



Methownet.com – Connecting the Methow Valley since 1995

Newsletter, June 2023



## Okanogan County Connect

**A federal grant awarded from the Washington State Broadband Office to OCEC and Methownet**

We're excited to partner with OCEC to provide a robust, reliable, locally owned and managed Internet Service to the Methow Valley.

### **WSBO Grant awarded to build High-speed fiber optic broadband network**

The Washington State Broadband Office awards grants funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Broadband Infrastructure Program of the Federal Department of Commerce. The grant is funded through federal dollars, not through local means.

#### **Project Plan**

- \$30 Million - Cost to expand high-speed, fiber optic broadband network to entire OCEC service area
- \$12 Million – Grant amount awarded in 2023 round of funding

A strategic build out starts with population centers and business corridors within the OCEC service area. Key infrastructure will allow for future expansion of the fiber optic network to the rest of the service area. We will continue to apply for grants to complete the build-out to the entire OCEC service area.

The project plan covers the full cost of installation, including equipment, to the end-user.

#### **We need you! Please sign up so we can schedule the build-out**

1. Visit <https://okanogancountyconnect.com/FiberMap.html> and enter your address.
2. If your address shows correctly on the map, please select Yes. If not, please select No.
3. The next screen requests your contact information. This enters your information into a database of customers who want a fiber connection.

We will contact you once the terms of monthly service have been established and provide installation information when work is scheduled in your area.

#### **Why a fiber connection?**

- Lightning fast! Fiber to the home is designed for symmetrical speeds. Our fiber accounts start at 100M/100M
- Robust fiber connections have the bandwidth to support multiple devices simultaneously within a household
- Stable fiber optic networks are not susceptible to inclement weather, overgrown trees, or snowloads
- Dependable service with no throttling, data caps, or overage charges
- A fiber connection can save money with a bundled VOIP phone service from Methownet. No need for satellite TV or a land line telephone.

**PUD Service Area** Within the Okanogan PUD area, the PUD is also working to expand their fiber optic network. As always, we are here to help - call our office at 509-996-2022 at anytime to chat with our helpful team. We appreciate you!