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Greensboro Partnership execs hopeful about landing HondaJet

The Business Journal of the Greater Triad Area - January 26, 2007 by [Matt Harrington](#) The Business Journal

Greensboro Partnership executives are upbeat about the possibility of the Piedmont Triad International Airport being home to the manufacturing operations of HondaJet, they said Thursday night.

"We're optimistic," said Dennis Barry, the partnership's 2006 chairman, in his remarks to the crowd at the partnership's annual dinner at Sheraton Four Seasons. "We hope to receive a positive decision from Honda in the near future."

Added 2007 chairman Lee McAllister: "We hope to soon make an exciting (economic development) announcement about an aviation company."

Greensboro officials have previously been relatively tight-lipped about the aircraft-manufacturing facility, although the project was presented to Guilford County commissioners at a meeting earlier this week.

Barry called Guilford Technical Community College's aviation program a "critical part" of the city's recruitment efforts. Honda has already chosen Greensboro as the headquarters of the aircraft subsidiary, Honda Aircraft Co.

PTI, which appears to be Guilford County's top site for the potential HondaJet manufacturing facility, has applied to the state for a grant from the Economic Development Reserve program. That money could be used to help prepare a site for economic development purposes.

N.C. Department of Commerce officials have said they hope to make a decision soon on the grants.

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