



MetroNet to Make O’Fallon a Gigabit City

A New Fiber-Optic Network Will Provide O’Fallon’s Homes and Businesses with Light-Speed Internet Access

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O’FALLON, Mo.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--MetroNet today announced plans to build an advanced fiber-optic network in O’Fallon, bringing gigabit-speed internet service to residents and businesses in the city for the first time. MetroNet, the nation’s largest independently owned 100 percent fiber-optic provider, will fully fund the construction through a multi-million dollar investment. MetroNet expects construction to begin in O’Fallon next year, with the first customers coming online as neighborhood buildouts are completed.

"The City of O’Fallon is pleased to welcome MetroNet to our community," said Mayor Bill Hennessy. "As the first city in the state of Missouri to which MetroNet will provide service, we are thrilled that residents and businesses will be among the first to have access to this new fiber-optic network option."

Only about 30 percent of households in the U.S. have access to the gigabit internet speeds (1,000 megabits per second) that fiber-optic networks provide. And only a small handful of cities have fiber broadly available to its homes and businesses, earning them the title "Gigabit City." O’Fallon is now on track to achieve that designation.

MetroNet is bridging the digital divide as one of the fastest-growing providers of 100 percent fiber-optic high-speed broadband services in the nation. The company is known for its superior customer service, affordable, symmetrical speeds — meaning both upload and download speeds — of up to 10 gigabits, and no long-term contracts for residential households and businesses. The company expects its network to be available to more than one million residential households and business locations in the near term, bringing competition for these services to hundreds of communities.

"Our future-proofed network has proven valuable to the cities we partner with, and we are proud to bring that opportunity to Missouri through this partnership with O’Fallon," said John Cinelli, MetroNet CEO. "Cities are faced with a variety of choices when trying to bridge the digital divide. MetroNet builds an impressive technical infrastructure without the use of public funds, which helps cities enormously. We are proud to have quickly become the nation’s largest and fastest growing, independently owned fiber-optic provider."

O’Fallon residents will start seeing MetroNet trucks throughout the area as pre-construction begins. In new MetroNet markets, residents receive communication by mail about construction activity in their neighborhood 30 days prior to starting, and the company provides additional messaging, such as yard signs, to let residents know when the temporary construction signs will be in place. MetroNet also provides information on how to report any issues with the construction process. MetroNet’s marketing efforts are supported by ID tags and branded MetroNet **Cookie Policy** (<https://services.businesswire.com/cookie-policy>).

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Residents and businesses that are interested in MetroNet services may visit [MetroNetInc.com](https://www.MetroNetInc.com) to indicate their interest and to receive updates on construction. MetroNet will establish a retail storefront located in O'Fallon for customers to have direct access to customer service and sales.

Additionally, MetroNet plans to hire local market management positions, sales and customer service professionals and service technicians to support the O'Fallon area. Those interested in joining the MetroNet team can visit [metronetinc.com/careers](https://www.metronetinc.com/careers) to search available positions and to submit applications.

About MetroNet:

MetroNet is the nation's largest independently owned, 100 percent fiber optic company headquartered in Evansville, Indiana. The customer-focused company provides cutting-edge fiber optic communication services, including high-speed Fiber Internet, full-featured Fiber Phone, and Fiber IPTV with a wide variety of programming. MetroNet started in 2005 with one fiber optic network in Greencastle, Indiana, and has since grown to serving and constructing networks in more than 120 communities across Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Florida, North Carolina, Virginia, Texas, Wisconsin, and Missouri. MetroNet is committed to bringing state-of-the-art telecommunication services to communities — services that are comparable or superior to those offered in large metropolitan areas. MetroNet has been named in the top 50 small and medium companies on Glassdoor and has been honored with a Glassdoor Employees' Choice Award recognizing MetroNet among the Best Places to Work in 2020. MetroNet has been recognized by *PC Mag* as one of the Top 10 Fastest ISPs in North Central United States in 2020 and Top 10 ISPs with Best Gaming Quality Index in 2021. *Broadband Now* has recognized MetroNet as the Top 3 Fastest Internet Providers and Fastest Fiber Providers in the Nation in 2020, and #1 Fastest Mid-Sized Internet Provider in two states in 2020. In 2020, MetroNet was awarded the Vectren Energy Safe Digging Partner Award from Vectren. For more information, visit www.MetroNetinc.com.

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