

## Timeline: Bringing Better Internet to Farmington Hills

**January 2018:** Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington form the <u>Joint Municipal Broadband</u> <u>Taskforce</u>. The resident-led Taskforce considers broadband internet as a critically important 4<sup>th</sup> utility, along with electricity, gas and water. The Taskforce explores options that would create equal access to highspeed, reliable and affordable internet access to every resident and business in Farmington Hills and Farmington.

**Winter 2019:** Winter 2019 through spring 2020, the Taskforce conducts a random phone survey to determine whether the community supports bringing in a new independent fiber optic network that would be separate from the existing phone and cable company networks.

**Jan. 27, 2020:** The cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington jointly hire CCG Consulting (CCG) to perform a study to analyze the current broadband market and to make recommendations regarding the viability of building a new broadband network to address the current gaps in service and provide capacity for future growth in both cities.

**Jan. 25, 2021:** CCG and Taskforce present <u>study findings</u> to Farmington Hills and Farmington City Councils at a <u>joint study session</u>. Study outlines options and investment needed to make the recommendations a reality.

**Feb. 2021:** SiFi Networks reaches out to City of Farmington Hills to express interest in creating the desired fiber optic broadband infrastructure at no cost to the taxpayer. SiFi Networks provides references of other cities with which they have current agreements, including Fullerton, Calif., East Hartford, Conn., and Kenosha, Wis. All these cities provide positive reviews of their agreement with SiFi Networks.

**May 26, 2021:** In a <u>joint meeting</u> that includes public comment, the Farmington Hills and Farmington City Councils decide to grant SiFi Networks access to the public right-of-way to create a community-wide fiber optic internet infrastructure.

**Oct. 30, 2023:** SiFi Networks breaks ground on construction of Farmington Area FiberCity, beginning with construction in Farmington Hills.

Late 2024 (projected): First customers will be able to access fiber internet in Farmington Hills.

Fall 2026 (projected): Construction of SiFi Networks' Farmington Area FiberCity will be completed.