

WCTC to host informational session on Foxconn bidding process

Foxconn looks to have 60% of the facility's construction done by Wisconsin companies

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WAUKESHA — Waukesha area construction-related companies seeking to bid on work for construction phase one of Foxconn's 1,000-acre Wisconsin Valley Science and Technology Park in Mount Pleasant should attend an April 19 informational session at the Waukesha County Technical College, 800 Main St., Pewaukee, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., according to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation website.

Foxconn announced Friday that they would like 60 percent of the facility's construction to be done by Wisconsin companies, with 70 percent of the job hours worked by Wisconsin residents. Work on the project is expected to begin in 60 days and will include site work, material procurement and temporary logistics preparation.

The WEDC and Gilbane, Inc., the professional construction manager on the project, are offering several informational sessions around Wisconsin throughout the month of April to provide companies in the badger state with details on how to become vendors, subcontractors, suppliers or professional service providers during the construction phase of the Foxconn project.

At the meetings, compa-

nies in attendance will receive information on the process of submitting bid proposals, standard terms and conditions related to the project, basic construction information, and a preliminary construction schedule for phase one of the Foxconn facility.

Involving Waukesha

The Wisconsin Department of Administration is acting as a conduit between Chambers of Commerce across the state and Foxconn, according to MaryAnn Lippert, northern region office director for the Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Intergovernmental Relations.

The Muskego Area Chamber of Commerce, for example, has reached out to its members to provide information on the April 21 meeting, according to Krisann Durnford, executive director for the Muskego Area Chamber of Commerce. She said the push for the last several months has been to involve companies within Muskego so that they have a chance at becoming a part of the Foxconn project.

"The goal is to get suppliers in the whole supply chain for the building and infrastructure as they are creating Foxconn," Durnford said. "That would be awesome for Muskego." "We would be thrilled to see some of our manufacturers get those bids."

Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow said there is a good chance Waukesha County will get several bids or otherwise become involved in some way. He said this depends on the type of suppliers Foxconn is looking for, as certain suppliers have to be within 50 to 100 miles of the facility in Mount Pleasant.

"When you draw a circle from where that is out here, you get almost 90 percent of Waukesha County within that 50-mile circle," Farrow said. "When you look at the construction side of it, I know a number of companies in the Waukesha area that are excited about the opportunity to bid on different portions."

But even before the construction phase, Farrow said he's heard of many companies that are being contacted to be a part of the supply chain once Foxconn is fully operational.

"This is going to be an opportunity for businesses to really get a small piece of what is going to be a big opportunity for the whole state to grow," Farrow said. "This is going to be a game changer over the next ten years for what Foxconn is going to provide for the whole region."

The sessions are free but advance registration is required. For a complete list of informational sessions and locations or to register, visit wisconnvalley.wi.gov/Pages/General-Info-Sessions.aspx.