

## Board of County Commissioners

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## Carroll County Government

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Carroll County Broadband and Comcast Update

**Westminster, Thursday, February 23, 2017** – Recently the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) received updates on Comcast’s new construction in the county and recommendations from the Carroll County Broadband Advisory Board.

On February 23rd, Mark Ripper, Director of Technology Services and Denise Beaver, Deputy Director of Economic Development informed the Board of County Commissioners on the status of the Carroll County Broadband Advisory Board. The Board met four times since September 2016 to discuss ideas for expanding broadband access to businesses and residents. Several ideas were presented including branding, membership in [Fiber Locator](#), pursuing private/public partnerships, dark fiber lease rates and renegotiating BGE/Verizon pole contracts. After discussion, the BCC directed the Broadband Advisory Board to move forward in two areas. First, to pursue membership in the Fiber Locator to list the county’s fiber network asset; and secondly, to build more points of connection on the Carroll County fiber network.

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, Mark Ripper, Director of Technology Services and Carol Shawver from the Carroll Cable Regulatory Commission updated the commissioners on the progress of Comcast’s new construction in the county. A new franchise agreement was signed in June 2016 with Comcast and since that agreement; Comcast is way ahead of schedule in its construction efforts. To date, new builds have passed 445 homes and the current construction in progress will allow service to 465 more homes to be completed in the next several months. Access for 102 more homes is required to fulfill the terms of the agreement, which should be completed within a year. The end result is that Comcast will have exceeded its commitment to Carroll County in approximately one year, far ahead of the expected three years. Carroll County residents who would like more information on Comcast in Carroll County, MD can contact Carol Shawver at 410-386-2095.

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## CARROLL COUNTY

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