

May 31, 2025

A Message from the Mayor

I'm thrilled to share some exciting news that marks a major step forward for our community. The City of Placerville is beginning construction on our very own fiber-optic broadband network—a transformative infrastructure project designed to meet the connectivity needs of today and tomorrow.

This city-owned utility represents more than just faster internet; it's a bold investment in Placerville's future. With vastly superior speed, reliability, and capacity, our new network will provide every resident and business the opportunity to access cutting-edge internet service—often at rates lower than what many currently pay.

Even more exciting, this network will be built as an **Open Access Network**, meaning it will support multiple internet service providers operating on the same fiber infrastructure. This model fosters competition, drives down prices, improves service quality, and gives our community—the power to choose the provider that best fits your needs.

Our vision is to ensure that everyone in Placerville has access to affordable, high-speed broadband that supports remote work, online education, telehealth, business innovation, and more. This is how we bring Placerville into the tech-forward age while staying true to our values of local control, equity, and community service.

The initial phase of this project is fully funded through a \$20,000,000 grant from the Federal Funding Account and administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), awarded directly to the City of Placerville. We are deeply grateful for this support, which enables us to move forward without placing a financial burden on local taxpayers.

To help us gauge demand and prioritize construction efforts, I encourage all residents and businesses to let us know you're interested by signing up at <u>www.placervillefiber.org</u>. Your early expression of interest is a vital step in building a network that truly reflects the needs of our community.

We're proud to be taking this step together—and excited for what's ahead.

Warm regards,

John Clerici Mayor, City of Placerville