

# Burland Broadband Community Update

## Broadband Grant Status

In July, South Park Telephone (SPT) submitted an application for a grant to bring broadband into Burland Ranchettes. There were fifteen applicants valued at \$12.8 million competing for \$7,099,170. Eight applications were selected for funding. SPT was denied a grant. This is the second time within a year that SPT's application was not selected.

## Broadband Next Steps

In the first and second grant cycles, most of the applicants selected were addressing fewer homes and requesting \$1 million or less. Based upon those two unsuccessful requests, the Burland Broadband Committee working with SPT are reconfiguring the grant application for a third attempt in January 2021. referencing the model that other applicants have been successful with, our application will now focus on those 705 underserved priority locations (internet speeds less than 10 Mbps), reducing our grant request from \$2.7 million to approx. \$1.5 million. If successful, the build out (stringing / burying cable and connecting to homes) will take approximately 1.5 years. Once completed, SPT plans to bring broadband to the remaining areas within Burland Ranchettes and adjacent communities.

## Commitment Fee January 2021

South Park Telephone will ask for a commitment fee from those residents (addresses) defined in the revised project area (refer to Project Map and list of addresses). . Please note, the commitment fee has been reduced from \$500 to \$200. Those residing in the revised project area who committed previously, will be given the opportunity to choose whether to have only the difference between what they have already paid and the new lower fee refunded to them, or to opt out and have their entire previous commitment fee refunded.

## Commitment Fee Refund

Residents who committed to South Park Telephone for Broadband were required to pay up to \$500 for a commitment fee. Residents had the option of paying SPT direct or through PayPal with Burland Ranchettes. In the event your address is outside the revised project area, you will receive a full refund. . Those residents who paid by check will receive their refund from SPT. Those residents who paid using PayPal will be refunded to their credit card or by check from the Burland Homeowners Association.

### Project Map & Address List

A map of Burland Ranchettes and adjacent communities showing the revised project area (underserved locations) has been created. The green highlighted area identifies the underserved locations, which is approximately one half of the Burland Ranchettes. In addition, we have compiled a list of the addresses relevant to the revised project area, these addresses will be included in the January 2021 grant application. The map and list of addresses will be posted to [www.burlandfiber.com](http://www.burlandfiber.com), and we ask that residents and property owners reference the data to determine if their address is part of the January 2021 grant application.

If your address is within the revised project area, we ask that residents join the efforts to bring fiber optics to the area by submitting a commitment fee of \$200 directly to SPT or utilize the BHOA PayPal platform. A PDF version of the commitment form is available on [www.burlandfiber.com](http://www.burlandfiber.com).

### Speed Tests

Once again, we are asking residents within the underserved areas to complete multiple speed tests, documenting the results, and forwarding to the Burland Broadband Committee. For consistency, we ask that you use [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net). In addition, we need the following information:

- Your address
- Internet provider (CenturyLink, Rise, Neteo, etc.)
- Speed you're paying for
- Date and time of the test(s)
- Download speed
- Upload speed
- A template to document the speed test is available on [www.burlandfiber.com](http://www.burlandfiber.com)

Please provide your results no later than December 15, by emailing results to [burlandfiber@gmail.com](mailto:burlandfiber@gmail.com), or mail to BHOA, PO Box 372 Bailey, CO. 80421, or call Carrie Marsh at 303-838-7802

Thank you for your assistance.

Burland Broadband Committee