

## Buildings & Sites Database

After several discussions with Wichita Falls brokers, the Wichita Falls Association of Realtors and the MLS Association, BCI will be adding a searchable building and site database to its website.

“The purpose of the database is twofold,” said Kevin Pearson, BCI’s vice president of economic development. “One of the most important services we can offer to consultants and corporate decision makers that are siting new plants is property availability in our area. These consultants and corporate real estate professionals can easily find economic development website, but find it more difficult to locate other sources to analyze property availability in our area. Our second objective in the creations of a building and site database will be to help the local real estate community sell more property. We at BCI do not compete with the local real estate community, but work hand-in-hand with them in offering and showing property,” said Pearson.

Any real estate agent or broker will be allowed to post commercial, industrial, office and retail property, either buildings and/or sites, on this new, on-line database. There are only three requirements. First, a specific lease or sales price must be stated and at least one photograph of property must be submitted. Those submitting information will also be required to sign a statement allowing BCI to post the property on its website.

We are also not limiting this database to just Wichita Falls. Property in Vernon, Henrietta, Iowa Park and Burkburnett may also be posted.

Additionally, individuals who own property not listed with the real estate community will also be allowed to post property on the website. Pearson said, “We wrestled with this issue, but the brokers in town with whom we spoke all agreed that if a commercial property sold to a new company moving to town, the local real estate community would benefit on the back end by selling homes to new employees.”

This is a unique property database,” Pearson said, “as brokers and agents will be able to create their own user name and password to the on-line database and be able to upload building and site data from their own desks. In the next few weeks BCI will be conducting training sessions for the brokers to show them how easy it is to post data.”

“With the redesign of BCI’s web site, which recently won a local ADDY Award, this building and site database will give us another tool to use in our economic development war chest,” said Pearson. “This is a “win win” situation for all. Brokers will be able to increase exposure for their listed properties, consultants and corporate decision makers will be able to quickly analyze property availability in Wichita Falls, and BCI may be able to attract more interest in our community with the anticipated result of more jobs and investment in our community.”