



eCommunity Alabama Jobs Open House

Tuesday, August 30, 2011 - 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex

Trillion Community Corporation - BTOP Grant No. 5723 South Central Alabama Broadband Commission Comprehensive Community Infrastructure

Tony Shackleford A2D - The purpose of this project is to: 1) Create Jobs; 2) Empower individuals in Technology; 3) Take Tuskegee to the World. We also want to stimulate the economy.

Brian Watkins - Presented a Power Point

Six (6) communities in the coverage map will have home connectivity. This includes: voice, video, and data (or phone, cable and internet access). This will have community service provider connections for Community-Based contacts with 884 Anchor Institutions. The list of these institutions will be made available soon, through eCommunity Alabama and the City of Tuskegee Trillion will be the network operator. None of the team members will sell service to the community.

Keith Wholes A2D - We are looking for "Shovel Ready" workers for the jobs available. Specific jobs include: Electricians and Low Voltage Workers. There will be 240 jobs in construction, then you can add the Network Operations and Administration jobs. We are looking for a Project Manager. Later there will be Customer Care jobs.

The 3 Companies providing jobs during the Construction period are: **BBC, Global Services** and **A2D**. They will break ground in 2 -3 weeks (September 2011).

Question and Answer Period:

You are laying 2,200 miles of Fiber. Will this be along existing roadways or will you be constructing new roadways? Existing Roadways only.

Will this be available in the City of Tuskegee and the County?

Yes, the City includes the Anchor Institutions and the Last Mile Institutions. Outlying areas in the County will not be covered at this time, however we are working to cover every household in Macon County. Additional funding must be invested first.

You should look at the fiber as a utility, because it is always there. This is a unique business model. We can create a mold to take to other areas. Senator Kerry has a bill before Congress right now to fund Infrastructure projects like this one.

Do ISP's (Internet Service Providers) go away because of this? Or do they just reduce their charges to the customer?

We do not cause either of these to take place. This project expands your choices as a customer and creates better competition.

Do the Phases on the Map correspond to the scheduling of the project?

Yes, but there will be simultaneous construction projects taking place, in different counties.

Is this Intranet connected to other networks?

Yes, we are connecting to NET 23 out of Selma, AL. This gives you access to any services or locations worldwide.

Will this be a model for the rest of the United States?

Yes

5 Links is in Tuskegee for ISP connection. Will **5** Links be a competitor to this service?

No, because we are not an ISP. We met with 5 Links not long ago. They are actually ISP resellers.

Regarding those looking for Employment - Can Macon County workers be hired and work in other counties also?

Those hired to work in the Network Operations Center can only come from the County in which it resides. However for construction jobs, yes. They can work in any county.

Does this Network cause health problems?

None at all. For those with Charter Cable, it is already in the homes. This is not new technology. We are just putting the control of the Network in the hands of the community. After that you can choose your own offerings.

What is the longevity of the system?

This is a 50 years plus network. With phone lines, the copper wire degrades because of the electricity passing over it and the heat build up. The fiber is using light. You can add more electronics to the network to increase speed, but fiber can take it.

What are the number of jobs to be created at the Research Facility?

We don't have a number yet. We are working with Tuskegee University to establish the space size and the jobs needed to operate.

Is this network the same as the original Sprint network?

Yes

Will the Macon County Public Housing Areas and Centers be included?

Some counties include the Public Housing, but we will have to check on Macon County. We are not sure, but there is a high potential that it is. We will have the complete list by the end of the week.

Will there be assistance provided to complete job applications?

Yes, the City of Tuskegee, along with the Tuskegee University Continuing Education Department will provide a community worksession for those completing applications. We will not let the job application be a barrier to your employment.

Is there a deadline for the Applications to be turned in? There is none at this time. Only the Contractors will set a deadline. However, hiring begins immediately, so don't hesitate.

How were the 8 counties chosen?

We had 45 days to create a plan to cover 75 thousand households and it was moved to the Census Block coverage. They needed a starting point with communities that needed access to Public Resources. This is a direct result of President Obama's plan to expand Broadband to those that did not have access. The Federal Government needed to see how the community could have access and be able to choose their own resources.

It as moved from 7 states to 8 counties in one state. Highway 80 will emerge from the digital divide. When the construction is complete, we will send people in the homes to teach people how to use this new technology.

When do the jobs begin?

Construction for Macon County begins in September 2011.