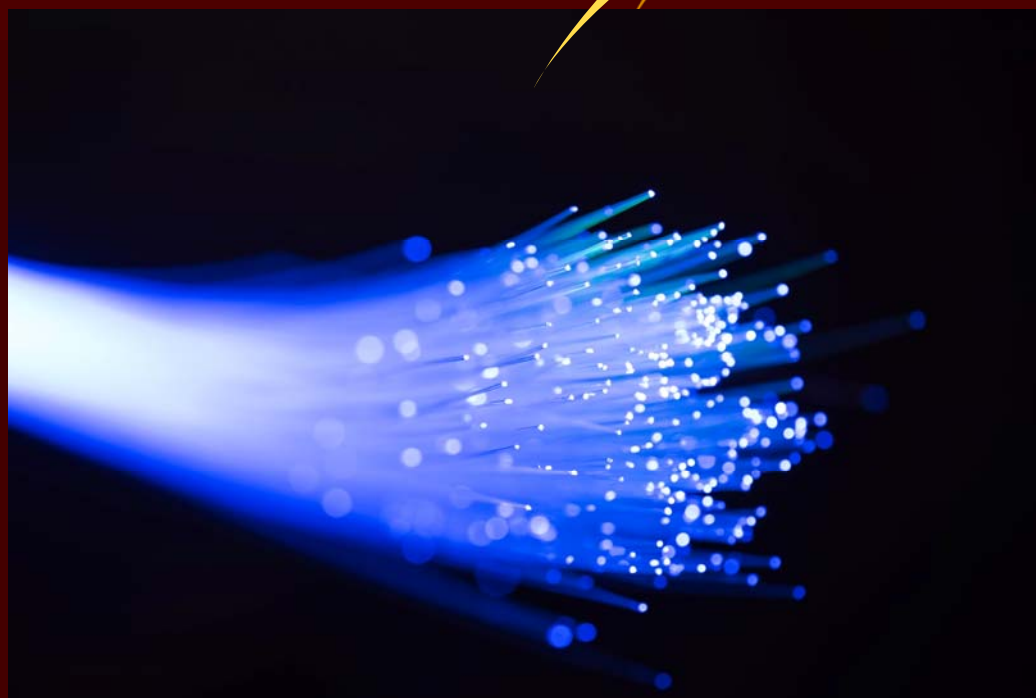


# Eastern Slope — Bennett Fiber Project

## 2017-2018



### Benefits of a Fiber Connection

Increased Internet Speeds \* Highest Quality and Most Reliable Connection  
Increases the Productivity of Businesses \* Increases Home Values  
Economic Vitality, Communication, Information, Entertainment



A wholly owned subsidiary of Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association, Inc.



### Bennett Fiber Upgrade at a Glance.....

- Engineering is Complete
- Construction to Begin Spring 2017
- Estimated Completion Fall 2018
- FTTH in Rural Bennett Exchange Areas
- FTTN in Town of Bennett
- Increased Broadband Speeds-Gig Capable
- ESTechTV Product Availability



No Dish...No Worries...ESTech TV!

### CONNECTING YOU TO THE WORLD.....

In order to provide our members in the Bennett exchange with improved services, Eastern Slope will be upgrading our existing facilities. Demand for new data services, including high speed internet access, is placing burdens on the existing telecommunications network. ESRTA has made the commitment to place fiber optics and electronics to enhance the availability of DSL and Ethernet – and the limitless opportunities that accompany it, to all ESRTA subscribers. This project is made possible through a USDA Rural Utilities Service traditional loan to Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association. As your local cooperative, we are excited to bring quality, affordable, high speed broadband internet services to ALL of our customers.

The Board of Directors of Eastern Slope Rural Telephone hope that the upgrade project will serve as a stimulus to the local economies while providing much needed bandwidth to homes and businesses. Internet connectivity is essential to the economic opportunities in Eastern Colorado and ESRTA has a proven track record of building, operating, and maintaining high quality communications services – now and in the future. Please feel free to visit our website at [www.esrta.com](http://www.esrta.com) or call the business office at 719-743-2441 or 1-888-999-3778 to discuss the planned upgrade or inquire about existing broadband availability.

### BENEFITS TO OUR CUSTOMERS.....

Business and home owners are using technologies that require more and more bandwidth. Fiber optics is the only medium that can keep up with the bandwidth demand. A single hair-thin optical fiber can carry up to 1,000 times as much information as copper (traditional telephone network material) or co-ax (traditional cable television network material). Fiber networks are extremely reliable and can carry multiple voice, data, or video streams into the same house at the same time!

Our new network will allow us to deliver state of the art technologies to your home or business, including ESTechTV, our IPTV video product. We are excited to be able to serve the Town of Bennett and the surrounding rural areas with broadband services that will, in many cases, exceed those available in the Denver metro area.

**Thank you for your patience, patronage, and friendship!!!!**

## Stage 1

**Design:** Engineering and design is already completed! You may have noticed our engineers, RVW, Inc. in the area.

## Stage 2

**Site Survey:** Our engineers, RVW, Inc. will be going door-to-door starting in November 2016 to assess the location of the drop and ONT.

## Stage 3

**Duct & Fiber:** The next step is to bury duct and fiber optic cable and mount necessary electronic equipment. This work will begin in the spring of 2017 with expected completion in 2018.

## Stage 4

**Test and Turn-up:** Once the fiber is in the ground, we will make contact with the customer to schedule a custom installation at the home, if needed. We will start turning up service as soon as possible, with most customers on the new network by the end of 2018.



## Frequently Asked Questions.....

**What kind of internet speeds will I have?** Fiber has the capacity to deliver virtually unlimited internet speeds. The internet speeds that are available when the network construction is complete will be influenced by customer demand and the competitive environment. We anticipate the internet speeds will more than double!

**Will I be charged for the fiber optic network installation and activation?** There will be no additional charges for your upgrade to fiber optics unless you choose to add new services to your account. However, if you choose not to allow Eastern Slope to construct fiber optics to your home or business, there may be additional monthly fees, construction fees, or termination of your service associated with that decision in the future.

**Will getting fiber to my home disturb my yard or property?** Though we may sometimes be required to dig across your yard to bury a new fiber line, our goal is to treat your property as if it were our own. We will always strive to promptly restore your property to a condition as close to original as possible. If you have questions or concerns about getting fiber to your home, please feel free to call us.

**What should I expect during the upgrade?** Our engineers, RVW, Inc. will be visiting customers door-to-door to do a site survey. This will help us plan the fiber installation. When everything is in place, we will schedule an appointment with you for the final hookup to the network inside your home, if necessary.

**I like my service the way it is now. Do I have to switch over to the new fiber?** Yes, Eastern Slope is moving all of its services over to the fiber network at no additional cost to our customers.

**Will new equipment be installed at my home?** For FTTH, the old NID you currently have on the exterior of your home will be replaced by a slightly larger ONT. The ONT requires electricity, which typically costs less than one dollar per month to power. For FTTN, no changes will be made to your equipment.

**Will Fiber increase the value of my home?** Fiber to the home could increase your home value by as much as \$7,000, according to the Fiber-To-The-Home Council information age.

## Stay Connected!

Follow us on Facebook (Eastern Slope Rural Telephone)  
and watch our website [www.esrta.com](http://www.esrta.com) for updates!

## Bennett Fiber Upgrade

- ◆ Faster Broadband Speeds—Gig Capable
- ◆ Reliability
- ◆ Unlimited Bandwidth
- ◆ Future Flexibility
- ◆ Increased Property Values
- ◆ Increased Quality of Life
- ◆ Brought to You by Your Local Cooperative



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**ESTech, LLC**

**Eastern Slope Rural Telephone**

PO Box 397  
Hugo, CO 80821

719-743-2441  
888-999-3778

[www.esrta.com](http://www.esrta.com)



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