

## Beacon 41: Leveraging Technology and Partnerships to Create Beacons of Hope



[Mark McClure](#), President, MCNT Holdings, LLC

Creative business leader dedicated to delivering innovative value to the built building marketplace. Mark applies emerging technologies to accomplish market differentiating results that impact economics, energy, and the environment. With significant building technology solutions and application experience, Mark recognizes the importance of engaging our youth as a valuable untapped resource to embrace the use of advanced building technologies and IoT.

### Project Description:

The Beacon 41 Project is an initiative to leverage technology and community partnerships to transform properties into beacons of hope. The vision was formed out of collaborations between Mark McClure and various leaders in education, government, non-profits, and business in Tarrant County, Texas where there are 41 municipalities. Several for and non-profit partners in the region are supporters of Mark's vision and are considering the possibility of partnering on a project to create a proof of concept Beacon. This project is slated to include a high school and trade school technology education and training program, commercial real estate development, and partnerships with nonprofits and employers to fill high demand jobs. The vision for Tarrant County is to upgrade technology investment and redevelopment to seed transformational change in the region. The long-term goal is to unleash this vision in other regions.

### Beacon 41 projects serve the needs of communities surrounding them:

- Next generation technologies provide opportunities. Examples include: Low-voltage, low cost utilities, solar and other eco-friendly technologies, Wi-Fi umbrellas to overcome the digital divide, interactive media, and much more.
- As mixed-use properties, each Beacon will be designed to include both revenue-generating spaces as well as community enrichment.
- Beacon projects will serve as an opportunity for engagement among stakeholders in local communities to gather, share ideas, and weigh in on what their needs are and what they would like to see in a newly developed facility.
- Education and training programs, employment, and entrepreneurship programs will also be offered out of these community centers.

### Beacon 41 Project Goals:

1. Form roundtable of leaders across sectors to shape and champion the vision.
2. Create network of real estate, technology, and construction professionals.
3. Engage in at least one Beacon 41 Project in order to prove concept.

### Project Metrics:

- Successful formation partnership and working group of leaders.
- Funds raised and deployed to completed project.
- Illustration and communication of the vision to garner support for growth.

### Who is involved? Who else needs to be involved?

Initial community partners forming vision; Additional community partners to support.