

WIXOM WINS WI-FI

At his State of the County Address, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson launched the Wireless Oakland Initiative. This initiative has three goals; 1) Blanket the entire County with wireless internet service and provide free high speed internet access to every resident, business, and visitor in the County; 2) Provide low-cost or no-cost PC's and technology training to vulnerable population groups; and 3) Develop a Telecommunication and Technology Planning Toolkit that supports continued high-tech investments in local government and promotes the integration of those investments with local community character and quality of life. On October 31, 2005, the County selected MichTel Communications, L.L.C. as the service provider/contractor and named Wixom along with Birmingham, Madison Heights, Royal Oak, Oak Park, Pontiac and Troy as Wireless Oakland Pilot Communities. Select sections in these communities will be the first to receive wireless internet service.

What this means for Wixom is that within the Village Center Area you will be able to bring your wireless compatible laptop and do business while enjoying any of the new retail establishments, relaxing in the public spaces upon their completion or even in your car! Talk about transforming the way you do business! This will catch the eye of many high-tech businesses looking to locate in Oakland County. In fact, Oakland is the first county in the country to attempt it and Wixom is in on it from the start.

The Wireless Oakland Pilot Project will begin shortly and be completed during the first quarter of 2006. It is anticipated that by 2007 the entire 910 miles of Oakland County will have wireless access.

“This is another home run that will keep Oakland County and the other communities on the front lines,” said Wixom City Manager Mike Dornan speaking to County, City and State officials.