

Critical Action Needed Now!

Dear Elk Creek Ranch Residents,

This is an important update on our grant project to potentially make excellent, fiber-optic, high-speed internet coverage available to every lot in Elk Falls Ranch, South Creek Road, Woodside, Mountain View Lakes and Staunton State Park (We are not sure of the extent of Staunton's involvement at this time.)

If you've kept up with our communications, you know our partner, [South Park Telephone \(SPT\)](#), conducted an Engineering and Feasibility Study to determine the details of the Broadband Project and to create a cost estimate. The results of that study were presented via Zoom meeting last Saturday. The meeting was recorded and we will have access to it **for only about 25 more days.**

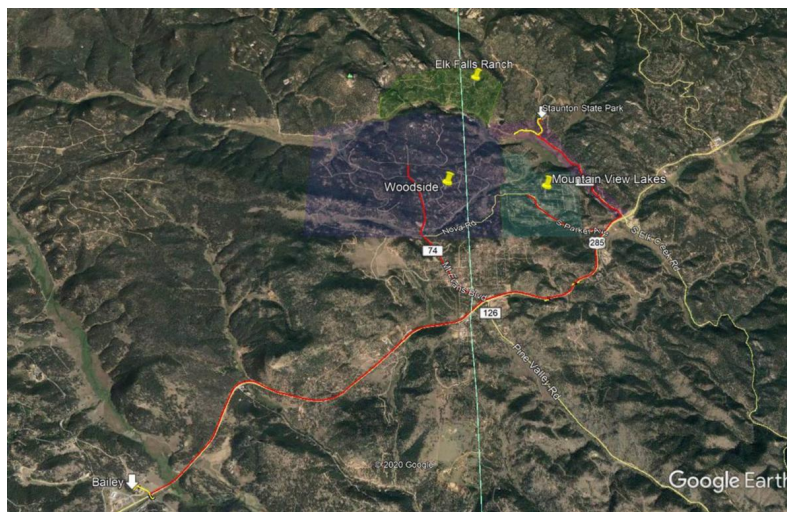
The presentation is proprietary so please keep that in mind and not share it outside of residents in the project area.

[Engineering and Feasibility Study Presentation Link](#)

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In short, what we learned from the Study is:

1. The cost will be approximately \$3,271,952.00 or \$5,364 per residence, between all three neighborhoods. Note: this is NOT what you need to pay. This is just the cost of the project broken down by residence.
2. The route will start in Bailey, run along 285 into the project area with 3 legs (See Map below):
 - Mount Evans into Woodside,
 - S. Parker Road into Mountain View Lakes,
 - S. Elk Creek Road, into Staunton and Elk Falls Ranch



[For larger image of Fiber Route Map, Click here.](#)

3. The project is mostly an aerial build, strung on IREA poles and will follow the power footprint. If power to your dwelling is above ground, then the fiber will be run above ground. If power to your dwelling is buried, then fiber will also be buried.

4. A pricing structure was presented. [Click here to see pricing.](#) As you review the pricing, note that the more commitments we have, the greater discounts we receive on monthly rates. Additionally, if you choose, you can obtain phone service for \$35.95 per month.

Our next steps are:

1. **Commit to acquire fiber-optic broadband** from South Park Telephone once it becomes available. This includes:
 - Signing a Commitment Form. [Click here to print a Commitment Form.](#) We need at least 350 commitments out of 800 total lots.
 - Making a full payment of \$500.00 or partial payment of \$250.00 by June 30, 2020 with a final payment upon receiving the grant. Instructions for payment are on the Commitment Form
 - This is **100% refundable**, if we are not awarded the grant.
 - Eventually, we will have an on-line commitment/payment option. That is not yet ready.
2. **Submit speed tests to David Shipley of SPT.** [Click here for instructions on speed tests.](#)
3. **Submit letters of support to David Shipley and copy me.** [Click here for instructions on letters of support.](#)

The purpose of the Commitment and \$500 payment is as follows:

1. It lets SPT know that if they invest in infrastructure, there are enough people who will sign up for their service. (Even with the grant, they will be investing heavily into the project.)
2. This is your fee to bring fiber from the main route to your home. This is a deal! Later, if they have to do one-off construction, the cost could be \$2-3K depending on how far you are from the main route.
3. It contributes to the match that we need for the grant application.

Right now, it is critical to the success of this project for each Elk Falls Ranch house and lot owner to respond and let SPT know whether or not you will commit to having this service.

Why you should do this now:

1. Today, stable and robust high-speed broadband is no longer a luxury, but a necessity for most of us. This will be even more true in the future as an increasing number of services move to the internet, including telecommunications, healthcare, public safety, home automation and shopping. When you think of this opportunity for your home, think to the future. For example, currently, in my home, we can't stream on our HD TV. We can't even consider upgrading to a 4K TV as we can't purchase enough bandwidth to operate it.
2. You can subscribe to phone service for a lower monthly price than you currently have - \$39.95 with many calling features and unlimited local and long-distance calling.
3. If you choose, you can cancel cable TV and subscribe to streaming services. Some are as low as \$9/month. But depending on what you need, you may need to pay more. However, none of the streaming services I researched cost anywhere close to my \$160/month Direct TV subscription.
4. If you decide later you want fiber:
 - you will not receive the offered discounts on monthly rates
 - as mentioned above, one-off construction is more expensive and could cost you up to \$3,000.00 (vs. \$500 now.)

There are so many more details I could share with you, but I'm afraid this communication is already too long. So please, never hesitate to contact me for more information. And

please watch the Zoom presentation. It will really help you understand the project.

Thank you for your participation and support.

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Links for more information:

Project website: www.285broadband.com

Project Facebook Page. Please join this private group. This is the best place for most up-to-date information and discussions: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2441495086101499/>

For more information on the grant, go to [Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies Broadband Fund Website](#).

Benefits of fiber-optic internet - [Click Here](#)

Why we chose SPT as our partner - [Click Here](#)

Upcoming May 15th Broadband Fund Webinar on How to Apply - [Click Here](#) to register.