

Policy Number:	C-705
Policy Owner:	Utility Services
Adopted By:	Council
Adoption Date:	2020 December 22
Effective Date:	2020 December 22
Date Last Amended:	N/A
Date Last Reviewed:	N/A

Purpose

- 1 This policy provides strategic direction for Rocky View County (the County) to both partner with and encourage internet service providers (ISPs) to facilitate fast, reliable, and affordable internet services for the County.



Policy Statement

- 2 The County commits to achieving the objectives established in the Strategic Plan by developing community services to provide urban and rural communities with the amenities they need to grow and prosper.
- 3 The County recognizes that high-speed internet service enhances the County's ability to attract and retain business and provides economic, educational, and social benefits for residents.
- 4 The County recognizes the importance of maintaining relationships with ISPs to facilitate greater investment and infrastructure development in the internet networks located within the County.
- 5 The County encourages a competitive environment in which all qualified ISPs have equal access to end-users or customers over the same connection at the same time.



Policy

- 6 The County considers agreements with ISPs to facilitate installation and third party operations of broadband infrastructure to deliver high-speed internet services to County users.
- 7 The County encourages strategies that involve co-locating broadband infrastructure with existing facilities whenever possible.
- 8 Where applicable, the County considers a “dig once” standard whereby new construction or rehabilitation projects under the control and direction of the County include installing internet infrastructure to an acceptable standard as part of the project scope.
- 9 Guidelines for installing broadband infrastructure are incorporated into the statutory plans for the area being developed or redeveloped (i.e. Intermunicipal Development Plans, Area Structure Plans, or Area Redevelopment Plans) and align with the County’s subdivision and development utility requirements.
- 10 The County adopts a fiscally responsible approach to provide internet infrastructure at efficient and effective capital and operating costs. Funding options include project cost sharing agreements with all levels of government, private partners, and local improvement funds or grants where applicable.



References

Legal Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c M-26 • <i>Telecommunications Act</i> S.C. 1993, c 38
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rocky View County Servicing Standards</i>, approved by Council resolution no. 188-13 on 2013 May 28
Related Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a



Policy History

Amendment Date(s) – Amendment Description	• n/a
Review Date(s) – Review Outcome Description	• n/a



Definitions

11 In this policy:

- (1) “Area Structure Plan/Area Redevelopment Plan” means a statutory plan, adopted by Bylaw, which provides a policy framework for the evaluation of proposals for redesignation, subdivision, and development/redevelopment of a specified area of land in the Municipality.
- (2) “broadband infrastructure” means any data transmission technology which provides high-speed internet access;
- (3) “co-locating” means using existing infrastructure to support new or enhanced internet services;
- (4) “Council” means the duly elected Council of Rocky View County;
- (5) “County” means Rocky View County;
- (6) “County Serving Standards” means Rocky View County’s *County Servicing Standards*, approved by Council resolution no. 188-13, as amended or replaced from time to time;
- (7) “high-speed internet” means meeting or exceeding the CRTC’s standard (as revised from time to time) of providing a download speed of 50 megabits per second (Mbps) and an upload speed of 10 Mbps;
- (8) “Municipal Government Act” means the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c M-26, as amended or replaced from time to time;
- (9) “Rocky View County” means Rocky View County as a municipal corporation and the geographical area within its jurisdictional boundaries, as the context requires; and
- (10) “utility” means public or private infrastructure to provide transmission service for (but not limited to) telecommunications, power, gas, water, storm sewer or sanitary sewer.