



WILDWOOD®

April 22, 2019

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: Update on the City's Rural Internet Project

Council Members:

The Department continues to work on several different initiatives relating to the extension of high-speed internet service to the underserved and non-served areas of Wildwood. Many of these initiatives have been presented to the City Council over the past year, via these regular updates from the Department, with the major current activities summarized below for the purposes of this report. These summaries are as follows:

⇒ **Consultant Update on Assigned Tasks of Internet Study**

CTC Technology and Energy will be providing a presentation of the current status of its effort to the Rural Internet Access Committee (RIAC) on April 24, 2019. This meeting will be held in the Conference Center at the Wildwood Hotel, given no space was available at City Hall due to other scheduled meetings. The Department is hoping the consultant will bring to this meeting new approaches or options for the expansion of gigabyte internet service to the served, underserved, and/or unserved areas of the City, as well as, the least serviceable areas and locations within Wildwood, which would typically have a very low density of households, but limited to no options for internet service at this time, even via the two (2) current wireless internet providers.

⇒ **New Pole or Infrastructure Installations**

The Department would note that, with the consultant's study underway, it has not addressed any new, potential pole locations, given it has been waiting until the findings of the above are released. With the consultant's report and its assistance, the Department is hoping to utilize the budgeted funds for this purpose to implement the recommendations of the report. The consultant has been made aware of the many problem areas in Wildwood, where service is still poor or not attainable at this time, and was asked to focus in these areas in terms of its study and report, with findings.

⇒ **Fiber Installation by Bays ET – Hawks Rest Subdivision**

Bays ET continues its pilot project in Hawks Rest Subdivision with the installation of its fiber-to-the-home. The intent is still to have the fiber service available to residents within this subdivision by May.

⇒ **Previously Installed Poles – Orrville Road, by the Meridien Subdivision**

The Department contacted Mercury Communications this past week and requested the work on the Orrville Road pole be addressed with its painting and lighting, per the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) request. This matter was addressed by the City Council at its meeting on March 25, 2019. The City Council sought to have this matter finally resolved by the City, which is the intent of the Department's contact in this regard.

⇒ **Other Efforts – Meeting Results, Budget, etc.**

The Department also continues to assist individual subdivisions and residents with service requests with either Bays ET or Wisper ISP, along with providing information and guidance on extending Charter Communications (a.k.a. Spectrum) to underserved or unserved areas of Wildwood.

If any of the City Council members should have questions or comments in this regard, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. Thank you for your continued support of this project and the efforts to address the needs of rural Wildwood residents.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF WILDWOOD



Joe Vujnich, Director
Department of Planning

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Steve Cross, Co-Interim City Administrator
Rural Internet Access Committee Members
John A. Young, City Attorney
Kathy Arnett, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Chris Bay, David Crabtree, and Nathan Stooke, Service Providers – Bays ET and Wisper ISP