

Construction crews are in River Bend installing fiber lines for Brightspeed. See the attached Community Alert from them. Brightspeed is a private business. They are not working for the Town of River Bend. The town is not paying them and they are not paying the town. We did not request this project. They alone decided to pursue this project in order to expand their business footprint in River Bend. The town does not endorse or recommend Brightspeed in any way. We did issue them an encroachment permit to install their system within the town's streets, as is required by law. The town has not granted them permission to install anything on or to go upon private property. The town does not have that authority. You, the property owner, gets to control access to your property.

Often, during projects like this, some residents are unclear about what they own. The easy answer to that question is- You only own what is described by the metes and bounds in the deed to your property. Some residents assume their property goes to the edge of the pavement on their street. That is not the case. The streets are owned by the town. By definition the street is not just the paved area. It also includes a strip of land on either side of the pavement. As an example, I have provided a map below showing a random lot in River Bend. The map comes from the Craven County GIS site. The blue box shows the land that is in private ownership. The town does not own any part of the blue box. The green box indicates the portion of the street adjacent to the property which is owned by the town. The resident does not own any part of the green box.

In this particular location, the street is Knollwood Court. It is 50 feet wide. Only a survey from a professional can identify the exact property lines. However, a resident on Knollwood Court could measure 25 feet from the center of the pavement and get a pretty good idea of where their property begins. Be aware that not all streets in River Bend are the same width. Many streets are 60 feet wide. We even have a few that are only 25 feet wide. A typical 60 feet wide street will include a 20 feet wide paved area and a 20 feet wide strip of land on either side. This unpaved area is often called the "shoulder of the road". It is where water lines, sewer lines, other utilities, mailboxes, street lights, fire hydrants, drainage features, etc. are located.

If you have a problem with the contractor during construction, please call the number on the Community Alert. If the contractor injures your property, call the number. As long as the contractor operates within the town's streets and follows the terms of the encroachment agreement, we cannot control their actions on your land, and the town is not responsible for their actions on your land. If you are aware of any issues on town property/streets as a result of this project, call Town Hall.

Delane Jackson,  
Town Manager  
Posted 4-30-26

# Community Alert

## Brightspeed Launches Fiber Network Build in River Bend, North Carolina

*Once completed, hundreds will have access to more reliable, multi-gig-speed connectivity*

<b>What:</b>	<p>Brightspeed, the nation's fifth-largest fiber builder, is starting construction of its state-of-the-art fiber network that will bring high-speed connectivity to approximately 1,700 families and businesses in River Bend, North Carolina.</p> <p>As North Carolina communities, like River Bend, prepare for the next era of technology, fiber is becoming essential infrastructure. The growth of AI-powered tools, connected devices, cloud-based applications, remote work, telehealth and online learning is driving demand for faster, more consistent internet connections that can handle more data, in more directions, at the same time. Brightspeed is investing in fiber in River Bend because the networks that will power tomorrow's economy must be built for much more than yesterday's internet use.</p> <p>Legacy copper networks helped connect communities for decades, but they were built for a different era centered on basic phone service, email and lighter internet use. Fiber delivers smoother video conferencing, faster uploads of photos, videos and large work files, stronger support for telehealth visits, more reliable streaming and gaming across multiple devices, better performance for cloud-based business tools and a stronger foundation for the AI-driven applications that are becoming part of everyday life. Simply put, fiber helps communities participate more fully in the modern digital economy and prepares them for what comes next.</p> <p>Brightspeed Fiber Internet delivers speeds from 200 Mbps up to 8 Gigs. Additionally, Brightspeed's WiFi 7 technology available for gig-speed fiber plans delivers unprecedented speed, reliability and whole-home coverage engineered for today's ultra-high-bandwidth households that are powering multi-device streaming, gaming, remote work, online learning and smart devices.</p>
<b>What to expect:</b>	<p>Construction crews will be boring to deploy underground fiber internet infrastructure. Additionally, crews will be attaching fiber lines to utility poles in the community.</p> <p>Brightspeed's highest priority is working quickly and efficiently within our local communities, keeping safety at the forefront.</p>
<b>Where:</b>	Community of River Bend, North Carolina
<b>When:</b>	Spring and Summer 2026 Completion is dependent on various factors, including weather.
<b>More information:</b>	For matters related to this fiber deployment project, please call the project construction manager, Scott Halsey, at 631-314-2649 or email Scott at <a href="mailto:shalsey@squan.com">shalsey@squan.com</a>

