Twitter @StanlyCountyEDC.
- EDC staff attended the Stanly County Manager’s Association meeting on February 11.
- On February 27, the EDC hosted its initial breakfast series event in partnership with Stanly Community College and the Chamber of Commerce. At total of 75 individuals attend the event which focused on tools to assist businesses with navigating the zoning and permitting process.
- On March 5, EDC officials will be meeting with representatives from Piedmont Natural Gas to discuss strategies for extending natural gas service along the US 52 corridor from Albemarle to Misenheimer.

Year-to-Date EDC Performance Data

Indicator	July '12-Feb '13	July '13-Feb '14
Active projects	18	25
Suspect leads	19	30
Projects announced	0	4
New jobs	0	102
Capital investment (millions)	\$0	\$8.94
Unemployment rate	9.3%	6.2%

Capital & Special Projects Update

Below please find a summary of activity as it relates to several on-going capital projects:

1. **Tarheel ChalleNGe Academy** – MBAJ/Boomerang Design was selected as the architect for the project. Structural and mechanical engineering as well as food service assessments have been initiated. It is anticipated the project will be designed and ready to bid by summer 2014.
2. **Oakboro Sewer Plant Acquisition** – The LGC will consider the County’s application for purchase and loan assumption on March 4. The County is working toward an acquisition closing date of March 28.
3. **Emergency Radio System** – Survey and site design work is being finalized for the Norwood, Locust and Tuckertown sites.

Site grading is anticipated to commence in late spring/early summer. Initially, grading was scheduled to start in the early spring. However, the process of land acquisition has been delayed by the FAA, NC DENR and historic properties review process.
4. **Fiber/Broadband Study** – The County is working with a consultant on a study to explore a lateral fiber build to connect Stanly County to MCNC’s open access fiber backbone in Cabarrus County. The study was initiated in an effort to explore opportunities for public-private fiber infrastructure collaboration, to support education and strengthen economic development opportunities.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Regular Board Meeting	Monday, March 3 7:00 PM Commons Meeting Room
COG Connect Forum	Wednesday, March 12 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Agri-Civic Center