

***Fort Monmouth Economic
Revitalization Authority
Newsletter***

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FMERA Hosts MODC's October General Membership Meeting Highlighting NJ Tech History
Discussions Also Focused on Fort Monmouth's Tech Future

In a world in which an email can send information halfway around the globe in an instant and you can sit at the beach at the Jersey Shore and Facetime or Skype with a friend “across the pond” in England, it is staggering to think how far technology has come and how far it can go.

On October 17, attendees at the Monmouth-Ocean Development Council's October meeting, held at Gibbs Hall on Fort Monmouth's picturesque Suneagle's Golf Course in Eatontown, learned about New Jersey's rich history of shaping technology to date and where those in the industry see it going.

The morning session started with a talk by CommVault's Senior VP of Marketing and Business Development David West. West spoke about why the company chose to stay in New Jersey. Citing its easy access to New York City, Philadelphia and Washington DC, and, of course, the beach, West said Monmouth County is conducive to having a good quality of life. He noted that bringing jobs to the former Fort means that people will buy homes in the area and hotels will be occupied when people visit the company for meetings and other events. West also reiterated that CommVault is proud to be an anchor company in what FMERA officials and businesses around Monmouth and Ocean Counties hope will be a technology hub in the region.

FMERA Board Member Dr. Robert Lucky and NJIT's Dr. Donald H. Sebastian, who is the President and CEO of New Jersey Innovation Institute, walked the audience through New Jersey's deep roots in technology and innovations over the years. Dr. Lucky pointed out that the concept of the cellular network was conceived in Holmdel in 1947. He also noted that radio astronomy was launched in New Jersey, and that the first signal to a satellite was sent from the state. Dr. Sebastian talked about the transformation of the telecommunication, petrochemicals, pharmaceutical, and light industries, all of whose origins have ties to New Jersey. When talking about recent technology and how it's revolutionizing the world, Dr. Sebastian noted that there is “more power in the cell phone than landed man on the moon in the '60's.”

Over lunch, attendees heard all about the benefits of driverless car technology from Dr. Alain Kornhauser, research professor at Princeton University, a once inconceivable idea that is now gaining momentum worldwide.

The topic of driverless technology was again broached at a summit held at the Fort on October 3, where more than 60 people gathered to discuss the possibility of the creation of a center for the development and commercialization of driverless vehicle technology. Participants at the summit called driverless technology a new transportation paradigm, and said that it constitutes an innovative \$1 trillion industry that will forever impact all transportation, including cars, trucks, buses and trains. FMERA continues to market its assets for all potential uses.



Rick Harrison, FMERA's Director of Facilities Planning, at the MODC October meeting.

RFOTP Process Approved for Parcel F-3

Taking the next step in the redevelopment process, the FMERA Board approved making Parcel F-3 in the Charles Wood Area available through the Request for Offers to Purchase process at its October meeting.

"The Fort Monmouth Reuse and Redevelopment Plan envisions that the parcel will be used as commercial land, in particular as a gas station and retail location," Executive Director Bruce Steadman said.

Parcel F-3 borders the County's Fort Monmouth Recreation Center and pool and includes Building 2567, a former convenience store, and two islands housing fuel dispensing pumps. Earlier this year, the Army deeded Parcel F-3 to FMERA, with the exception of an environmental carve-out area located underneath and around the fuel dispensing pumps. FMERA expects to receive a deed for the carve-out area once the Army remediates the property.

Last of Three EDC Parcel Auctions Held Oct. 29

The Auctioneers Group held its third auction on Wednesday, October 29, to sell off personal property contained within the Phase I Economic Development Conveyance parcels on the former Fort. The contents of six administrative office buildings slated to be auctioned off included furniture, office system work stations, and conference chairs. Inspections were held from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on October 27 and 28. More information about the items that were being auctioned can be found at: www.theauctioneersgroup.com.

FMERA Executive Director Bruce Steadman said the response to the first two auctions was excellent. More than 40 bidders registered for the October 1 auction and more than 50 registered for the auction held on October 15, with sales finalized for a variety of items, including the 20,000-square-foot sports dome and the contents of the FBI Building and former cadet prep school. All proceeds from the auctions will be invested in the Fort's redevelopment, per the federal requirements.



Historical Photo of the Month

The Tiros-1 satellite, pictured above, was developed under the technical supervision of the Fort Monmouth Laboratories. The satellite sent the first televised weather photographs of the earth's cloud cover and weather patterns to the 60-foot "Space Sentry" antenna at Fort Monmouth in 1960. FMERA hopes to create an environment that continues the development of technological innovations, such as this one, at Fort Monmouth.

Note: FMERA board action is subject to a ten (10) day veto period by the Governor.

FMERA'S Monthly Newsletter is available online at fortmonmouthredevelopment.com following each board meeting. To be added to the e-mail distribution list, please send a request with contact information, to FMERAINfo@njeda.com.

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