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Fidium Fiber scheduled to begin broadband construction in March!

February 19, 2024 Update

Starting in mid-March, Fidium Fiber (Consolidated Communications) will begin construction of the regional fiber broadband service across the Greater East Grand Region. The towns that will be serviced are Orient, Weston, Bancroft, Haynesville, Glenwood Plt, Reed/Wytopitlock, Drew, Danforth, Brookton, Forest and Forest City. There are three phases to the build-out:

1. Beginning in mid-March and for an estimated eight weeks, line crews will build the network on the main roads in the region. You can expect to see up to a dozen Fidium or Consolidated line trucks beginning work on the state owned roads, followed then by work on the local, neighborhood roads.
2. The second phase is called the splicing stage. This phase includes work in front of homes and businesses so you can connect to the network.
3. The final phase is the installation phase. This is when your home will be connected to the network if you have signed up for Fidium services. Residents that require underground or water crossing connections will require a bit more time to complete.

If all goes as planned, network service will be available by the end of June or mid-July. Please look for materials in your mailbox from Fidium that will announce when and how to sign up for services. Please note the following important process steps.

- If you are a Consolidated customer you will need to place your order by phone, not on-line. This is to ensure that the current service is turned off at the same time the new service is turned on. **Fidium (1.866.471.2399)**
- If you are not a Consolidated customer, you can pre-order services www.fidiumfiber.com. If you sign up for pre-order, you will receive updates as the build progresses and Consolidated will reach out when they are ready to schedule the installation of your service.
- If your address is not listed on the Fidium website, please do not worry. Contact Sarah Strickland, the GEGEC broadband project coordinator, at sbs4940@gmail.com and leave your name, address and phone number. She will forward the information to the right person at Fidium, and they will get back to you to address the issue.
- Other questions or concerns? Please contact your town manager/clerk, or Sarah Strickland sbs4940@gmail.com. We will do our best to get back to you as quickly as possible.
- Updates will be provided through your town offices and on the new Facebook page for the Greater East Grand Economic Council.

This project has been made possible through an \$8.1 million grant from Maine Connectivity Authority to Fidium Fiber in collaboration with the Greater East Grand Economic Council and the eleven towns involved in the two year planning effort. Other organizations that funded and/or contributed significantly to the planning effort include Town of Danforth, Town of Weston, Reed Plantation, Washington County UT, Aroostook County UT, Maine Community Foundation, Maine Broadband Coalition, ConnectMaine Authority, and Mission Broadband, Community Concepts Finance Corporation, and Island Institute.

Please thank the GEGR Broadband Planning Task Force when you see them for their efforts!

Dwayne Young, Chair; David Apgar, Jessica Comeau, Mike Comeau, Angela Cowger, Constance Curtis, Dan Daggett, Scott Hanington, Ron Hickman, Caroll Randall, David Taylor, Van White, Heather Zakupowsky, and Sarah Strickland.