



# ALLENS COMMUNICATIONS

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November 29, 2023

President Jessie Bellard  
St. Landry Parish Government  
P. O. Drawer 1550  
Opelousas, LA 70571-1550

Via Email: [jbillard@slpgov.net](mailto:jbillard@slpgov.net)

Dear President Bellard:

Appreciate the recent call and all of your assistance with our Broadband Projects in the Parish. In response to your request for information and that of Mayor James from Sunset, I am presenting the following.

First, regarding the Parish. I am pleased to announce that we are finalizing the conduit construction in our last GUMBO section needing to be built in the Parish. That area is located in the Southern section of Krotz Springs and South along LA Hwy 105. All other awarded GUMBO areas installed includes... Several sections along US 190, Bayou Gerimond Rd, Bayou Rd, Aymond, Kennison, Lahaye, Pernie Bailey, Rayne Rd, Midway Ln, Charlie Daniels, Mila St., LA 743 (from LA742 to US 190), Little Teche (South of LA 742), AMY Rd, part of OG Track, part of John Addie off LA 103, West side of LA Hwy 103 (from J Addie to LA 359) and part of LA 742 (West of Jennings Rd). Fiber is now being spliced and checked. Allens also has begun taking work orders from those residents who are needing faster, more reliable Broadband access. Soon after the lighting-up, testing and verifying of serviceability is completed in each area, the findings will be submitted to the State's "ConnectLA" group for their approval. And finally, we will be able to request reimbursement, from both the State's GUMBO Program and the Parish's allocated matching fund, for the awarded project cost Allens has totally had to disburse for the project's construction.

Next, regarding Sunset and the surrounding area. The town of Sunset has been serviced by Allens' hybrid Fiber/Coaxial system for several years which offers high speed cable modem Broadband access. However, well before applying for the NTIA Broadband Grant program, Allens independently chose to begin converting its system to a fully Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Network. In fact, the newest subdivision, "Sunset Terrace" was built as a FTTH serviced Network. Several businesses in the community are also being served by Fiber. Since obtaining the NTIA grant, Allens has installed conduit and fiber in numerous areas in the town, including... along the I-49 service road; LA Hwy 182 (Napoleon Ave); Duffy St; Marie, Boudreaux, Mayo, Danny, Doris, Comeaux, Crescent, Churchill, Dale Richard and Eric. Conduits have been installed on Summerset Ln; LA 182 (from LA 93 to LA 754 and on to LA 178); LA 93 (from LA 182 South to the Town Limit and on to the Parish Line); on Mockingbird, Skylark, Hummingbird, Quai, Sandpiper and Cypress. Further, several streets that already have conduits installed and are being utilized for the Hybrid system are Stanyan, Channing Way, Windvale, Newberry, Fire Willow, Utility Access, Sunrise Blvd, Daybreak, Purple Dawn and Morning Mist. These locations will be converted to Fiber later in the project as we concentrate first on providing service to any underserved areas.

The towns of Grand Coteau and Arnaudville, likewise are currently served by Allens' Fiber/ Coaxial (HYBRID) system which offers high speed cable modem Broadband; however, the conversion has begun in those communities also courtesy Allens and the NTIA program.

As you are aware, there are two other Broadband projects in the Parish Allens is currently working on. Allens' CAF II and RDOF projects are not as time sensitive as are the GUMBO project or the NTIA project. CAF II was a six year project with receipt of funding scheduled monthly over a ten year period and after three years, that project is still proceeding on schedule. Customers are already being serviced utilizing the new CAF II Fiber Network. The RDOF project was a six year project with monthly funding being received over the Term of the project; it too, remains on schedule.

Since all four of Allens' projects were scattered throughout the entire southern portion of St. Landry, consequently, we opted to spread the work load evenly as much as possible throughout the Parish. We also did not want to overwhelm the utility locate crews by concentrating on any one particular area or section of the Parish. Further, we wanted the citizens to see us working throughout the Parish to assure them that Broadband was actually coming to their area. Unfortunately, the decision did cause some confusion after citizens witnessed the conduit installed on one road and not on another at the same time or on one in the same general area.

With regards to individual communities. Sunset, Grand Coteau, Arnaudville and Cankton are each partially being funded by Allens and the NTIA program. Whereas, the Krotz Springs area is partially funded by Allens and the GUMBO program. Various rural areas throughout the Parish are being funded jointly by Allens and at least one of the four Broadband programs. Unfortunately, Port Barre did not qualify for any grant funding; however, Allens has already begun work in the community and will be totally funding that re-build project itself.

Finally, all new build is being placed underground to harden the Network against potential damage and outage caused by issues such as; Storm(s), Wind(s), Snow & Ice, Lightning, Tree(s) & Limb(s), Utility Poles, Vehicles, Fire(s), Vandalism and even Power Outages. Individuals and / or companies digging without first soliciting utility locates may pose a hazard to the Network; however, Allens intends to closely monitor its Network for such activity, and for such damage, fines will be set steep as a deterrent.

Allens' Fiber Network will feature the latest in technology and will have the capability & capacity for easily changing with and as new technology becomes available so as to continue offering subscribers reliable telecommunications to the Internet and to the World.

Sincerely,

*Gregory A. Price*

Gregory A. Price, President