



FACT SHEET

South Bristol Fiber Optic Broadband Project

MCA “Reach Me” Grant

Project Overview:

- MCA (Maine Connectivity Authority) “Reach ME” grant for fiber optic broadband network build-out.
- Grant awarded - April 2023
- Grant contract initiated – Feb, 2024
- Approximately 33 miles of new fiber build-out to occur.
- Approximately 170 UNSERVED addresses will be eligible for **OPEN Fiber Optic Broadband** in the grant area.
 - Unserved = a location with less than 100 x 20 Mbps currently available.
- UNSERVED Grant-eligible addresses receive:
 - Free standard install, which includes:
 - First 500 ft of aerial drop wire (or 333 ft buried in conduit) from pole to house*
 - Drop wire, labor, ONT, battery back-up, router.
 - No Contract required – No Phone required.
- Other Under-served locations in South Bristol that currently have access to 100 x 20 Mbps, or better, may also apply for **OPEN Fiber Optic Broadband**, under the following terms¹:
 - \$100 Standard Install fee required, which includes:
 - First 500 ft of aerial drop wire (or 333 ft buried in conduit) from pole to house*
 - Drop wire, labor, ONT, battery back-up, router.
 - No Contract required – No Phone required.

*Note - customer responsible for installing conduit, ensuring it is passable & that a pull string is in place

¹ Fiber optic broadband service may not be available for all Underserved locations in South Bristol.

Project Funding:

- Total South Bristol Project cost: approx.\$1,370,575
 - \$ 920,837 MCA “Reach ME” grant
 - \$ 289,738 Tidewater capital
 - \$ 80,000 South Bristol Town match funds
 - \$ 80,000 Lincoln County funds

Project General Timetable:

- Feb 2024 - Grant contract initiation
- Feb - March 2024 – complete detailed engineering work - fiber path design, prints, specs
- Spring 2024 - Begin ordering equipment (fiber line construction, Central Office and individual installation equipment)
- Summer/Fall 2024 – Line construction phase & Central Office equipment upgrades.
- Fall/early Winter 2024 – complete fiber line construction and Central Office equipment upgrades
- Fall 2024 – begin individual installs

*Schedule is subject to change depending on equipment delivery, permitting and make ready schedules, and weather delays.

Pricing ²:

- ✓ OPEN Premier 1Gb/1Gb: **Fastest** \$114.95/month
- ✓ OPEN Premier 100Mb/100Mb: **Faster** \$ 89.95/month
- ✓ OPEN Bundle 100Mb/20Mb + Phone \$ 94.95/month
- ✓ OPEN Bundle 50Mb/10Mb + Phone \$ 74.95/month

OPEN VIEW Streaming TV service also available.

Coming – special pricing may be available for qualified low-income families –

² see website for all details – www.tidewater.net

South Bristol residents are encouraged to apply now at www.tidewater.net

Click on the pink button on the Homepage that reads:

South Bristol, Union & Newcastle residents
Click here to submit your
Special OPEN Application

But ... please be aware that actual grant eligible installations may not begin before **Fall 2024.**

This is a large fiber optic network build-out, requiring significant amounts of detailed engineering, line construction, and Central Office distribution hub upgrades BEFORE any individual installations can begin.

Please be patient – BUT don't wait. **Reserve your spot on the Installation list by Applying NOW --- at www.tidewater.net**



Questions? -- email us at --- specialprojects@Tidewater.net