

# interconneXion

your source for CBX project updates & information

January — March  
2012

## Fast Facts

- One third of the CBX network has been constructed, with over 345,000 feet of fiber placed as of December 2011.
- Project staff and construction crews are looking forward to connecting the first Community Anchor Institutions during the first quarter of 2012.
- Service Level Agreements for securing connections to the CBX network are currently being circulated with more headed out the door in the coming weeks.
- Over 150 access points have been incorporated across the network for users to connect to the CBX.

For more information,  
please visit the  
Clackamas Broadband  
Express website at

[www.clackamas.us/cbx](http://www.clackamas.us/cbx)

OR

Email project staff at

[cbxinfo@clackamas.us](mailto:cbxinfo@clackamas.us)



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*Happy New Year!*

## A Message from the Manager

Clackamas Broadband Express (CBX) Project staff is excited to begin the New Year with the completion of over 40% of the overall project! Another major development over the last several months is the completed installation of crucial equipment at the County's Development Services Building, North Station hub in Clackamas and Sandy City Hall. Construction crews have also been working diligently east of the City of Sandy, steadily pulling fiber as far as possible toward Government Camp along Highway 26 before the heavy winter weather sets in. Additional construction efforts over the next several months are expected to take place within the cities of Milwaukie and Sandy as well as in and between the cities of Colton and Molalla.

We expect construction of both middle mile and last mile routes to be robust in the coming months. As CBX project staff enter the first quarter of 2012, several goals

have been set. The first goal is to complete the construction of an additional 25 miles of fiber optic infrastructure for an overall total of 96 miles with the close of March. A second goal is to complete 50 connections to community anchor institutions. CBX staff has also begun circulating Service Level Agreements to a handful of public entities with a goal to work with every anchor site by the end of this quarter.

Clackamas County is continuing its efforts to engage potential partners in meaningful conversations about the opportunities the new fiber optic infrastructure will provide. The County is working with several local telecommunications providers and government agencies to share conduit and secure access to rights-of-way. The CBX Team is looking forward to making significant progress on the project in the coming months and over the next year. Please stay tuned for more updates!

- David Soloos, Project Manager



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## FAQ Highlights

### What are the expected benefits for the CBX project?

The CBX network will provide greater interconnection and improved communications for county and municipal agencies, local communities, schools, colleges, health care facilities, public safety facilities (i.e., fire, police) and communications towers throughout Clackamas County.

The CBX networks' contributions will provide added value for every Clackamas County resident from technology-driven economic development and improved public service delivery to efficiencies in medical care and enhanced educational opportunities. Public agencies, and residents and local businesses through local providers, will enjoy increased access to an array of high quality, high speed broadband services.

### How is the CBX project being funded?

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) within the U.S. Department of Commerce with funding to support the implementation of projects across the nation that aim to increase broadband access and infrastructure. The NTIA distributed funds through a rigorous grant application process. Clackamas County completed a grant application proposing the Clackamas Broadband Express project and was awarded \$7.8 million. In addition to the federal grant, Clackamas County will contribute \$3.3 million to the project.

## In the Spotlight

Fiber optic infrastructure brings many benefits to communities, from innovative technologies in health care and expanded educational opportunities to increased economic prospects and improved government performance. Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of reliable fiber optic infrastructure is the ability to significantly enhance public safety communications and free up agency resources to access crucial training opportunities and purchase needed equipment.

Oscar Hicks, IT Director for Clackamas Fire District #1, estimates the District will realize savings of 20-30% on broadband connections by gaining access to the Clackamas Broadband Express (CBX). These savings are anticipated to be reallocated first for training opportunities for the District's fire and rescue crews as well as for purchasing additional safety equipment. Not only will connections from the Districts 11 stations to the CBX free up capital for investing in training and equipment, the County's fiber optic infrastructure project also means the Fire District will have more consistent resources to provide quality service to the public they serve.

Another benefit of the CBX fiber optic infrastructure for public safety agencies and personnel is the implementation of a countywide interoperable public safety communications network. By providing access to a system with increased redundancy and bandwidth, connections to the CBX network will ensure that first responders, including fire and rescue crews, are able to effectively and efficiently communicate with one another. Improved communications capabilities will lead to more sophisticated prevention efforts and faster response times, ultimately saving lives.

## Upcoming Events

- February 23 & March 22—Salem, Oregon  
Oregon Broadband Advisory Council Meeting
- March 27-28—Portland, Oregon  
Fiber to the Home (FTTH) Broadband & Best Practices Workshop Sponsored by the FTTH Council

## Additional Resources

Explore the following websites for more information on broadband projects and initiatives across America.

- National Broadband Plan  
[www.broadband.gov/plan/](http://www.broadband.gov/plan/)
- Broadband USA—Connecting America's Communities  
[www2.ntia.doc.gov/](http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/)