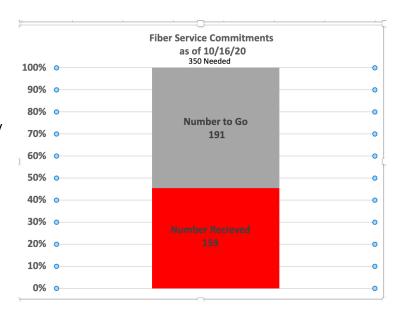


Broadband Project Update

With 159 commitments, we are making progress towards meeting our goal of 350 in order to apply for the DORA Broadband Grant. However, we still need 191 (or close to that number) commitments by November 15th - less than a month away!

We are seeing commitments come in from the the two new neighborhoods who joined the project - Douglass Ranch and Preserve at Pine Meadows. This is giving us a nice, needed boost, but we still need commitments from



Elk Falls Ranch, Mountain View Lakes and Woodside if we are to reach our goal.

Commitment breakdown by neighborhood:

Elk Falls Ranch - 59 S. Elk Creek Road - 8 Douglass Ranch - 2 Mountain View Lakes - 16 Preserve at Pine Meadows - 5 Woodside - 69

Unless we get close to 350 commitments, we will not be able to apply for the grant. So if you would like reliable, high-speed internet that situates you for the future (DSL is considered obsolete - see article below), please send in your commitment as soon as you can.

The Commitment Form can be found at this <u>link</u> and the **Pricing Sheet** can be found at this <u>link</u>.

Cost is one concern that has been expressed by some residents. One of our Board Members, Dan Mueller, is in the telecommunications industry and put together a nice summary of benefits you should consider before discounting fiber-optic internet based solely on cost. Click <u>HERE</u> to review his summary.

We also encourage you to look at the bigger picture and not just the cost of internet. You may also be able to get cheaper phone service and you can cancel your cable TV subscription! For some, this is a significant savings. Refer to two cost scenario examples based on real resident bills below. (Note that Century Link does not provide 40 Mbps, as noted in Scenario 2, to most DSL customers nor do they provide new service in our area.)

Related info: AT&T recently decided to discontinue their DSL service, which is considered outdated technology. Read article here. Will Century Link soon follow??

Scenario 1 (without taxes)				
South Park Telephone		Viasat/Exede		
55 Mbps down/55 mbps up	89.95	Up to 50 Mbps down/up to 3 Mbps up	150.00	
No data limit		Data limit 133.0 GB		
		Equipment rental	10.00	
Stream Direct TV	49.99	Direct TV Basic Package	111.00	
		Reciever Rental X 1	7.00	
Phone service with long distance	35.95	Century Link phone with long distance	72.00	
	139.94		278.00	
Savings \$138.06 (in addition to greater Mbps)				

Scenario 2 (without taxes)					
South Park Telephone		Century Link Bundle			
55 Mbps down/55 mbps up	89.95	Up to 40 Mbps down/up to 2 Mbps up			
No data limit		No data limit			
		Internet and Voice	78.00		
Stream Direct TV	49.99	Direct TV Basic Package	77.99		
		Related monthly charges	7.00		
Phone service with long distance	35.95				
	139.94		162.99		
Savings \$ 23.05 (in addition to greater Mbps)					

THANK YOU to everyone who has committed so far! We appreciate your interest and support of the project.

As always, contact me if you have guestions.

Bev Long

Broadband Committee Chair and Champion for Elk Falls Ranch and S. Elk Creek Road bevlong2555@gmail.com
303-838-4373

For real-time updates join our <u>Facebook Group</u>. The site is called <u>Staunton Area</u> Broadband Initiative (New Name!)

Our website is 285broadband.com,

What is a commitment?

A commitment means you agree to sign up for high-speed internet fiber from South Park Telephone if we are awarded the grant. Commitments, which include the \$500 installation fee, help us determine the *real interest* (demand) for this service. It is not a sustainable business model for <u>South Park Telephone</u> if enough demand isn't truly there. The \$500 is fully refundable if we do not reach our commitment goal or are not awarded the grant.