



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: April 7, 2026
Contact: Blair Murski
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ITEM TITLE: Update regarding the current status of broadband fiber construction, permitting process, and future network planning within Buda City Limits (Public Works Director Blair Murski, P.E.)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Purpose of this report is to update City Council on the permitting and installation of broadband fiber optic services within the City Limits, detailing Frontier & AT&T residential services. Provided are these companies' ideal permit schedules within the City Limits. This report details the City's permitting process for ROW Permits, future permitting goals, and concludes with a City map update.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

AT&T and Frontier are currently the only two communications companies actively submitting permits for residential broadband fiber optic services.

Current City of Buda ROW Permitting Process and Requirements:

The City mandates that all infrastructure encroachments and construction within City ROW, by companies other than the City, obtain a permit prior to commencing work. The permitting process follows one similar to that of our site plan review. Applications are accepted through MyGovernmentOnline and staff engineers review the plans submitted and issue comments. Items considered during reviews are:

- Constructability
- Providing conflict analysis for existing utilities through locates
- Placement of handholes in yards
- Ensuring the design is built within the ROW or public utility easement
- Traffic control
- Revegetation/restoration of disturbed areas.

This review process strives to create a plan set that results in the least intrusive design for our neighborhoods. Upon clearing all comments, Staff will issue permits and follow up with inspections as needed. Contractors performing the work are not allowed to commence construction until proper utility locating has taken place and have adequately notified the residents of the work. Contractors who fail to comply with these processes are issued fees/stop work orders from Code Enforcement/Inspection Personnel.

3. ANALYSIS

Frontier is currently the most active company submitting and processing ROW permits for residential fiber. They currently have 9 active permits. They employ a number of contractor design firms to

process plans with the City. In 2026 they have been approved for 3 separate permits so far consisting of one set of feeder infrastructure and 2 sets of residential distribution. Specifically, the residential distribution installations are taking place within the neighborhoods of Green Meadows and Stone Ridge. AT&T has 4 active permits in review with the City, all within the Garlic Creek/Cullen Country neighborhoods. The areas that have been submitted for review can be seen on the map attached to this report. Both providers have plans to expand into more neighborhoods in future permits.

With all of the current permits being processed, and in anticipation of future permits/providers, City Staff is preparing a future agenda item aiming to change the current permitting requirements to improve review timelines without compromising City infrastructure/public safety.

City review staff informs the City Public Information Officer when permits are released so a notice can be issued to residents in addition to the contractor's notice. Staff's notices emphasize the work being performed, start date and anticipated project duration, and what residents can expect to see from the work. Staff also performs follow up communication as needed.

The City's fiber map has recently been updated to now show residents which neighborhoods providers have applied for permits in and whether those permits are in review, construction, or complete. The map can be viewed at: <https://budatx.gov/864/Fiber-Optic-Installations>

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

Not applicable.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

BALANCED AND INTENTIONAL GROWTH

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Improve community broadband with reliable service and multiple providers.

7. PROS AND CONS

Not applicable.

8. ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

Not applicable.

Attachments:

[Fiber Update Presentation.pdf](#)