BUSINESS

Pickens getting new employer

Company that supplies automakers expected to create 40 to 50 jobs

By Julie Howle
STAFF WRITER
jhowle@greenvilleonline.com

An economic development announcement will be made today for a company that is expected to create about 40 to 50 jobs in Pickens County.

Ray Farley, executive director of Alliance Pickens, said Alliance Pickens along with the county and the state Department of Commerce will announce the name and location of an automotive manufacturing supplier coming to Pickens County.

Council Chairwoman Jennifer Willis said the announcement about "Project TP" will immediately follow a special called meeting of Pickens County Council.

The special meeting's agenda is a third reading and public hearing of an ordinance "authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source credit agreement between Pickens County" and Project TP.

The meeting is at 11 a.m. in the auditorium of the county administration facility on McDaniel Avenue.

"It's not actually a fee-in-lieu for this particular company," Willis said.

"They are going into an existing building with a lease-purchase agreement so we can't do a fee-in-lieu because they're not doing a straight construction of a new building," she said. "The special source allows us to give them the same kind of incentives for their equipment and for the job investments and also help them with the lease-purchase piece of it."

Willis said the company plans an initial investment of about $2 million and is expected to create about 40 to 50 jobs initially.

She and Farley wouldn't release other details Monday.

"It's so exciting to have a building that's been sitting empty that's being returned to productive use, that's going to hire citizens of Pickens County," Willis said.