Since 2014, Park County Government has been quietly working on one of the central issues that keeps people from living in the county full time: Reliable, High Speed Broadband Internet Access.

Led by County Commissioner Mike Brazell, the Park County Broadband Advisory Board has been holding monthly meetings with carriers, service providers, local business owners, and concerned citizens to try and crack the broadband code to bring better services to the county. What we’ve found is that the solutions are varied; That one size does not fit all; and that broadband development can be a slow process, but a worthwhile one.

These meetings have led to a variety of projects that both the county and private companies are hard at work on in Park County. Once completed, they will bring improved Internet services to our schools and public institutions, better cell phone service and lay the groundwork for a more connected future in Park County.
Update: Bailey Fiber Project

Underground Conduit – 90% Complete. Aerial – In Progress – 25% complete

Progress continues in Bailey. Pole setting and aerial fiber crews have returned to Bailey and will continue working to complete construction this fall.

Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA) Pole replacement is nearing completion of the upgraded poles to accommodate the additional weight of the 96 strand fiber optic cable.

The Carrier Neutral Facility (CNF) at the Bailey Library is complete. This is where the network connects out the Internet at speeds of 1 Gigabit per second.

Easement Acquisition continues. Late in the project, it was discovered that the existing utility easements did not permit telecommunications infrastructure to be added without obtaining an additional easement from property owners. All owners have been contacted and an offer has been made to compensate them for the new easement.

Progress is good and on track for a Q4 Project completion.
**Goal: Improve Broadband access for carriers in Greater Alma Area**

This project consists of the construction of two towers in the Alma area to allow Park County to install licensed microwave links between Fairplay and Alma.

**Tower 1: Zebulon Tower**

**Tower 2: Alma-Placer Tower**

Microwave links between existing Fairplay Tower and two new towers

**Progress report:**

- Environmental studies of the two tower sites – Completed
- Contractor – Selected
- Construction scheduled to begin October 2017

**Challenges** – With the completion of the environmental, cultural and archaeological studies of the tower sites, construction of road access to the sites can begin. Park County road and bridge crews will be constructing basic road access to each site and excavating the tower pads to prep for the contractor’s work. Clearly, we are racing the clock as October can bring weather. We expect to break ground on the sites in the next couple of weeks.
Update: Fairplay Fiber Project

Underground Conduit – 100% Complete. Aerial -100% Complete. Inside Plant – On Order

Crews made excellent progress in Fairplay this summer. As of September 1, all fiber has been placed. This includes new fiber to each location. Inside plant work for fiber termination and turn up of services remains to be completed and is scheduled for Q4 2017.

Fairplay Fiber

Goals:
#1 - Connect Schools, Libraries, Fire Department, Public Health and Local Government Offices to Modern Fiber Infrastructure
#2 – Lay the groundwork for next generation services to Homes and Businesses

Milestones
Design – Completed Q4 2015
Contractor - Selected Q4 2016
Construction – ongoing
Completion - Q4 2017

Funding Sources
Park County (local)
DOLA (State)

Locations Connected
Fairplay Fire Station and SAR
Park County Road and Bridge
Park County Sheriff
Park County Facilities
Fairplay Facilities
Boys and Girls Club
South Park Ambulance
Park County Health
Park County 911
Park County Fair Barn
Park County Recreation Center
Fairplay Admin Office
Park County Annex
Fairplay Library
Combined Courts and DA

For More Information
Please attend our next public Broadband Advisory Board Meeting:
2nd Monday of each month
at the Fairplay Community Center (Fair Barn)
880 Bogue Street, Fairplay
http://parkco.us/510/Park-County-Broadband-Initiative