

IDB Discuss Wacker and Exit 20 Industrial Park Progress

by Tonya Brantley

The Cleveland / Bradley Industrial Development Board held their regular monthly meeting on September 22, 2009. The following are highlights from that meeting.

Vice President of Economic Development, Doug Berry updated the board on the progress being made with the TVA / Wacker Keep Whole Agreement which will provide funding for a power line project. The agreement is with, TVA, Wacker, the State of Tennessee and the Industrial Development Board. The Industrial Development Board will only serve as a facilitator of payments and will not have any financial responsibility related to the timely payment of grant fund reimbursements between the State and TVA. The funding is pass through money from the State to TVA. The turn around time for the money is ten days. Berry informed the board

that legal council from Wacker indicated that there should not be any problems. *Update on Wacker project:* The company will be known locally as Wacker Poly LLC. A web site has been created along with contact information at www.wacker.com/tennessee and can also be accessed through the Chamber of Commerce web site. There will be a year of planning, design and permitting. Construction will start in 2010 and will be a three year process. The industrial access road is an 18-24 month process. The whole project will not be complete for at least four years. All projects are being time lined and a construction schedule will be released once all is determined. Wacker has ordered a sign which has been placed on the site for displaying the future home of Wacker and will be lit by solar power.

Berry also updated the board on the progress of the Coca Cola Payment In Lieu

Of Taxes (PILOT). According to Berry, the State has finally approved the grant process paperwork and everything seems to be falling into place. Activity will begin relative to infrastructure improvements and expansion.

Berry updated the board on the progress of the proposed Exit 20 Industrial Park. He has met with the property owners in the area and has gone over the appraisals and will be working with them in order to get mutually acceptable appraisals in place and get pricing back to them so they can proceed. Once the core property appraisal is initiated, Berry said he will then speak with the adjoining property owners.

All of the documents have been approved and contracts signed for the Local Interchange Connector (LIC) off of APD-40. A coordinating meeting is slated to be scheduled with the City of Cleveland so organization of the project

can begin. The first phase of the project includes the relocation of Stone Lake Road and construction of slip ramps at the entrance and exit ramps on the SE quadrant of the new interchange slated to be constructed on APD-40. President of the Cleveland / Bradley Chamber of Commerce, Gary Farlow informed the board that the ramps are scheduled to be open by 2012. Farlow mentioned that the design for the LIC is funded but the construction is not and he will be working with local legislators to make sure that the money is available in the next fiscal year budget.

A Public Hearing is scheduled on October 8, 2009 from 5pm to 7pm at the Chamber of Commerce meeting room to discuss and review the Interchange Plan.

The board discussed the maintenance of the industrial parks. They would like to get the areas cleaned up of trash and brush to pro-

vide better visibility to show prospective industries.

The Cleveland / Bradley Industrial Development Board will hold their next meeting on November 10,

2009 at 8am at the offices of the board at the Cleveland / Bradley Chamber of Commerce located at 225 Keith Street.

The meeting is open to the public.

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