**About the Project**

While the City of Bend, the largest city in Oregon east of the Cascades, has a high-speed, city-wide wireless broadband network, the surrounding economically distressed areas of central Oregon lack adequate broadband connectivity. **BendBroadband’s Central Oregon Fiber Alliance project** is a partnership with the local communities of Madras, Prineville, Sunriver, and LaPine as well as key health, educational, public safety, and business development entities that plans to create a comprehensive, regional 40 Gbps fiber ring.

The Central Oregon Fiber Alliance proposes to:

- Construct a 132-mile ring of new fiber that would encompass a region with more than 1,100 households and 1,200 businesses. The project expects to spur new or improved high-speed Internet access for these consumers by enabling local Internet service providers to connect to the new open network.

- Fund direct fiber connections to at least four area business parks and local business districts hubs with capacity of up to 100 Mbps, spurring economic development in the region.

- Provide high-speed connections for all 25 community anchor institutions in the service area, including a community college, eight public safety entities, three schools, four libraries, and two health care facilities.

**Organization’s History**

Bend Cable Communications, which does business as BendBroadband, is a local, family-owned business that has provided served central Oregonians for more than 50 years. In 1997, the company was the first to provide high-speed Internet service in Oregon. BendBroadband provides residential and business services including wireline and fixed wireless Internet, fiber connectivity, and telephony.

**Project Partners**

- Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
- Mountain View Hospital
- The governments and affiliated health, education, and public safety agencies of the City of Madras, Jefferson County, Crook County, Deschutes County.