

ANSON COUNTY
E-COMMUNITY PLAN

May, 2002

**ANSON COUNTY
E-COMMUNITIES PLAN
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ANSON E-COMMUNITIES PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Anson County E-Communities Steering Committee has found in its public awareness and research efforts that the consciousness of and readiness for broadband Internet access and more interactive use of the World Wide Web is more widespread in Anson County than a typical Tier 2 County. The various surveys showed an average of 82.7 percent of respondents own or plan to purchase a computer. However, the surveys also showed that many Ansonians are not fully aware of the many resources available on-line to meet everyday needs and enrich their lives.

Anson County is in a state of transition. Its business community has historically been centered around agri-business and manufacturing, primarily textiles, but its future will be much more diverse. The downward trend in textiles has contributed to the need for this transition. The new close security state prison planned to open in October 2003 will also help to steer this transition. There is an ever-growing move toward small entrepreneurial businesses and the need/desire to work from home.

The Steering Committee conducted a comprehensive inventory of the current technology resources and assets in the county and surrounding areas. The committee used information from the RIAA Citizen Survey by East Carolina University, the Parent Teacher Organizations of all elementary schools, and a survey conducted at the Steering Committee-hosted Rural Internet Fair. They compiled all this information along with data from many other sources including the Anson County Comprehensive Plan 2021 and the Community Outreach Plan 2000 to determine the needs, goals and implementation activities for each of the four Mini-Plans.

There has been little outside funding for activities, equipment, facilities, connectivity and people to provide the technology training and resources in Anson County. Often funding has come from existing budgets, local contributions and even fund-raising initiatives that count on small amounts from many people. The Steering Committee did uncover several possible funding resources for future activities. The committee members are also very experienced and adept at seeking grant funding.

The Steering Committee feels that if people are afforded the opportunity to experience and understand something, they will be more likely to accept, apply and benefit from it. With that in mind the committee intends to see that each citizen be provided an appropriate place to “experience” first hand the digital world and to obtain effective, appropriate digital literacy training so that the benefits can be realized personally, professionally and collectively. The Steering Committee understands that technology is the means not the end and that Web applications providing the information, resources and interactions necessary for Anson County businesses and individuals to realize their full potential must be made accessible. The committee further realizes that this will require application development and extensive deployment of affordable broadband Internet access. The four Mini-Plans address these goals and visions.

COUNTY PROFILE

Anson County is a mixture of contrasts. It is a combination of traditional values and technological energy. It is a population that is proud of its heritage and yet is on the cusp of being a digital society. It is comprised of diverse but complimentary communities. Its citizens have a strong work ethic, but they are looking forward to the ways technology will make their lives easier and richer. Anson’s business community has historically been centered around agri-business and manufacturing, primarily textiles, but its future promises to be much more varied.

Demographics

There are seven cities/towns in Anson County: Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro. The county seat and largest incorporated area is Wadesboro. Below is a table of the population statistics from the 2000 census:

	County	Ansonville	Lilesville	McFarlan	Morven	Peachland	Polkton	Wadesboro
Population	25,275	636	459	89	579	554	1195	3552
% County Population	68.1%	2.5%	1.8%	0.3%	2.3%	2.2%	4.7%	14.0%
Households	9,204	242	186	38	207	198	297	1,393
% Pop. In Households	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	66%	95%

The following conclusions and facts are illustrated in the population statistics:

- The majority of the population, 94 percent, resides in households.
- The majority of the population, 68.1 percent, resides in unincorporated areas.
- There are two nursing homes in Wadesboro that affect the amount of population in households.
- There are two detention facilities in Polkton that affect the amount of population in households.

The Hispanic population is minimal in Anson County for two reasons:

- The job market does not have the hands-on manufacturing or agriculture jobs typically held by Hispanics.
- There is a lack of affordable housing .

The workforce of Anson County is 10,310. The county’s economic situation directly reflects its historical dependency on textiles and agriculture as shown in the following statistics from the 2000 Census:

- Overall Per Capita Income \$9,402
 - White \$12,256
 - African-American \$6,312
 - Hispanic \$4,793
- Median Household Income \$21,836
- Median Family Income \$25,838

- Unemployment Rate 11.6 % currently (EDIS - 2001 Annual rate 9.8%)

The Educational Attainment, according to EDIS, is:

- 1990 Percentage of High School Graduates 60.84%
- 1990 Percentage of College Graduates 7.34%
- 2000 Enrollment in K-8 2,938
- 2000 Enrollment in 9-12 1,155
- Average SAT Score 869
- High School Dropout Rate (1998-99) 7.8% (from Rural Economic Development Ctr)
- Percentage of illiterate Adults 39.2%

Other key indicators are:

- E-Rate Discount System 81%
- Anson Challenge Academy 90%
- Anson High School 70%
- Anson Middle School 80%
- Ansonville Elementary School 90%
- Lilesville Elementary School 80%
- Morven Elementary School 90%
- Peachland-Polkton Elementary School 80%
- Wadesboro Elementary School 90%
- Wadesboro Primary School 90%
- County Economic Development Tier Designation 2
- Property Tax Rate \$0.87 per \$100 value (EDIS)

Key descriptors include:

- 536.83 Square miles (EDIS).
- There is no direct access to an Interstate highway.
- Two U.S. Highways.
- Four N.C. Highways.
- Two Rail Systems.
- Anson County Airport has a 5,500 foot runway, offers service from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Anson County Transportation (ACTS) provides public transportation including transportation to medical care for seniors and others in need.

Utility Service factors are:

- Alltel is the local exchange telephone service provider (ILEC - Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier). There are no competitors (CLEC – Competitive Local Exchange Carrier).
- There are three ISPs (Internet Service Providers) offering dial up Internet Access. They are CompuServ, PeeDee World and VNET. Alltel offers very limited ADSL Internet access, but plans to expand the service area. Dasia.Net provides wireless Internet access in 80 percent of the county and Trellis plans to offer wireless service in the County. VNET and Alltel offer dedicated Internet Access. Alltel does not provide ISDN service in the county so there is no ISDN Internet access available. Additional information is included in a chart in Attachment B.
- Electricity service is provided by CP&L, PeeDee EMC, Union EMC, and Duke Energy.

The only proposed industry expansion is a new 1,000-bed close security prison to be completed by October 2003. Small entrepreneurial businesses, especially in the service industry, are becoming more prevalent throughout Anson County.

A summary of the RIAA Local Government Survey shows the following about Anson County Government:

- 300 employees.
- 115 computers.
- 75 percent of employees have access to computers and email.
- T-1 Internet access from the N.C. State ITS.
- A web site www.co.anson.nc.us that provides information on all departments and includes an interactive Online Tax Inquiry System.
- IT Department.
- Servers that house applications for Web, Remote Access, Databases, Email, File and Print.

Technology Profile

The Anson E-Communities Steering Committee used information from three separate surveys to assess the existing situation and determine the technology/digital needs of the county. The surveys used were: RIAA Citizen Survey by ECU, a county conducted survey at PTO meetings, and a survey conducted at the Rural Internet Fair sponsored by the Steering Committee. Below is a brief summary of the information gathered in the surveys. The detailed compilation of the surveys is included in Attachment A.

- An overall average of 82.7 percent of persons surveyed own or plan to purchase a computer.
- The reasons people do not own computers or use the Internet are primarily because they do not have a good understanding of the technology and/or its usefulness. People either did not see the value or were concerned about privacy or children misusing.

- The top four uses of a computer in the home, in order of “votes” are:
 - Email/Communication 58% composite average
 - Games 52% composite average
 - Word Processing 51% composite average
 - School Assignments/Educ. 43% composite average
- The top four uses of Internet access in the home, in order of “votes” are:
 - Email/Communication 54% composite average
 - Search for Information 44% composite average
 - News, Weather, Sports 34% composite average
 - Educational Research 35% composite average
- An average of 24 percent of respondents stated they do not have Internet access at home.

The RIAA Net Readiness Survey showed (on a scale of 1 to 4) that Anson County citizens have the following opinions about their county:

	Anson	NC
Residential Availability	1.25	1.28
Commercial Availability	1.42	1.33
Wired and fixed wireless	0.83	0.77
Voice and data wireless providers	1.75	1.34
Network services (business)	1.25	1.03
Network services (government)	0.83	0.70
Network services (grades 1-12)	1.17	1.18
Network services (colleges)	0.83	0.91
Network services (healthcare)	0.92	0.75
Network services (Homes)	1.17	1.03
Internet Usage (business)	1.58	0.96
Internet Usage (government)	1.58	0.94
Internet Usage (grades 1-12)	1.08	0.99
Internet Usage (colleges)	1.17	1.15
Internet Usage (healthcare)	0.92	0.17
Internet Usage (organizations)	0.92	0.84
Community influence on innovation	0.33	0.46
Workforce Improvement Rate	1.00	0.86
Consumers and e-commerce	1.33	1.17
Public Internet access	1.08	0.50
Internet security practices	1.00	0.68
Internet privacy practices	0.92	0.60
Addressing connectedness issues	0.92	0.45

Although the usage of computers and Internet is higher than might be expected for a Tier 2 rural community, it is still evident in the study results that Ansonians are not fully aware of the following:

- The resources that are available on-line to meet everyday needs and enrich their lives, such as:
 - Medical information.

- Genealogy information.
- Maps/directions.
- Phone numbers/addresses.
- Government information (County, IRS, ESCNC).
- Employment.
- On-line courses.
- There are devices and software that can make shopping and doing business on-line more secure.
- There are ISPs and software vendors that offer safeguards for children using the Internet.
- There are tools that help with research.
- What is available or being done locally to use and make available technology.

Technology Resources

The Steering Committee, because of its diverse composition, was able to conduct a comprehensive inventory of the current technology resources and assets in the county and surrounding areas. A spreadsheet showing specific information under three categories (Computer and Internet Access, Internet Resources, Training and On-Line Resources) is provided in Attachment B. A summary of the inventory is below:

- There are 32 computer labs for public or student access in the county:
 - South Piedmont Community College has 13.
 - Anson County School System has 17.
 - Burnsville Center has one.
 - Bridge Over Troubled Waters center has one.
 - Hampton B. Allen Public Library has one.
- There are three Internet Public Access Points:
 - SPCC has two (with 18 computers total).
 - Library has one (with 7 computers).
- Seven county entities have broadband Internet access. They are:
 - Anson County government.
 - South Piedmont Community College.
 - Anson County School system (3 Mbps at system office, T-1 at each school).
 - Hampton B. Allen Library.
 - N.C. Cooperative Extension Service.
 - Anson Community Hospital.
 - Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.
- Anson County Schools has approximately 400 administrative computers and 1,000 for student use.
- Many county organizations/entities/departments provide email addresses for their faculty/staff/members, including:
 - South Piedmont Community College.
 - Anson County government.
 - Anson County Schools.
 - Hampton B. Allen Library.
 - Anson Community Hospital.
 - N.C. Cooperative Extension Service.
 - Burnsville Center.

Bridge Over Trouble Waters.
Anson Baptist Association.
Anson County Department of Social Services.
Anson County Health Department.

- Several entities either provide or help obtain email for students and the general public, including:
 - South Piedmont Community College.
 - Anson County Schools.
 - Hampton B. Allen Library.
 - Burnsville Center.
 - Bridge Over Troubled Waters.
 - SPCC's Small Business Center.
- Many local entities provide links to associated local sites, some provide links to non-local sites.
- SPCC offers on-line courses using Blackboard Course Info software adopted by the N.C. Community College System.
- SPCC will have a distance learning site at its new Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. It will have a T-1 from the N.C. Information Highway network
- Several local entities provide training in technology and/or Internet use, including:
 - South Piedmont Community College – technology and Internet use for students and the public.
 - Anson County Schools – technology and Internet use for student competency.
 - Anson County Schools for parents (A one-year grant was received to build a model program for training parents in technology and Internet use at Wadesboro Primary [K-2]. The system plans to continue and expand the program).
 - Hampton B. Allen Library – limited technology and Internet use for the public.
 - SPCC Small Business Center – technology for small business owners, managers or prospective owners.
 - N.C. Cooperative Extension Service – on-line Cyber Camp offered throughout the state and promoted by the local office.
 - All of the above entities provide technology and Internet use training for their faculty/staff.
- Anson County Schools and South Piedmont Community College both offer on-line resources and homework assistance:
 - SPCC provides access to NC Live.
 - SPCC provides Smart Thinking on-line and PLATO software in its labs.
 - Anson County Schools provides access to Wise Owl.
 - Anson County Schools developed a homework assistance portal and makes it available on many of its school sites.
- There are three ISPs in nearby counties that provide extensive on-line training on technology, including:
 - Integrity On-line.
 - Perigee.
 - Trellis.

- Wingate University in neighboring Union County (Wingate is approximately 22 miles from the Anson County Courthouse in downtown Wadesboro) provides Internet access and training, technology training, NC Live, and multiple on-line resources for its students. Wingate worked closely with Alltel to provide ADSL Internet access in its dormitories so that existing wiring could be used. This resulted in substantial savings for the university.
- There are none of the following in Anson County:
 - Fiber rings.
 - SBTDCs.
 - Incubator facilities.
 - ISDN Internet access.
 - Cable modem Internet access (except a small area in Wadesboro).
- The county developed the 2021 Comprehensive Plan and published it in January 2002. Much of the information in this county profile was pulled from that Plan. Many of the actions outlined in the Mini-Plans that follow are built on the goals and strategies of the Comprehensive Plan. Below is an excerpt from the Planning Element for Economic Development of the Comprehensive Plan:

Summary of Existing Conditions

>Statistics indicate that there is a need to improve the basic skills of the Anson labor force to make it more competitive in the region and the world.

>The county is undergoing a shift from a manufacturing-based workforce toward a service industry base. It is important to prepare the county's workforce for this shift.

Goals

>Improve Job Training by taking full advantage of existing opportunities and programs (i.e. Community College).

>Ensure that adequate regulatory controls are in place to promote economic development while protecting quality of life.

>Provide Financial Incentives and Government Partnerships to encourage new growth, and foster expansion of existing business.

>Work to improve and/or solidify high tech infrastructure (improve high-speed data and audio transfers through cable, T-1, or DSL lines). Become competitive in the recruitment of "high tech" industries.

>Address the availability of infrastructure for future growth (water, sewer, intermodal transportation, etc.).

>Continue to build on existing strengths (agri-business, etc.).

>Prepare students to enter the workforce.

>Recapture students who have left Anson County for college education.

Technological preparation of the workforce and the county's infrastructure were both singled out as important goals.

The county is preparing an economic development "course of action" based on this Comprehensive Plan and other existing factors.

Regional Initiatives

- Adjacent Union County has established a task force to develop a plan to attract filmmakers to Union County.
- Anson shares South Piedmont Community College with Union County.
- The NC TechForce initiative grew out of the Rural Internet Access Authority and the e-NC initiative. SPCC established a NC TechForce Chapter for its service area of Anson and Union counties and currently has the largest NC TechForce Chapter in the state with 72 members and still growing. SPCC has encouraged local high school students to join its chapter of NC TechForce or to form a platoon at their high schools with the college's support. At present students from Anson High School and the Union County Career Center are members of the SPCC NC TechForce Chapter. Students in the NC TechForce Chapter at SPCC have assisted at the Rural Internet Fair held at the Burnsville Family and Recreation Center in Anson County, the Union County Job Fair held at the Monroe Mall, and the Blooming Arts Festival held in downtown Monroe in Union County. Upcoming projects include building computers for a new computer lab in Anson County, and designing and wiring a LAN at Monroe Christian Academy, as well as building the computers for the lab.

Funding

Unfortunately there has been little outside funding for activities, equipment, facilities, connectivity and people to provide the technology training and resources needed by Anson County. Funding often comes from existing budgets, local contributions and even fund raising initiatives that count on small amounts from many people.

Much of the funding has come from creative “double use” of facilities, initiatives and people. Good examples of this are the programs offered by South Piedmont Community College:

- For the unemployed – free evening classes in “Computer Skills for the Workplace” (offered at Greene Street location in Wadesboro and at the Burnsville Family Learning and Recreation Center).
- Small Business Center – seminars on computer skills and Internet use with a low registration fee (\$5).
- Continuing Education classes -- Non-credit \$55 - \$65
- Learning Resources Center at the Polkton Campus:
 - One-on-one assistance using Internet and NC Live.
 - Public access location.

Anson County Schools did obtain a one-year federal grant to build a model program to train parents on technology and Internet use. The program is being offered at Wadesboro Primary, a K-2 school. The system is planning to continue and expand the program.

The Burnsville Learning and Recreation Center is a community center in the Burnsville Township that was established primarily on the initiative and determination of one woman, Carol Smith. Carol raised the funds to establish the community center. She saw the need

for a place where the people in her community could improve themselves. She knew that one of the key components to a community improvement program was technology and Internet use training. Carol worked with Becky McLain and others at South Piedmont Community College to establish a computer lab and begin training for the community. The center has already made a difference as illustrated by the results of a technology survey conducted at the center in March 2002. The survey showed that 90 percent of the respondents owned or plan to purchase a computer.

Another example of a local initiative is Bridge Over Trouble Waters, a program developed by Suzanne Bridges in the Town of Morven. When Suzanne moved from Winston-Salem to the southern Anson County town of Morven in September 1999, she immediately began work to build the Bridge. She credits her husband, who is retired from the U.S. Army, with sharing her vision and providing \$5,000 in start-up money. She took her nest egg and bought three complete computer systems and set up shop in a spare bedroom. By the end of her first month in Morven, Bridges welcomed three students to the Bridge. Within three months, she had 50 youth coming to her center to learn basic computer skills and get help with homework and research papers. The number of children continued to grow, and Bridges, who works at least six hours per day, six days a week without pay, had to move the center to a larger location. Bridges said a pastor stepped forward and donated his mother's house and employees of the Anson County Parks and Recreation Department volunteered to do necessary renovations with donated materials that came in readily. The program has also provided summer enrichment opportunities for Morven area children for two years. Last summer, the program served 614 children during a five-week program that operated three days a week from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. This summer, Bridge volunteers are providing transportation to a summer program operated at Morven Elementary School. Bridges said she had a transportation grant but no program funding, while the school had program funding but no transportation funding, so they pooled their resources to serve Morven youth more effectively.

Other funding possibilities include:

- Local foundations that might provide funding include the Effie Allen Little Foundation, the Gen. William A. Smith Trust, and the Elizabeth Yost Foundation.
- Pee Dee Electric Membership Corp.
- Local civic club possibilities include: Wadesboro Rotary Club, Wadesboro Civitan Club, the Anson County Jaycees, and the Anson Women's League.

4-H Funding Partners.

ANSON E-COMMUNITIES PLAN

The overall vision of the Anson E-Community plan is to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the county by 1) identifying the available resources and information, making them known and making them more readily available and 2) identifying the needed resources and information, determining how to obtain them - create or import - and making them available.

This plan is divided, as outlined in the E-Communities Plan, into four Mini-Plans:

- Public Access.
- Training In Digital Literacy.
- Web Applications.
- Connectivity.

REPORT ON PLANNING PROCESS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Anson e-communities organizational structure grew out of the Anson County Technology Coalition Committee, which was established as the original committee to plan and initiate public engagement activities in line with the Public Engagement Grant. This committee includes broad representation from all communities within the entire county, including early childhood providers, public school personnel, community college representatives, the health care community, county government, the Employment Security Commission, civic organizations, community non-profits organizations, the faith community, and business and industry. The members are:

Janine Rywak, Chairman	NC Cooperative Extension 4-H Agent
Don Altieri	South Piedmont Community College
Priscilla Durkin	Wadesboro Inter-Church Council
Evan Horton	Anson High Student
Lynn Horton	Pee Dee EMC & Wadesboro, Mayor
Jeff Howe	Productivity Links, Inc.
Jim Kennedy	Productivity Links, Inc.
Elbert Marshall	Anson County Chamber of Commerce
Becky McLain	South Piedmont Community College
Bonnie Morgan	Anson County Partnership for Children
Punky Morton	Selectronics, Inc.
Carol Smith	Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center
Fred Sparger	South Piedmont Community College
Dale Spencer	Anson Community Hospital
George Truman	Anson County Schools
Chris Wease	Anson County

Upon receipt of the e-communities grant, the Anson County Technology Coalition agreed to expand its efforts past public engagement to include the broader concept of e-communities. The committee began meeting in October 2001, and decided the initial public engagement activities would include presentations and surveys at all the elementary and primary schools in the county. This was accomplished through the Parent Teacher Associations at each school. However, results of the surveys were not representative of the county demographics with regards to race as the population is half and half in regards the minority population. (See Minutes in Attachment C and Survey Results on Attachment A)

The committee then expanded its efforts past public engagement into demonstration events with the first event being held in March at the Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center. This community center is located in a rural area of the county and provided great insight into the needs and desires of the rural residents within Anson County. Through the breakout sessions and surveys conducted during this event, the committee was able to more closely match the responses with the demographics of the county. Therefore, this event accurately reflected the target audiences for this public engagement, demonstration and training event. (Survey Results and Breakout Session Results are in Attachment A).

Lastly, the committee held two visioning sessions to elicit feedback from the various groups within the county in developing the plan. Groups invited to participate included

those referenced on the Anson County Technology Coalition as well as an open invitation to county residents.

Feedback for development of the e-communities plan has been received from representatives of:

- Faith-based community.
- Anson County Schools.
- South Piedmont Community College.
- Anson County Cooperative Extension Service.
- Anson County government.
- Small business community.
- Manufacturing community.
- Anson County Partnership for Children (Smart Start).
- Internet Service providers.
- Anson County Chamber of Commerce.
- NC TechForce.
- Hampton B. Allen Library.
- Municipal government.
- Burnsville Learning and Recreation Center.
- Anson Community Hospital.

PUBLIC ACCESS MINI-PLAN

Vision

If people are afforded the opportunity to experience something, they will be more likely to accept, apply and understand it. It is the vision of the Anson E-Communities Steering Committee that each citizen be provided an appropriate place to “experience” first-hand the digital world and the benefits that can be realized personally, professionally and collectively.

Goals

Infrastructure and Physical Resources

- Enhance and publicize the three existing public access points.
- Establish five additional geographically distributed, community centered public access points that will adequately allow use by any citizen.
- Develop a plan to obtain the hardware, software, and connectivity to make the public access points successful.
- Establish an Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator to support the new trend toward small service businesses and further enable telecommuting. Build on a plan included in the 2001 grant application for an RIAA Telecenter.

Management Goals

- Develop a plan to obtain and train adequate personnel to ensure the public access points provide the appropriate digital experience for every participating citizen.
- Provide on-going methods for feedback from participants to guarantee that the digital experience is applicable to the participants’ needs and expectations.
- Periodically revisit the Public Access Mini-Plan and ensure that it is still in keeping with the needs of the County.

Inclusiveness Goals

- Because reluctance to adopt and use technology does not appear to be limited to a certain race, income level, gender or age, this initiative will strive to make each public access point welcoming and useful to all citizens.
- The physical locations will cause some customization of physical space and, perhaps, specific services offered. This is another reason for distributing the points in diverse hubs of existing activity.
- Explore the possibility of establishing public access points at the three existing senior centers and the eight public housing centers in the county.

Sustainability Goals

- Operate the public access points as “introductions” to the benefits of technology and Internet use instead of trying to maintain them as the sole access to computers and the Internet. (It is the opinion that if the Public Access points and other facets of the E-Communities Plan accomplish their task, citizens will realize the benefits they can gain from the use of technology and the Internet to the extent that they will obtain appropriate tools and access themselves.)

- Explore ways for some of the centers (especially the incubator) to become self-sustaining. Some possible methods are:
 - Small user fees for some situations or tasks (i.e. printing, after a specific number of hours of use).
 - User fees for non-Anson County residents.
 - Training scholarships.
 - Memorials.

Needed Resources

The following table provides a concise picture of the eight public access points that will be established or enhanced.

Place	Existing Or Potential	Facility	Hardware And Software	Broad-Band Access	Staff	Public Awareness
SPCC Lab at new Lockhart-Taylor Center	Exists at different locations	Under construction	Will Have	Will Have	Need	Need
Burnsville Center	Potential	Existing	Existing	Need	Need	Need
Library	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Need
SPCC Learning Resource Center, Polkton Campus	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Need part-time	Need
Bridge Over Troubled Waters Center	Potential	Under construction	Need some	Need	Need	Need
Ansonville Area	Potential	Need	Need	Need	Need	Need
Lilesville Area	Potential	Need	Need	Need	Need	Need
White Store Area	Potential	Need	Need	Need	Need	Need
Entrepreneur/Small Bus Incubator	Potential	Need	Need	Need	Need	Need

Assessment of available resources to fill the needs in the above table:

- There is no ISDN or DSL currently available to any of the sites listed.
- The RIAA-provided Infrastructure Inventory shows that Alltel is providing DSL in 100 percent of the county, but at present it is only available within 18,000 feet of

the Morven Road Central Office in Wadesboro. Alltel has stated it does not have any specific dates for further deployment of DSL.

- Dedicated T-1 Internet Access is available, but is a very expensive alternative to DSL.
- Wireless Internet access is available to most of the potential sites, but transmission has not been tested; also, end-user equipment is expensive.
- SPCC and the library already have broadband access.
- There are several existing facilities in Ansonville, Lilesville and White Store that will be appropriate for public access points. Some potential sites for the Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator have been identified.
- The available trained staff is not adequate to man the existing public access points.
- There are many possibilities for making the public aware of the public access points.

Implementation

Activities that will enhance the existing public access points or establish the new ones are already taking place. Following is an outline of additional actions:

ACTION	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	SUPPORTING PLAYERS	PROJECTED COMPLETION	COST	FUNDING SOURCES
Develop plan to publicize PA Points	Publicity Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee	Regional Media & SPCC Info. Officer	Plan should be completed by 6-30-02	None	N/A
Develop Policies and Procedures for PA Points	Steering Committee	Library, School Dist, SPCC IT Staff	6-30-02	None	N/A
Determine the hardware, software, security tools, etc that will be used in PA Points	Steering Committee	Library, School Dist, SPCC IT Staff, possible outside Consultant	7-31-02	If use outside Consultant, \$5000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile)
Identify grants and prepare applications that could fund add'l staff to man the PA Points	Becky McLain and Fred Sparger (SPCC staff & Steering Com Members)	Other Steering Com Members & staff of SPCC and County as needed	At least 2 grant applications should be submitted by 8-31-02	Minimal	Covered by SPCC
Determine exact cost of hardware, software & connectivity for the PA Points with these needs	Technology Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee	IT Staff from SPCC, School System, County and possible outside consultant	7-31-02	If use Consultant appr. \$3000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile)
Develop a plan to allow suppliers & vendors to sponsor (via donations, etc.) rooms, work stations, etc.	Technology and Publicity Sub-Committees of the Steering committee	IT Staff from SPCC, School Dist, County and possible outside consultant	8-31-02	If use Consultant appr. \$1000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile)

Determine specific needs of Burnsville Center to become a full PA Point	Steering Committee	Burnsville Ctr Staff & Comm, IT Staff from SPCC, School Dist, County	7-31-02	None	N/A
Develop plan to meet needs of Burnsville Center if not met in previous actions	Burnsville Sub-Committee of Steering Committee & Burnsville Staff	Burnsville Community	8-31-02	None	N/A
Develop plan to meet needs of Bridge Over Troubled Waters Center if not met in previous actions	Bridge Over Troubles Water Sub-Committee of Steering Committee & Bridge Over Troubled Waters Staff	Area Community	9-30-02	None	N/A
Determine best PA Point sites in Ansonville, Lilesville & White Store areas & develop plans to make them realities	Ansonville, Lilesville & White Store Sub-Committees of the Steering Committee	Ansonville, Lilesville & White Store Community And possible outside Consultant	9-30-02	If use Consultant appr. \$5000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile), Community Fund Raisers
Rework the plan in the grant app. for an RIAA Telecenter to reflect current situation so that Entrepreneur/ Small Bus Incubator can be established. Include general public access. Determine best method for mgt & develop a plan for sustainability.	Public Access Sub-committee	Steering Committee, Small Business Center, SPCC, Chamber, possible outside Consultant	10-31-02	If use Consultant appr \$3000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile), state and federal Eco. Dev. Grants or funds

Explore possibility of some PA Points and/or some activities being self-sustaining	Steering Committee	Communities	9-30-02	None	N/A
Identify & apply for grants to meet any needs not met by donation, sponsorship, etc. in all PA Points	Steering Committee	Communities, possible outside Consultant	At least 2 grants by 10-31-02	If use Fund Raising Consultant appr. \$5000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Funding in County Profile), Community Fund Raisers
Develop a plan to measure the effectiveness of each PA Point	Steering Committee	Communities	10-31-02	None	N/A
Explore possibility of PA Points in 3 existing Senior Ctrs and the 8 Housing Developments	Steering Committee	Communities	11-30-02	None	N/A

TRAINING IN DIGITAL LITERACY MINI-PLAN

Vision

The more people understand something, the more likely they are to use it, apply it and benefit from it. It is the vision of the Anson E-Communities Steering Committee that each citizen will be provided an opportunity to obtain effective, appropriate digital literacy training so that they will be comfortable with the digital world and attain the benefits that can be realized personally, professionally and collectively.

Goals

Background:

South Piedmont Community College has several successful training programs for digital literacy. The Small Business Development Center at SPCC has several seminars on the integration of technology into small businesses. Anson County Schools offers technology competency training for students. The school system is also piloting a model program to train parents in technology use at Wadesboro Primary School. The N.C. Cooperative Extension Service offers an on-line Cyber Camp. Three ISPs in nearby counties offer on-line training on several digital and technology topics.

Infrastructure and Physical Goals

- Expand existing SPCC digital training programs.
- Incorporate SPCC digital training into new Public Access Points.
- Expand the Anson County Schools' program for parents into other schools.
- Provide appropriate digital training in Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator by incorporating the SPCC digital training program, seminars from the Small Business Development Center and other appropriate training.

Management Goals

- Continually evaluate the practicality and applicability of the existing training programs; modify where appropriate.
- Continually seek new training programs and sources.

Inclusiveness Goals

- Ensure that training programs are tailored in content, scheduling and other factors to meet the needs of those seeking training.
- Be aware of the diverse and dynamic needs of the communities so that existing training can be altered or new training can be planned.

Sustainability Goals

- Utilize NC TechForce to train, advise and support participants and participants in the digital training programs.
- Continually seek funding for digital literacy training programs' continuation, expansion and addition.

Needed Resources

The results of the three surveys shows:

The RIAA Net Readiness survey shows a ranking of less than 2 on availability of any type of digital training. This illustrates a need for more public awareness of existing programs and attention to publicity for all future programs.

Most people who do not have a computer or Internet access do not have a clear understanding of the usefulness to them individually or do not feel secure about the use of computers, and especially the Internet. This illustrates a need for training on: basic skills, security and privacy tools, and how to find useful resources.

More than 40 percent of survey respondents do not employ the computer and Internet access for common uses such as word processing, research, school assignments, shopping and paying bills. This illustrates a need for training on: research tools, word processing, spreadsheets and security tools.

More than 70 percent of survey respondents do not use computers or Internet access for job hunting and job related tasks from home. This illustrates a need for training on: utilizing ECSNC and other employment Internet tools, researching tools and Internet navigation tools.

The surveys only asked questions about basic digital skills and uses. It is assumed that the low use of basic skills indicates that more complicated skills and uses are being under utilized. This illustrates a need for training on: e-commerce, complex research and use of Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) for working remotely.

The surveys show that less than 30 percent of respondents do not use the computer for working at home. This illustrates a need for training on: e-commerce, accessing work related sites and use of security software.

The Inventory of the Technology and Internet Resources in Anson County shows that most web sites are “brochure” sites and have no interactive capability. It also shows that many businesses, organizations and local government entities do not have web sites. This illustrates a need for training on: web site development, Internet marketing, and other related topics.

A summary opinion of the Surveys and Inventory is that Internet access is very rarely the first option chosen by people in Anson County when looking for information or trying to accomplish something. This illustrates a need for training on: basic use of the Internet with tailoring to make it applicable to the person being trained.

Implementation

ACTION	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	SUPPORTING PLAYERS	PROJECTED COMPLETION	COST	FUNDING SOURCES
Develop a plan to publicize the existing & future training programs	Publicity and Training Sub-Committees of the Steering Committee	Local Media, SPCC Information Officer	6-30-02	None	N/A
Continue to assess the County's Digital Literacy	Steering Committee	PTAs, PA Point Staffs, TechForce	Ongoing	None	N/A
Develop a method for incorporating changing needs into all training programs	Training Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee	Training Deliverers, possible outside Consultant	6-30-02	If use Consultant \$5,000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Cnty Profile)
Develop a plan for expanding the training (topics, times, etc.) at existing SPCC facilities	Training Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee	Appropriate SPCC Personnel	6-30-02	TBD	State, Grants
Expand the plan for using the Tech-Force in all PA Points & other training venues	Becky McLain (Steering Committee Member and SPCC Staff) and the Steering Committee	Appropriate SPCC Personnel	6-30-02	TBD	State, RIAA, Grants
Develop a plan for incorporating SPCC training into each new PA Point	Training Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee And the Steering Committee	Appropriate SPCC Personnel, PA Point Staff	10-30-02 for all sites	None	N/A

Develop a plan for providing appropriate training at the Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator. Build on existing plan from the RIAA Telecenter grant applications	Training Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee	Steering Committee, Small Business Development Center, possible outside Consultant	10-31-02	If use Consultant \$1000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see Cnty Profile), state and federal grants
Develop a plan to expand the model program for parent training at Wadesboro Primary	Training Sub-Committee and Anson County Schools	Steering Committee, Communities	6-30-02	TBD	Grants, District Funding
Develop a summer training program for high school students	Training Sub-Committee and Anson County Schools	Steering Committee, Communities	7-31-02	TBD	Grants, District Funding
Determine the training needs not provided by existing programs and develop a plan to address them	Training Sub-Committee of the Steering Committee And the Steering Committee	PA Point Staff, Anson County Schools, Communities, possible outside Consultant	10-30-02	If use outside Consultant \$5000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see County Profile)
Explore methods for making computers available to those who cannot afford it, such as checkout of laptops	Steering Committee	Anson County Schools, PA Point Staffs, SPCC	8-31-02	None	N/A

WEB APPLICATIONS MINI-PLAN

Vision

The Anson E-Communities Steering Committee realizes that the objective is not to have computers in every business and home in the county. It also realizes that broadband Internet access is not the answer to everyone's needs. The Steering Committee understands that technology is the means not the end. Given that, the committee's vision for web applications is that the information, resources and interactions necessary for Anson County businesses and individuals to realize their full potential is made accessible.

Goals

Infrastructure and Physical Resource Goals

- Encourage and support the development of web sites for all government entities, health and human service agencies, non-profit organizations, historic and tourism groups, faith based initiatives and education institutions.
- Ensure that hardware and software is available to facilitate the web sites of those entities listed previously.
- Establish portals for e-government, e-commerce, e-learning, e-health, and e-agriculture.
- Encourage businesses to use the RIAA e-NC Business Connections Handbook.

Management Goals

- Involve the appropriate organizations and support entities in the development of any plans, applications or sites.
- Encourage all to properly maintain their web sites, keeping them up to date and pertinent.
- Encourage the addition of interaction to web sites to maximize the personal aspect.

Inclusiveness Goals

- Maintain a high level of public contact (business and individual) to ensure that all needs are being addressed.
- Ensure that information discovered through further research on applications be fed back to the digital literacy training efforts so that everyone knows how to use the available applications.
- Ensure that appropriate applications are established to support and compliment the Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator to be created.

Sustainability Goals

- Ensure that applications are applicable so that they will be sustained.
- Find sponsorships and other types of donations to ensure that applications are financially sustained.

Needed Resources

The following situations currently exist in Anson County. The relative detail is provided in the County Profile.

There is a fledgling effort to capitalize on eco-tourism to bring revenue into the county. There needs to be a stronger presence on the World Wide Web and all organizations and institutions that might attract visitors need to have a web site. The three types of “travel through” (truckers, beach goers, race fans) need to be capitalized on for revenue to the county.

Economic development plans are “under construction.” The plans are utilizing the information provided by the Anson County Comprehensive Plan for 2021. The assets of the county to business and industry need to be apparent on the World Wide Web. Job training and employment opportunities need to be easy to find.

There is an increase of entrepreneurial activity that requires new and additional resources and access to information such as: brochure and business card development software, presentation development software and accounting/billing software.

The Community Outreach Project 2000 conducted by the Anson County Partnership for Children showed the following Significant Findings from parents on the importance of Education Services:

Education Services Description	Parents Rate Importance
Class/Center that I can go to	35%
Internet sites with information	20%
Lending library with books, videos	29%
Mobile services that come to my neighborhood	22%
One-on-one support and guidance	38%
Support groups	45%
Telephone Hot Line to call	41%
Visits to my home	13%
Written information that I can pick up	47%

The parents were also asked to rank their top three methods for Education Services. Those rankings were:

1. Written information that I can pick up.
2. Support groups.
3. Telephone hotline to call.

An observation in the report was: “Parents seem to feel more comfortable with more impersonal ways to get information such as picking up pamphlets in public places or using a telephone hotline... Since many parents seem to prefer the more impersonal ways to collect information and most visit places such as grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations on a regular basis, it makes sense to place information in these places about human services in the county.”

Pertinent and timely information should be easy for parents to obtain. More information and resources need to be available on-line and parents need to be made aware of them and how to use them. Kiosks in public places with access to information would provide more up to date information than printed materials, would be easier to revise and over the long run would cost less. If the kiosks had access via the Internet to predetermined sites, the information could be provided in a way that would show the seeker that the information could be obtained from home through the Internet. The delivery of information and resources would be tremendously enhanced.

The county's current unemployment rate is 11.6 percent. More on-line training could help reduce this percentage. More businesses utilizing on-line methods would also have a positive impact on the unemployment rate.

The county's economy is in a transition from primarily textile manufacturing to more diversified manufacturing and service industries. A digitally literate employee base is a key factor in attracting and developing high-tech manufacturing and service industries.

The Anson County web site has several interactive applications but plans to add more. Anticipated interactive applications include:

- Accept payments.
- Register of Deeds information online.
- Apply for, file and track permits.
- Community message board.
- Log complaints.

Other local government entities need to provide more services online.

There are many health and human services provided for Anson County citizens, but no comprehensive place to find out about them. A comprehensive portal would provide a higher level of responsiveness to county citizens. Online videos, courses, scheduling and other interactive applications would make the provision of health and human services more efficient.

The Small Business Center offers many on-site courses that are very affordable. The provision of some of these courses in online lectures would afford the opportunity for more people to participate.

Implementation

ACTION	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	SUPPORTING PLAYERS	PROJECTED COMPLETION	COST	FUNDING SOURCES
Develop a plan to utilize the Web to promote tourism	Steering Committee, newly established Tourism Development Authority	Local Media, SPCC Information Officer	7-31-02	If use outside Consultant \$5000	Accommodations Tax, County, Chamber
Develop a plan to support the County and Chamber Eco. Dev. Initiatives, especially marketing the local technology assets to Site Locators and Bus Dev Personnel	Steering Committee	County, Chamber	7-31-02	None	N/A
Develop a plan to work with the Anson County Partnership for Children to make information and resources more available to parents	Health and Human Services Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	School District, Health Department, DSS	9-30-02	None	N/A
Develop plan to determine application needs of participants in Incubator. Build on plan in the 2001 RIAA grant application	Steering Committee	Small Bus Dev Ctr., Chamber, possible outside Consultant	10-31-02	If use Consultant, \$1000	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see County Profile), state and federal grants

Develop a plan to put more job training and business development training online	Training Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee, SPCC, Small Bus Dev. Ctr., ESCNC, School District	9-30-02	None	N/A
Support the County's effort to put more applications online	Government Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee, County, Institute of Government, Council of Gov	Ongoing	TBD	Grants, State, Federal, User Fees
Develop a plan to work with youth agencies to make resources available to young people	Steering Committee	NC Extension Service, 4H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, School District, SPCC	8-31-02	None	N/A
Develop a plan to make available resources and information from Faith Based organizations and initiatives	Health and Human Services Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee, Anson Baptist Association, all denominations	10-31-02	None	N/A
Explore the possibility of establishing a resource portal to aid Agri-Business	Steering Committee	Chamber, NC Cooperative Extension Service, Farm Bureau, Farmer's Market	Consensus of actions by 9-30-02	None	N/A
Aid Schools in effort to establish effective, interactive web sites for all schools	Steering Committee	SPCC, Chamber	7-31-02	TBD	Possible: Local Civic group, Foundation (see County Profile)

Explore ways to attract young people who go away to college back to Anson County to live and work	Steering Committee	Chamber	Consensus of actions by 8-31-02	None	N/A
Develop a plan to establish a health care and resources portal	Health and Human Services Sub-Committee	Steering Committee, Anson Community Hospital, Anson Regional Medical Center, medical community	9-30-02	None	N/A
Aid all Towns in Anson County in the development of effective, interactive web sites	Government Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee, Towns, Communities, Institute of Government, COG	10-31-02	TBD	Towns, Grants from COG or Institute of Gov
Explore the possibility of establishing a server site to house web sites for organizations, governments and agencies	Steering Committee	IT Staffs of SPCC & County, local businesses	10-31-02	TBD	Hosting fees from organizations, governments & agencies, grants
Explore ways to help business community adopt and establish more e-commerce applications.	Steering Committee	RIAA's (e-commerce guide), Small Bus Dev Ctr, Chamber, County Eco Dev., outside Consultant	Consensus of actions by 10-31-02	TBD	TBD

<p>Explore using Kiosk type access to health & human svc resources at heavy traffic points (Health Dept., Churches, groceries)</p>	<p>Steering Committee</p>	<p>RIAA's (e-commerce guide), Small Bus Dev Ctr, Chamber, County Eco Dev., outside Consultant</p>	<p>Consensus of actions by 10-31-02</p>	<p>TBD</p>	
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CONNECTIVITY MINI-PLAN

Vision

The RIAA's site states: "Affordable Internet service will provide North Carolinians with increased access to commerce, health care, education and government services. Through the Internet, rural North Carolinians can utilize resources not located in their areas, contact friends and experts, grow their businesses and increase their personal knowledge - while preserving the lifestyle that is an integral part of who they are."

The vision of the Anson e-Communities Steering Committee is to cause commercial Internet access providers to make available broadband service to all areas of Anson County. The Steering Committee understands that commercial providers must realize appropriate revenue for all technology deployment. The activities and plans outlined in the Public Access, Digital Training and Web Applications Mini-Plans will not only improve the quality of life for Ansonians, but will also stimulate the need for broadband access.

Goals

Infrastructure and Physical Resources Goals

- Cause multiple methods for broadband Internet access to be made available to all areas of Anson County.
- Negotiate for special pricing to make broadband more affordable to all citizens and businesses.
- Monitor the trend of activity in the federal and state government concerning Rural Broadband Internet Access to capitalize on resources that may be made available.
- Ensure that the Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator has Broadband Access at a level that will facilitate the applications and communication necessary to carry out the goals of the Center.

Management Goals

- Work closely with providers to insure they are accurately assessing the revenue potential in Anson County for broadband services.
- Continue to gather information on the need for broadband services.

Inclusiveness Goals

- Ensure that data is gathered from all citizens and businesses.
- Ensure that Broadband service is deployed within two years in all areas.

Sustainability Goals

- Continue the activities and plans outlined in the Public Access, Digital Literacy and Web Applications Mini-Plans to insure that providers continue to see the need for broadband services.
- Seek incentives, infrastructure or other necessary resources to sustain broadband services in all areas.

Implementation

ACTION	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	SUPPORTING PLAYERS	PROJECTED COMPLETION	COST	FUNDING SOURCES
Determine the most affordable, reliable broadband connection for the Burnsville Center and Bridge Over Troubled Waters. Work with all potential Vendors in parallel to expedite process. Implement service.	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Local Internet Access Providers, Burnsville & Bridge Over Troubled Waters Staffs	7-31-02	TBD by service type	Center Budget, user fees for some functions, local civic groups, RIAA grants
Determine the best, most affordable equipment for the Burnsville Center and Bridge Over Troubled Waters. Negotiate with potential suppliers to obtain reduced pricing, donations, sponsorships, etc. Purchase equipment	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Local Internet Access Providers, Burnsville & Bridge Over Troubled Waters Staffs	7-31-02	TBD by service type	Center Budget, user fees for some functions, local civic groups, RIAA grants
Determine the most affordable, reliable broadband connection for the other Public Access Points. Work with all potential Vendors in parallel to expedite process. Subscribe to service	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Local Internet Access Providers, Public Access Point Staffs	10-31-02	TBD by service type	Center Budget, user fees for some functions, local civic groups, grants

Determine the most affordable, reliable broadband connection for the other Entrepreneur/Small Bus Incubator. Work with all potential Vendors in parallel to expedite process. Subscribe to service	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Local Internet Access Providers, Public Access Point Staffs	10-31-02	TBD by service type	Center Budget, user fees for some functions, local civic groups, grants
Determine the best, most affordable equipment for the other Public Access Points and the Entrepreneur/Small Business Incubator. . Negotiate with potential suppliers to obtain reduced pricing, donations, sponsorships, etc.	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Local Internet Access Providers, Public Access Point Staffs	10-31-02	TBD by service type	Center Budget, user fees for some functions, local civic groups, grants
Determine where wireless Internet Access is technically feasible. Work with the providers to increase their footprint.	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Existing and Potential Wireless Access Providers, possible outside Consultant	7-31-02	If use outside Consultant \$1000	RIAA Incentive monies, County Eco Dev., local civic groups
Use the results of surveys (existing and future) to work with Alltel on the deployment of DSL and bundled T-1 Service (combined voice and Internet Access on single T-1) to make Broadband more widely available	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Alltel, possible outside Consultant	7-31-02	If use outside Consultant \$1500	RIAA Incentive monies, County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants

Use the results of surveys (existing and future) to work with alternative providers on the deployment of DSL and bundled T-1 Service (combined voice and Internet Access on single T-1) to make Broadband more widely available	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	NewSouth Communications, Concord Telephone, PeeDee Electric, others, possible outside Consultant	8-31-02	If use outside Consultant \$2000	RIAA Incentive monies, County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants
Use the results of surveys (existing and future) to work with Time Warner to convince them to offer Road Runner service in Anson County	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee, County, Chamber, Towns, Civic Groups	8-31-02	If use outside Consultant \$1000	RIAA Incentive monies, County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants
Explore the possibility of cell phone and satellite Internet Access for areas that do not have the user density to merit DSL, bundled T-1 or wireless connectivity	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Verizon, Alltel, Dasia.Net, others, possible outside Consultant	9-30-02	If use outside Consultant \$1500	RIAA Incentive monies, County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants
Explore the possibility of the County building infrastructure to compensate for existing providers service deficiencies and to attract alternate providers	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	County, Chamber, Towns, possible outside Consultant	10-31-02	If use outside Consultant, \$10,000	County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants
Develop a plan to work with and capitalize on the Telecommunications Initiative of the Union County EDC	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	County, Chamber, Towns, possible outside Consultant	7-31-02	If use outside Consultant, \$2000	County Eco Dev., local civic groups, grants

Negotiate with end-user equipment suppliers for volume discounts, special pricing, etc. to be made available in all of the County	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Suppliers, Chamber, other equipment users (i.e. County, hospital, businesses, etc.)	8-31-02	If use outside Consultant, \$1000	Chamber, other equipment users (i.e. County, hospital, businesses, etc.)
Maintain awareness of new technology, actions by other NC counties in order to take advantage of more affordable, more accessible connectivity methods	Connectivity Sub-Committee of Steering Committee	Steering Committee	On-going	None	N/A
Monitor the regulatory and legislative activity to take advantage of any resources or funding that becomes available	Steering Committee	Legislative Delegation	On-going	None	N/A

BURNSVILLE CENTER INTERNET FAIR
What would you like to be able to use a computer to do?

Breakout Session 1	
Category	Votes
Shopping	6
Banking	4
Business	7
Job Hunting	1
Vacation	4
Homework	0
Faith Based Community Work	1
Education	6
Research	3
Email	9
Software Programs (Specialized)	2
Weather	0
Medical Information	4
Entertainment	7
Locate People	1
Save Money	3
Advertising	3
Work at Home	5
Dating Services	0
Government Services	3
Chat Room	7
Apply for Loans	0

Breakout Session 2	
Category	Votes
Make Money/Save Money	12
Research	1
Consumer Products	5
Genealogy	1
Medical Directories	4
Children Sermons	5
Buy Products	3
Sell Products	0
Online Banking	0
Pay Bills	0
Education	7
Classes on Internet	6
Entertainment	1
Games	1
Movies	2
Music	3
Government	4
Register of Deeds	1
Tax Office	0
Communication	3
Chat Rooms	0
Email	3
Telecommunicating	2
Meetings	0

Family	1
Breakout Session 3	
Category	Votes
Education	14
papers	
research	
math	
geneology	
school lessons	
apply for scholarships	
spelling	
translation	
Email	9
Information Gathering	4
newspapers	
directory	
weather	
Jobs Search/Advertising	6
Person to Person Teleconferencing	3
Free email	11
Download Music/Movies	0
Travel Airline/Accomodations/Directions	9
Shopping/Selling	6
Commerce	7
taxes	
small business	
banking	
Entertainment	0
Horoscope	0
Voice Response Software	0
Class Reunion Coordination	0

		ECU	ECU	PTA	PTA	Rural Internet	Rural Internet
		Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Fair	Fair
Question	Possibilities	Count	% of 107	Count	% of 232	Count	% of 40
Own (or plan to buy) a computer	Yes		73%	212	85%	36	90%
	No		27%	24	10%	4	10%
Why don't you have computer at home?	Not Interested	15	14%	7	3%		0%
	Don't know much @	14	13%	9	4%	5	13%
	Concern for children	9	8%	2	1%		0%
	Privacy concerns	10	9%	2	1%		0%
	Too difficult to use	7	7%	1	0%		0%
	Not useful to me	11	10%	1	0%		0%
	Don't have time	8	7%	3	1%	1	3%
	Too expensive	10	9%	31	13%	5	13%
	Use Public Access	10	9%	6	3%	1	3%
	Do everything at work	8	7%	7	3%		0%
Race	White		0%	133	57%	15	38%
	African American		0%	96	41%	24	60%
	Hispanic		0%	0	0%	0	0%
	Native American		0%	1	0%	0	0%
	Other		0%	2	1%	1	3%
If own computer/when purchased	2000 to 2002	28	26%	70	30%	14	35%
	1998 to 2000	33	31%	68	29%	7	18%
	Before 1998	17	16%	35	15%	5	13%
	Don't Own	29	27%	54	23%	14	35%
Number in home that use a computer	One	18	17%	22	9%	8	20%
	Two	23	21%	50	22%	14	35%
	Three or more	36	34%	142	61%	13	33%
	None	1	1%	16	7%	6	15%
What do you use a computer for?	Learning to use comp	13	12%	101	44%	16	40%
	Graphics and design	24	22%	80	34%	11	28%
	School assignments	36	34%	125	54%	16	40%
	Games	48	45%	140	60%	20	50%
	Word Processing	47	44%	131	56%	21	53%
	Email & communicate	57	53%	156	67%	22	55%
How did you learn to use a computer?	From Family Member	16	15%	79	34%	8	20%
	At work	15	14%	104	45%	12	30%
	Classes	25	23%	128	55%	26	65%
	Trial and Error	46	43%	98	42%	13	33%
What is main reason don't have Internet?	What is Internet?		0%	3	1%	1	3%
	Too difficult to use	15	14%	1	0%	1	3%
	Don't much @	14	13%	13	6%	5	13%
	Privacy concerns	12	11%	12	5%	2	5%
	Not enough time	12	11%	6	3%	1	3%
	Concern for children	14	13%	14	6%	3	8%

	Don't need	8	7%	8	3%	1	3%
	Not useful to me	14	13%	2	1%	0	0%
	Cost/too expensive	13	12%	24	10%	5	13%
	Can use it elsewhere	5	5%	21	9%	5	13%
How do you use the Internet at home?	Don't have at home		0%	48	21%	15	38%
	Email	60	56%	140	60%	18	45%
	News, Weather,Sport	44	41%	104	45%	10	25%
	Search for Information	40	37%	137	59%	14	35%
	Shop, pay bills	38	36%	71	31%	7	18%
	Educational research	35	33%	110	47%	10	25%
	Job related tasks	25	23%	65	28%	5	13%
	Job Hunting	21	20%	35	15%	7	18%
	Other	14	13%	51	22%	7	18%
Where do you use the Internet?	Com Ctr. or facility	1	1%	12	5%	7	18%
	School	11	10%	70	30%	8	20%
	Public Library	10	9%	33	14%	4	10%
	Work	10	9%	80	34%	10	25%
	Someone else's	19	18%	27	12%	2	5%
	Other	4	4%	68	29%	14	35%
How did you learn to use the Internet	Classes	10	9%	84	36%	19	48%
	Trial and Error	19	18%	121	52%	15	38%
	From Family Member	5	5%	77	33%	7	18%
	At work	10	9%	63	27%	10	25%
	In high school	3	3%	13	6%	1	3%
How many hrs. does your household spend on Internet during a week?	0 to 3 hours		0%	104	45%	14	35%
	4 to 7 hours		0%	37	16%	8	20%
	8 or more hours		0%	46	20%	10	25%
How much more would you be willing to pay for faster Internet service	Nothing	24	22%	34	15%	7	18%
	Less than \$10 per mo	7	7%	46	20%	8	20%
	\$11 to \$25 per mo	19	18%	70	30%	12	30%
	\$26 to \$35 per mo	3	3%	27	12%	5	13%
	\$36 to \$45 per mo	2	2%	5	2%	0	0%
	\$46 to \$55 per mo	0	0%	2	1%	1	3%
	\$56 to \$75 per mo	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	\$76 to \$100 per mo	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	Over \$100 per mo	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
It is important for school-age children to learn how to use computers.	Agree		0%	204	88%	38	95%
	Disagree		0%	1	0%	0	0%
Most people you know don't use computers	Agree		0%	78	34%	22	55%
	Disagree		0%	129	56%	15	38%
Internet Access is as important as the telephone.	Agree		0%	128	55%	28	70%
	Disagree		0%	79	34%	10	25%
Have Internet Access in home	Yes	63	59%				

	No	15	14%				
Type of Internet Acces in home	Dial Up	77	72%				
	DSL	2	2%				
	Cable	9	8%				
	DK	5	5%				
	Cell Phone	4	4%				
	Palm Pilot	2	2%				

COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS								
	# of Public	# of	# of Public	Type of	Type of	Type of Internet	Wide Area	
	Access	Computer	Internet	Internet Access	Internet Access	Access for	Network	
Organization/ Entity	Computers	Labs	Access Points	for Public	for Faculty/Staff	Students/ Members	Type/ Provider	
SPCC	18	13	2	Broadband via campus ntwk	Broadband via campus ntwk	Broadband via campus ntwk	IP/Alltel, Verizon	
(Note: All computers at SPCC can be used by students when not being used for a class)								
Anson Cnty Schools		17			Broadband via	Broadband via	FR/State Network	
					District WAN	District WAN	T-1 Schools & Garage	
							3 Mbps at Dist Office	
Wingate University					Broadband via campus ntwk	ADSL in all Dorms	Direct Access on State Ntwk	
County Library	7		7	Broadband via T-1			FR/State Network	
Small Bus Dev Ctr	(Housed at SPCC and utilizes campus computers and Internet Access)							
Anson County								
Anson Comm Hospital					Broadband		Alltel	
NC State Extension					Broadband via State Network		Broadband via State Network	
Burnsville Center	11	1	11	Dial Up	Dial Up	Dial Up		
Bridge Over Trouble Waters	4	1	Currently in individual's home, establishing a new facility					

INTERNET RESOURCES									
	Email for	Email for		Personal Web Pgs	Personal Web Pgs	Links to Related	Chat or Bln Board	Chat or Bln Board	News
Organization/ Entity	Fac/Staff	Stndts/Mbrs	Web Site	Fac/Staff	Stndts/Mbrs	Sites	for Fac/Staff	Stndts/Mbrs	Service
SPCC	Y	Help obtain free email	Y	Y		Y	Y	In Electronic Blackboard	Y
Anson Cnty Schools	Y		District - yes Some in Schools	N	N	Y	N	N	Y
Wingate University	Y	Y	Y			Y			Y
County Library	Y	Help obtain free email	Y			Y			
Small Bus Dev Ctr	Y	Help obtain free email	Y						
Anson County	Y		Y			Y			
Anson Comm Hospital	Y		Carolinias Health Care			Y			Y
NC State Extension	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Burnsville Center	Y	Help obtain free email							
Bridge Over Troubled Water	Y	Help obtain free email							
Anson Baptist Assoc.		Y	State site			Y	Y	Y	
NC Employment Dept DSS	Y		State site County site	for Depts		Y			Y
Health Department	Y		County site			Y			
DHHS	Y		State site	for Depts		Y			Y

ISP	Service Area	Type Access	Res Rate	Bus Rate	Filtered Access	Web Hosting	Consult	On-Line Training	Premise Support	Hardware	Co-Location	Network
Alltel	County	Dedicated	N	Y								
	Very Lmtd	ADSL	U	U								
CompuServ	County	Dial Up	U	U	N	N	N	N	N	N		
Dasia.Net	80% Cnty	Wireless	U	U	N	Y	Design	N	S	Y	Y	own
PeeDee World	County	Dial Up	U	U	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	own
Trellis	County	Planned	Y	Y	N	N	Design	Y	N	N	Y	own
VNET (CTC)	County	Dial Up	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	own
	County	Dedicated		Y								
Y = Yes N = No U = Universal S = Some												

TRAINING AND ONLINE RESOURCES										
	Technology Training for Public	Internet Training for Public	Technology Trng for Stdnts/Mbrs	Internet Trng for Stdnts/Mbrs	Technology Trng for Fac/Staff	Internet Trng for Fac/Staff	On-line Classes	Type of Research Resources	Type of Homework Assist	# of NCIH Sites
SPCC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NC Live	Online:	1 planned
									Smart Thinking	
									Onsite:	
									PLATO Labs	
Anson Cnty Schools	Program to train parents at Wadesboro Primary	Program to train parents at Wdsboro Primary	Y	Y	Y	Y		Wise Owl	District Developed	
Wingate University								NC Live		
County Library	Limited	Limited			Limited	Limited		Multiple		
Small Bus Dev Ctr	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Anson County										
NC State Extension	State Cyber Camp	State Cyber Camp	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Multiple		
Burnsville Center	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SPCC			
Bridgewater Over	Y									

Trouble Water										
NC Employment Dept								Multiple for		
								Business &		
								Individuals		
								Statistics		
Sandhill Mental Health										
ISPs										

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 4/16/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at 4 pm at the Extension Service facility in Wadesboro. The following members were present: Dr. Don Altieri, Janine Rywak, Priscilla Durkin, Fred Sparger, Becky McLain, Dave Gardner, Jeff Howe, Jim Kennedy, Lauri Altieri Thomas, Wayne Sexton, John Kelly, Danny Hammonds, Charles Lee.

This meeting was a visioning/work session to provide information and suggestions to Janet Christy, the Consultant developing the E-Communities Plan.

Janine Rywak arranged for dinner from Subway in order to facilitate the long work session.

The first part of the session included an explanation of some of the technical aspects of the various forms of Internet Access. Members of the committee, including Jeff Howe of Productivity Links, Inc. and Dave Gardner of Dasia.Net, provided additional explanation and information.

The second part of the session was dedicated to completing the County Profile/General County Assessment as outlined in the RIAA Overview of E-Communities Plan. Information on or sources for demographics and resources (as defined by the Overview of E-Communities Plan) was provided.

During the third part of the session members began discussing the components of the four mini-plans outlined in the Overview of E-Communities Plan. The mini-plans are: Public Access, Training in Digital Literacy, Web Applications and Connectivity. Janet provided a list of suggestions for each of the four plans. Members were asked to determine if they were feasible and to provide "how tos." Members were also asked to provide their own suggestions. Discussion took place on the Public Access mini-plan components. Members took the suggestions with them, along with the Economic Development Planning Elements from the Anson County Comprehensive Plan. Another work session was scheduled for Monday, April 22 from 11:30 to 1:30 at the Extension Service facility.

Janet is to send copies of the handouts to members who were not in attendance. All members are to be prepared to develop ideas (what, who, how, funding sources) for each of the four mini-plans.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 3/1/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met Friday, March 1, 2002 at 7:30 a.m. at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. The following members were present: Dr. Don Altieri, Chris Wease, Elbert Marshall, Janine Rywak, Priscilla Durkin, Carol Smith, Fred Sparger, and Becky McLain

A record of the meeting is shown below:

Introduction: John Arciero, a consultant from Matthews, gave the committee some background on his work within the IT field. He has owned, ran, and managed several IT companies, and is familiar with the Rural Internet Access Authority. He developed the model for the telecenters used by the Rural Internet Access Authority and supplied it to Jane Patterson. He also wrote the successful grant application for Robeson County and told the committee he would share the grant with them

Dr. Altieri told Mr. Arciero that the committee had received a public engagement grant as well as an e-communities grant, and that the committee was at the point of beginning to build awareness and to see what the community sees as the needs. He said the committee had already identified an e-champion, Janine Rywak, and is ready to move forward.

Presentation: Mr. Arciero said the committee's next step maybe to ask the question "What do we need to do next to bridge the digital divide?" How do we provide easier access to these portals for health care, education, etc. Should it be getting broadband into the homes or should it be getting broadband into the business. The first thing maybe literacy. He pointed out that there is absolutely no reason why everyone can't have a device in their homes to get on the Internet since there are devices that can be obtained for as little as \$15 a month. Once the devices are in homes, then broadband becomes important. The question is what do you want those devices in the home to be able to do?

Mr. Arciero said he normally conducts two-day visioning sessions with leaders in the community to help ferret these issues out. He also briefly outlined the concept behind telecenters and said that the consolidation and aggregation of the demand within a facility helps obtain buyin from the telecommunications companies.

Ms. Rywak clarified that if the committee were to hire Mr. Arciero to write the strategic plan, that part of the process is a two-day visioning process that involves community leaders, etc.

Mr. Arciero stated he was not advocating for the committee to hire him, and that he was going to provide the committee with a lot of information. He said his goal is education and commerce. If you decide you want to hire me, I'll need to let know what it is you want me to do and let you know if I can provide that.

It was pointed out that the group felt like they were supposed to know what they wanted, but they don't and that this is what the process will lead to.

- Survey Janine Rywak asked that the committee members fill out the NetReadiness Survey that will help identify the community's perception on how ready Anson County is for the new information age.
- Webpage: Elbert reported that Punky Morton will develop the webpage and the committee will just need to provide him with the materials.
- Labtop: Chris Wease stated that up \$1,000 of the \$5,000 public engagement grant could be used to lease a laptop. He will take care of leasing the laptop.
- Internet Account: Fred Sparger reported he had obtained an account with Pee Dee Electric for use by the E-Champion.
- Public Forums: The date for a demonstration event at the Burnsville Center was set for March 26 at 6:30 p.m. The event will be planned during the next meeting scheduled for March 6, 8 a.m., Anson Chamber of Commerce. Also at the meeting a date will be selected for the visioning meeting to be held at the Polkton Campus of South Piedmont Community College. Fred Sparger will contact Mr. Arciero about facilitating this session. The committee approved spending up to \$1,000 for the facilitating fee.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 3/13/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. The following members were present: Dr. Don Altieri, Chris Wease, Elbert Marshall, Janine Rywak, Priscilla Durkin, Carol Smith, Fred Sparger, Dr. George Truman, Bonnie Morgan and Becky McLain

A record of the meeting is shown below:

Introduction: Fred Sparger introduced Janet Christy, the consultant hired by Union County to work with the e-communities project.

Dr. Altieri gave a brief overview of where the committee is in Anson County and explained that Anson is a tier 2 county; therefore, it also qualified for a public engagement grant, which is focusing on how to raise the awareness of the Internet and what it can do for the citizens of Anson County. He said the emphasis has been focusing on the public engagement activities and that these activities have already begun through the elementary school PTA presentations. The next activity is the demonstration event planned for the Burnsville Center on March 26, 2002.

Burnsville Event: Elbert reported that 1,500 copies of the flyer for the event have been printed and the ad has already appeared in the Express and will appear in the Anson Record today.

Registration: It was determined that Carol Smith will have her volunteers man the two registration booths - one at each entrance. Janine will create a sign-in sheet with a place for name, address, phone number, and e-mail address.
When signing in, participants will receive an SPCC folder that will include the survey, a sheet of computer terms, an agenda, the steering committee list, and a pencil. Becky will compile the folders.

Presentation: The welcome, invocation, and presentation by Dr. Truman will occur in the auditorium. After the presentation by Dr. Truman, participants will turn their surveys in at a table manned by volunteers located in the auditorium. Upon receipt of the survey they will be issued a ticket for the Mail Station door prize. Elbert will supply the tickets.

Group Sessions: Carol and Becky will work together to determine the events of the hands-on "Experiencing the Internet" group session. This session will take place in the computer lab.

Janine and Chris will work together to determine the events of the "Internet Conversations" group session.

This session will either take place in the auditorium or the general classroom.

- Final Presentation: Carol will work with Danny Hammonds to plan the "e-Business" presentation. This will take place in the auditorium. After the e-Business presentation, the drawing for the door prize will be held.
- Surveys: Janine will tabulate the results of the "Internet Conversations" group session. Carol and her volunteers will tabulate the results of the survey.
- Refreshments: The committee authorized Janine to purchase the needed refreshments and turn in the receipts to the county. Refreshments recommended included 8 oz drinks, cookies, cakes, doughnuts.
- Set-up: The committee will meet at the Burnsville Center at 6 p.m., or no later than 6:30 p.m. on the night of the event to set up.
- Consultant: The committee authorized Fred Sparger to negotiate a contract with Janet Christy to serve as the committee's consultant.
- Next Meeting: At the next meeting scheduled for 8 a.m., March 22, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, the committee will finalize the agenda for the Burnsville event and hear a report from the e-champion on the training event scheduled for March 20, 2002.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 3/22/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met Friday, March 2, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. The following members were present: Don Altieri, Jeff Howe, Jim Kennedy, Elbert Marshall, Becky McLain, Bonnie Morgan, Janine Rywak, Fred Sparger, and George Truman.

A record of the meeting is shown below:

Burnsville Event: Janine Rywak told the committee that there would need to be three instead of two group sessions due to space restrictions, and that Carol Smith has lined up volunteers to provide the children with a hands-on activity during the event. She also told the committee that Carol will decorate the center with balloons. Fred Sparger will bring the laptop and projector for the PowerPoint presentations.

Consultant: Fred Sparger provided the committee with a copy of the "Anson County e-communities initial steps with consultant" and a "Consulting Agreement Attachment A." The committee asked that it include "Write and deliver the strategic plan by May 15." The contract is not to exceed \$3,500 and ends May 30, 2002. Becky McLain will deliver a copy of the Partnership study, the Chamber Membership Directory, the New Comers Packet, and a list of the steering committee members complete with e-mail and mailing addresses as well as telephone numbers to Janet Christy. Janine Rywak will contact Chris Wease and have him provide the consultant with the Benchmark Land Use Report and any other information he feels would be helpful.

Training Janine Rywak reported on the e-Communities training event held March 20 at McDowell Community College. Janine and Becky attended the event. Janine reported that there will be more money available through the public access grants. The grants will be non-competitive grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for e-communities that have developed a strategic plan. Janine also gave a brief overview of the Digital Literacy Training Grants that will be available in May. There will be 33 competitive grants for \$20,000. The e-communities are asked to participate in a publicity campaign slated for April. Janine asked Elbert to oversee this function for the committee. The next e-community training is scheduled for April 25 and will focus on grant writing.

Next Meeting: At the next meeting scheduled for 8 a.m., April 4, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, the committee will evaluate the results of the Burnsville event, and hear the results of the surveys collected at the Burnsville event and the PTA presentations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 3/6/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met Wednesday, March 6, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. The following members were present: Dr. Don Altieri, Chris Wease, Elbert Marshall, Janine Rywak, Priscilla Durkin, Carol Smith, Fred Sparger, Dr. George Truman, Bonnie Morgan and Becky McLain

A record of the meeting is shown below:

- E-Champion:** Janine Rywak expressed some concern regarding the magnitude of the e-communities project and the time constraints she has regarding her workload.
Dr. Altieri assured her that he, Fred, and Becky will support her in the committee's efforts as would all members of the coalition.
Chris Wease also assured her that the Rural Internet Access Authority would work with the committee on the timeline.
- Consultant:** Fred Sparger reported that John Arciero would not be available to facilitate the visioning event to be held on the Polkton Campus. He will contact Janet Christy, the consultant working with Union County, to see if she is available.
- Burnsville Event:** It was determine that registration will be held from 7 p.m. to 7:10 p.m. Next Carol Smith will welcome everyone to the center and introduce Dr. Altieri, who will give a brief overview of the e-community concept.
Dr. Truman will follow with a powerpoint presentation about the Rural Internet Access Authority.
The committee discussed having break-out sessions at the event and Janine Rywak will work up an agenda for this for the next meeting.
It was decided that the event would be called the Rural Internet Fair.
Becky McLain will bring the "Making the Net Work" game to the next meeting and will also check into "freebies" to be donated by Woodmen of the World and JobLink.
SPCC will donate folders and pencils to be given out at the event.
Elbert Marshall will design a 3x5 ad to be placed in each newspaper.
The flyer on the event will also be sent home to all school children at Peachland/Polkton and Ansonville elementary schools.
Dr. Truman will check with the principals at Norwood and Oakboro to see if a flyer can be sent home with students attending these schools as well.
- PTA Meetings:** Fred reported that he would be unable to attend the Monday night PTA meeting. Janine will attend in his place.

Next Meeting: At the next meeting scheduled for 8 a.m., March 13, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, an outline of tasks and assignees will be developed for the Burnsville event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Anson County Technology Coalition
Minutes 4/22/02

The Anson County Technology Coalition met Monday, April 22, 2002 at 11:30 a.m. at the Anson County Extension Office The following members were present: Don Altieri, Pricilla Durkin, Jeff Howe, John Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Becky McLain, Janine Rywak, Fred Sparger, and Chris Wease, and the consultant Janet Christy.

A record of the meeting is shown below:

Demographics: Janet Christy asked the committee to review the demographic information she had collected.

Public Access: Continuing with its visioning session the committee identified the following public access sites to be identified and prioritized in the strategic plan.

Public Access Places	
PLACES	FUNDING POSSIBILITIES
SPCC Lockhart-Taylor Center Needs: money for staffing	Identified as the top priority by the committee to be established as a public access site. PUBLIC ACCESS Grant - RIAA
Burnsville Family Recreation and Learning Center Needs: Broadband access and money for staffing	Identified as the second top priority by the committee to be establish as a public access site. PUBLIC ACCESS Grant - RIAA
Library Needs: Limited space and public awaress	Other Possible Funding Strategies:
SPCC LRC Needs: Money for staffing	Limited User Fee
Bridges over Troubled Waters - Morven Needs: Broadband and money for staffing	Discounts from ISP Providers
Ansonville - public school Needs: Money for staffing	In kind donations: maintenance, hardware, staff, building, etc.
Lillesville - Civic Builders Club or old fire station Needs: Power, wiring, hardware, broadband, money for staffing	Sponsorships from hardware and software providers
White Store Community Building Needs: Power, wiring, hardware, broadband, money for staffing	

Applications: The committee discussed possible applications to be identified for the strategic plan and developed the following list:

- Each town establish a website

- Agri-Business Portal
- Additional interactive applications on the county website
- Explore how to market local manufacturers and businesses as an asset
- Health: involve all local medical providers
- Education: SPCC
- Tourism: Capitalize on racing the beach traffic, enhance existing traffic sites to include pictures, videos, links to motels, restaurants, and work with newly developed Tourism Development Authority.
- Survey Citizens and Business to determine needed application.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m., May 9, 2002 at the Chamber of Commerce.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.