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PHOTOS PROVIDED

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Surf Broadband Delivering One Gigabit Internet Speeds to Westville

ELKHART, Ind. - The construction to bring fiber internet services to the Westville community of La Porte County kicked off on Friday, April 15, with a groundbreaking event hosted by project leader Surf Broadband Solutions ("Surf"). Elected officials, Surf representatives, and community stakeholders were in attendance at Prairie Meadow Park, 10155 US-6 in Westville, IN to celebrate this key milestone.

Surf is no stranger to the Westville community, having provided wireless internet services to residents for several years. The addition of high-speed fiber internet, among the first in the area, will meet the growing demand from residents who depend on a reliable connection for work and school.

"We are proud to introduce enhanced services to Westville and continue our commitment to bringing world-class broadband to rural communities in Indiana," said Steve Carender, Surf's director of commercial sales.

The entire project has been broken out into 15 phases, all of which have moved through the design process. Phase 1, which includes Stanley, Charlie, Lucy, and Carla Ann drives, along with portions of Alan John and Jacob drives, has received the necessary permits and will begin construction in early May. All other phases have permitting in process and will move forward with construction once finalized. Upon completion at the end of 2022, an estimated 1,000-plus Westville properties will have infrastructure in place and be able to connect to Surf's fiber optic internet services.

Westville Town Hall President, Michael Albert remarked, "We are fortunate that the residents and businesses in Westville will have broadband and high-speed internet available in the near future."

One of the first commercial customers to be up and running as early as next week will be Smith Ready Mix on Westville's south side. With Surf's fiber network already in place at their other northern Indiana locations, the company wanted the same level of service for their Westville operations.

"Surf Broadband Solutions helped meet our infrastructure initiatives where fiber and innovation play key roles in delivering ready mix concrete to customers in Indiana," explained Dale Kroeger, IT manager at Smith Ready Mix. "We worked together to conquer the obstacles standing in the way of fiber service and are now able to enjoy reliable, high-quality, affordable, high-speed internet access. We've been pleased to partner with them."

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Residents and business owners wanting updates by phase can visit Surf's construction page at <u>https://construction.surfbroadband.com/westville-in/</u>. Frequent project updates, including detailed mapping, can be found on Surf's La Porte County Facebook Group at <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/laportefiber/</u>. To see if services are currently available for a specific address, visit <u>https://surfbroadband.com/</u> and click the orange "Check Availability" button.

About Surf Broadband Solutions

Surf Broadband Solutions (<u>www.surfbroadband.com</u>) is an innovative fiber internet company providing services to residents and businesses in the Great Lakes Region since 2010. Company office locations include La Porte and Elkhart, Ind., Byron Center, Mich., and Coal City and Rock Falls, Ill. In June 2021, Bain Capital Credit, LP, acquired a majority stake in the company and committed significant growth capital to accelerate its fiber optic network expansion. Post Road Group, Surf's previous majority shareholder, remains an investor alongside Bain Capital Credit to further capitalize the company's growth plans. Surf's future network expansion will provide a fast, reliable internet connection essential for everyday living.

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