

Clearwater County

Clearwater County's Broadband Internet Project is a multi-year initiative that aims to deliver high-speed connectivity to a majority of residents and businesses in the county. A vast majority of county residents and businesses are underserved by available connectivity options, most of which fall below the CRTC standards for broadband speeds⁵¹.

Clearwater County is building an Open Access Network (OAN), similar to Parkland, but primarily using fibre infrastructure, with some fixed wireless. Using a fibre-to-the-node (FTTN) model, the county will provide points from which ISPs can connect, and then provide last-mile connections to customers. As with Parkland, this model significantly reduces infrastructure costs for ISPs in low population density areas, allowing for broadband internet at a more competitive price.

Proposed services over the OAN could include Voice over IP, internet TV, prepaid tourist internet, and connectivity to support agri-tech services. The project started in 2020 and is expected to be completed in 2025.

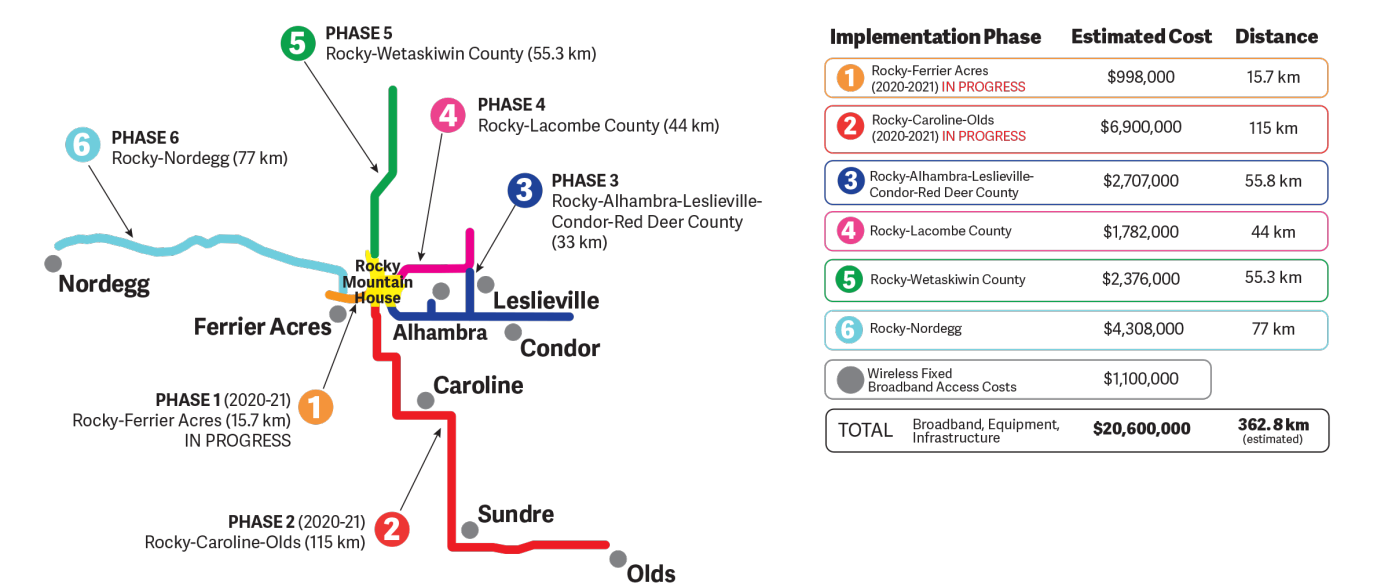


Figure 11. Clearwater County Broadband Internet Project. Construction began in 2020. Source: Clearwater County⁵².

References

⁵¹Clearwater County. [Clearwater County - Broadband Project](#). Accessed 29 January 2021.

⁵²Clearwater County. [Clearwater County - Broadband Project](#). Accessed 15 June 2021.