



A New Initiative from the SWCA Board

Evaluating Technology Infrastructure Improvements for Our Community

Technology Infrastructure Program (TIP)—Newsletter #6 (4/04/17)

Project Update:

The five companies (CenturyLink, Comcast, Hotwire, Lightstream, and Summit) that submitted proposals have undergone an extensive evaluation since our last communication. The work has involved visits to providers to review their capabilities, discussions with many communities where these companies have carried out installations to better understand their performance and the development of a “Provider Comparison Checklist” covering 37 individual criteria to assess cost, installation and service factors.

Taking everything into account, Lightstream and Summit have been dropped from further consideration. The committee is now undertaking due diligence and negotiating the finer points of any potential contract in order to make a final recommendation for a fiber network for Shadow Wood for the next 10+ years. A final selection will be made very soon and **an information packet will be sent to each home the first of next week. This packet will name the selected provider and outline the key aspects of the proposed agreement.**

Details about the company selected, the reasons behind the decision and the basis of the proposed contract will be explained at the April 17th Town Hall meetings (10:00 AM/1:00 PM/4:00 PM at the Shadow Wood Country Club). All residents are strongly urged to attend one of these meetings to hear the details in person and get any questions they might have answered first hand. The meetings will be videotaped and available for viewing online shortly after the 17th for those who cannot attend. In the days following these meetings, we plan to have the selected provider’s representatives demonstrate their equipment and answer residents’ questions here at Shadow Wood.

Why your consideration and vote on this issue is so important:

Shadow Wood itself now lags behind a sizable number of nearby similar communities that have either already installed fiber or have commissioned the work to begin soon. You can [click here](#) to see a partial list of these communities, including the provider serving each.

The current infrastructure in our community is approaching 20 years of age and will not support the future needs of our community indefinitely. Independent experts agree on the selection of fiber as the most appropriate means of meeting future communication needs.

The TIP Committee and the SWCA Board feel strongly that the benefits of the proposed communication infrastructure fiber upgrade are very compelling and are in the best interests of the residents of Shadow Wood. We are encouraged by the positive feedback received to date and encourage you to vote in favor of this upgrade so that we can move forward with final contract signing and the initiation of construction ASAP. The voting period is currently planned to run for two weeks starting after the Town Hall meetings and will be conducted via electronic voting using the third-party vendor VOTE-NOW.

You are again referred to the [infrastructure section](#) of the SWCAonline.com website for more information and history regarding the TIP project.