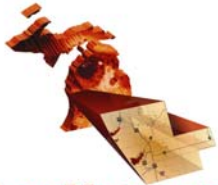


LinkMuskegon Would Like Input From the Small Business Community on Broadband Connectivity Issues:



As you may be aware, the State of Michigan (Michigan Economic Development Corporation) has awarded Muskegon, Barry-Ionia-Kent, and Ottawa Counties, among others, grants to develop a Broadband Connectivity Plan by May 2003. The objectives of the planning include: 1) identify current and future user needs, 2) identify availability, cost and location of existing providers' services, and 3) create a connectivity plan that will bridge the identified gaps.

To assist in the plan development, we would like to get input from the small business community on broadband connectivity needs, issues, key players, barriers, and opportunities, as well as feedback on your experiences. Your interest and experience in working with broadband connectivity issues will make your input invaluable to this process!

FOCUS GROUP MEETING:

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2003

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Location: Muskegon Community College, Stevenson Center, Room 1118.

Agenda:

- 1) Overview of the LinkMichigan planning process and schedule
- 2) Broadband (BB) connectivity questions such as:
 - What does BB connectivity mean to you (what works, does not work)?
 - How can BB access improve small businesses, reduce costs, provide efficiencies, etc.?
 - How could affordable BB access impact the community small business system?
 - How can small business entities collaborate on technology applications to create a seamless small business system?
 - If you could change one connectivity issue, what would it be?
 - With BB connectivity, what impacts, changes, benefits might you see/realize?

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important and timely project.

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Please fax this form back to Eduardo Bedoya (724-6593)

Company Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Phone:** _____

Number of People Attending: _____

For additional information please contact Eduardo Bedoya at 231.724.6485, or via e-mail at bedoyaed@co.muskegon.mi.us.