

Dear Town of Canaan Community Member,

As you may be aware, the second of three rounds of grants for the *New York State Broadband for All* initiative were awarded on February 28. Fairpoint Communications was a recipient of this round of grants and the Town of Canaan was earmarked by Fairpoint for bringing high-speed internet (25 Mbps or higher for \$60 or less per month) online by the end of 2018.

In addition, through the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) agreement with Charter Spectrum, Canaan is also earmarked for high-speed (at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload) internet service via Charter Spectrum.

The Town of Canaan Broadband Committee recently acquired, from the Columbia County Economic Development Council, maps of the Town of Canaan showing areas of the town that are (1) considered adequately served (meaning those areas currently have 25 Mbps service), and (2) areas targeted for improved service by Fairpoint under the new funding initiative, and (3) areas to be served by Charter Spectrum. Similar maps for other Columbia County towns, for example New Lebanon and Hillsdale, have contained a significant number of errors and fallen short of the existing conditions both in terms of speed and number of households served. We need your help to create an accurate internet service map of our town so that we can make sure all town residents who want basic broadband service are able to get it.

You can help us by going to the Columbia County Supervisors' Broadband survey at <http://bit.ly/colcobroadbandsurvey>. The survey asks you to test your current internet speed at the provided link (<http://www.speedtest.net> [this site will give you both your download and upload speed]). For mapping purposes, the survey also asks your street address and who your provider is. (There is an example of such information at the end of this letter.) The information you

provide will be used to confirm or revise the existing coverage and speed of service in Canaan provided by the maps. This information will be used in future town, and county, discussions as these service improvement projects get underway.

The urgency is great. We have 30 days to get New York State to fix the maps before they announce the final phase of funding. Applications for the round three grants will begin to be considered in April, according to the Governor's Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the addresses below. We encourage you to share this letter with your friends and neighbors, the more information the better!

Many thanks,

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Terese Platten

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Example of information requested:

Platten: State Route 295, Canaan, NY
7.56 [download] / 0.99 [upload]
Fairpoint DSL