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PHOTOS PROVIDED

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## Surf Broadband Solutions Bringing High-Speed Fiber Internet to Mendota, Illinois

ELKHART, Ind. - Fiber internet provider Surf Broadband Solutions ("Surf") marked the soon arrival of fiber internet services to Mendota, III., with a ceremonial groundbreaking event on Tuesday, June 28. Elected officials, Surf representatives, and community stakeholders gathered at the town's entrance to celebrate.

For Surf employee Terry Barr, this project is personal. Barr, a lifelong resident of Mendota, started Terry's Computer Shack in 2009. He would often hear friends and neighbors talk about the need for reliable internet connectivity. As time has gone on, the need has only increased, especially in the age of work-from-home and e-learning.

"When I merged my company with Surf back in 2017, I was confident that my dream of helping the Mendota community obtain access to high-speed fiber internet was going to become a reality," Barr said. "Today's groundbreaking means more than just giving people the ability to 'connect faster.' It also signifies the start of expanded economic development opportunities and competitiveness for Mendota. I couldn't be more proud."

Surf CEO Gene Crusie remarked, "Surf has been serving customers in the Mendota region for over a decade through our wireless internet offerings. We are grateful to Terry for his vision and are excited to now bring the transformational technology of fiber internet to one of our hometowns."

The entire project has been broken out into 12 phases which are in the very early stages of construction. Surf hopes to have a majority of the work finalized by the end of September 2022. To see if services are currently available for a specific address, visit <u>https://surfbroadband.com/</u> and click the orange "Check Availability" button.

## **About Surf Broadband Solutions**

Surf Broadband Solutions (www.surfbroadband.com) is an innovative fiber internet company providing services to residents and businesses in the Great Lakes Region since 2010. Company office locations include La Porte and Elkhart, Ind., Byron Center, Mich., and Coal City and Rock Falls, III. In June 2021, Bain Capital Credit, LP, acquired a majority stake in the company and committed significant growth capital to accelerate its fiber optic network expansion. Post Road Group, Surf's previous majority shareholder, remains an investor alongside Bain Capital Credit to further capitalize the company's growth plans. Surf's future network expansion will provide a fast, reliable internet connection essential for everyday living.

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https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UVxDiXt8IpB0kClEZJ6Rmtas9URBSi9F?usp=sharing



FILE: 6.28.22 Surf Mendota Groundbreaking\_Presentation.JPG

**CAPTION:** Surf Broadband Solutions CEO Gene Crusie presents Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Shelby Weide with the Pyramid Award as Surf team members and Mendota city officials look on during a June 28 groundbreaking event. The award signifies Surf's partnership with the City of Mendota to bring fiber optic internet to the community.



FILE: 6.28.22 Surf Mendota Groundbreaking\_CrusieBarr.JPG

**CAPTION:** Surf Broadband Solutions CEO Gene Crusie (left) and employee Terry Barr pose for a photo outside the main entrance of the City of Mendota, III. Barr long dreamed of the day high-speed fiber optic internet would be available for his hometown.