

THE PowerLines REPORT



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NOVEMBER 2022

Closing the Digital Divide One Grant at a Time

Kent Blackwell, Interim CEO and Chief Technology Officer



Last month, DMEA and Elevate announced the phenomenal news that we were again recipients of grant funds from the USDA's ReConnect Program. DMEA was awarded \$13.8 million from the third round of funding to build Elevate's fiber network in many of the remaining unserved areas in Delta

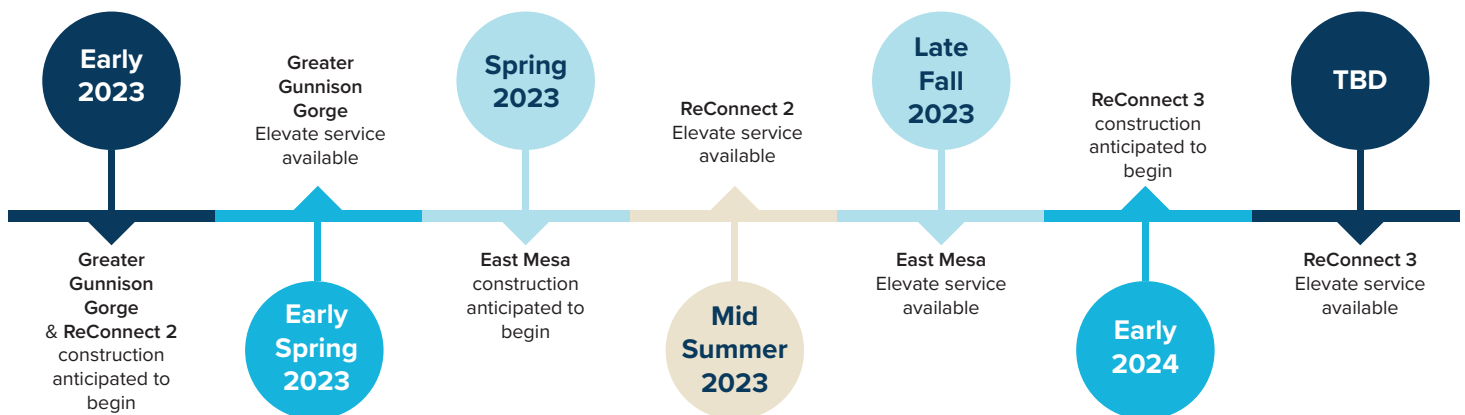
County. And yes, this includes our residents on Rogers and Scenic Mesas, who were left reeling in 2020 when the Colorado Broadband Board overturned its decision to fund construction in the area. This time, there is no appeal process – we're coming.

The new grant will help us build an additional 340 miles of fiber and bring Elevate's Gigabit internet to another 1,479 local homes and businesses. Add that to our current grant projects in the construction pipeline, and more than

95% of our members will have access to Elevate when construction is complete! The digital divide between our rural Western Slope communities and the urban Front Range will cease to exist.

With the recent completion of our Black Canyon Grant Zone, southwest of Crawford, we now have four grant projects left in our queue: Greater Gunnison Gorge, ReConnect 2, East Mesa, and ReConnect 3. You're probably asking, "Where are these zones?" and "When will Elevate be there?" Below is our anticipated construction timeline. The grant areas encompass vast swaths of land, and we plan to build each grant area in stages. The dates you see listed for when internet service will be available represent the earliest that residents in the first stage of construction can order service. It may take many months to complete all stages of the build-out. I know we've been asking for your patience for many years now, and I humbly ask for just a bit more.

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

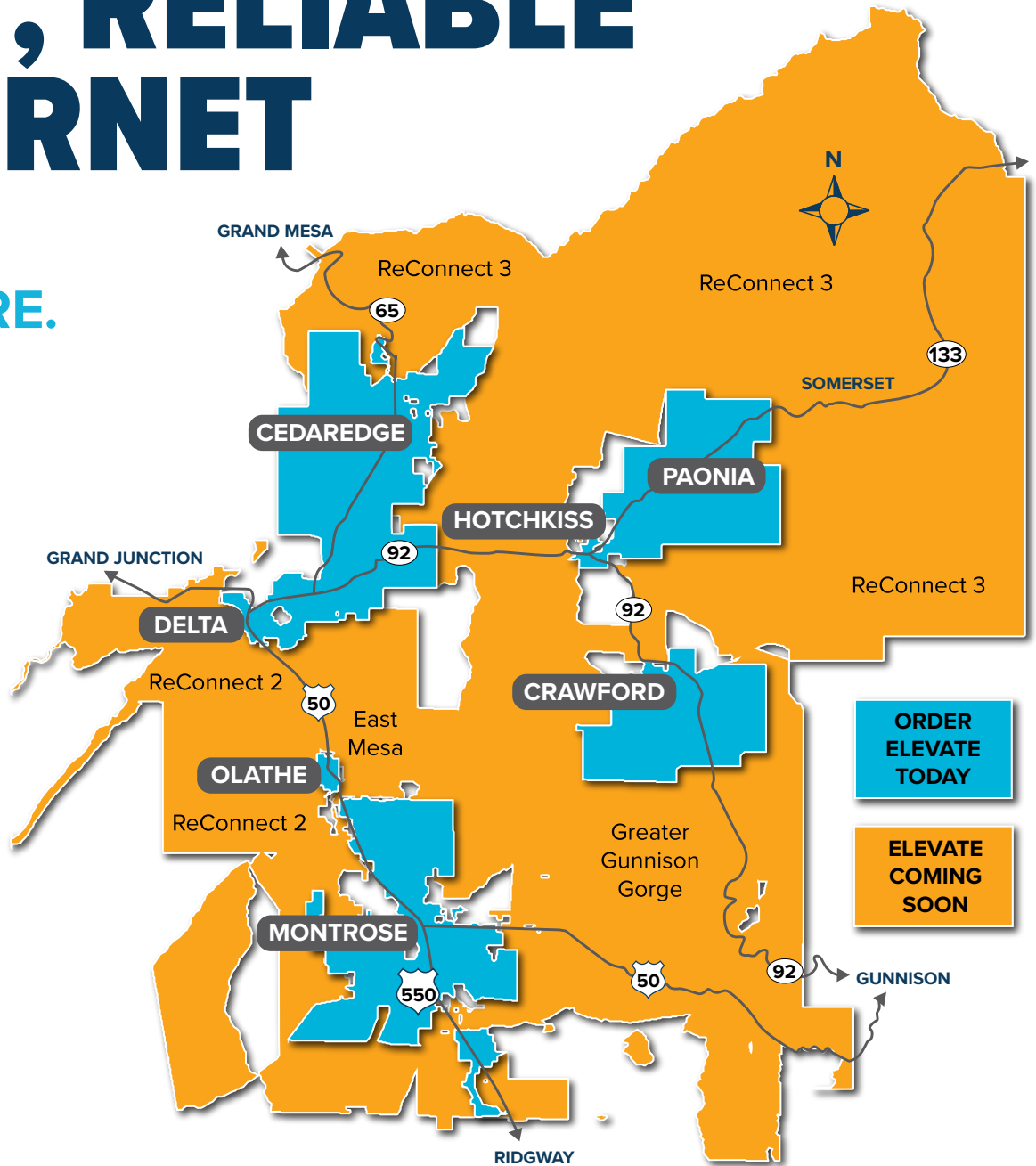


Find out where these grant zones are located on the next page.

FAST, RELIABLE INTERNET

FROM
ANYWHERE.

Elevate's gigabit internet service is now available in more places than ever before, with more locations on the way. Now you can say goodbye to buffering and hello to having a fast and reliable internet connection the whole family can count on.



**ORDER
ELEVATE
TODAY**

**ELEVATE
COMING
SOON**

Fast Internet per month

150 Mbps \$54.95
1,000 Mbps (1 Gig) \$79.95

NEW Even Faster Internet*

2,000 Mbps (2 Gig) \$124.95
6,000 Mbps (6 Gig) \$189.95

Simple TV per month

Locals (20+ channels) \$40.95
Expanded (70+ channels) \$109.95
Extreme (120+ channels) \$129.95

Reliable Home Phone

Unlimited local & long distance \$30.00

elevateinternet.com / 844-386-8744

Available in live service areas only. Installation is zero money down and \$10/mo., for 10 months or \$100 upfront. Initial 12-month contract required. Internet service is required for TV and phone. Speeds are up to 6 Gig and subject to wireless limitations. Prices subject to change. *Multi-gig internet packages require initial consultation with Elevate tech support.

ELEVATE™

FAST INTERNET ► (for real)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

•••• High school juniors and seniors: Get more out of camp than a sunburn! ••••



YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

Steamboat Springs, CO

July 15-20

At the CEEI Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, students learn about the cooperative business model, tour a generation facility, learn about government and build their communication and leadership skills. Students set up a cooperative and tour power generation facilities. They learn leadership skills and the importance of protecting the environment. The fun includes music and dancing, a float trip on the Colorado River, a hike to Fish Creek Falls, and a ride on the gondola to the top of Mt. Werner.

YOUTH TOUR

Washington, D.C.

June 12-18

The NRECA Rural Electric Youth Tour is an opportunity for students in DMEA's service territory to spend an educational and fun week in Washington, D.C., learning about government and the electric cooperative model, touring historical monuments and museums, and experiencing everything D.C. has to offer! Bottom line, you will make friendships that will last a lifetime and be part of a group of more than 50,000 alumni in every walk of life, including U.S. Senators and CEOs.



How to Apply

Complete the Youth Leadership Application at www.dmea.com/youth-leadership-programs. DMEA will select one overall winner to attend the Rural Electric Youth Tour and up to three other students to attend the Youth Leadership Camp. If selected, you will be notified in January.

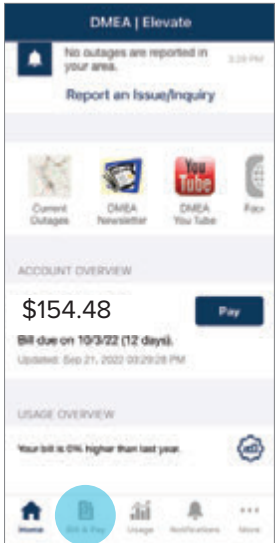
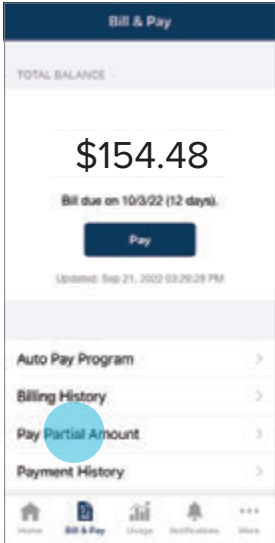
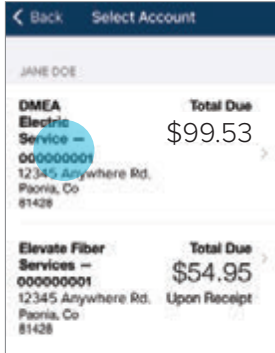
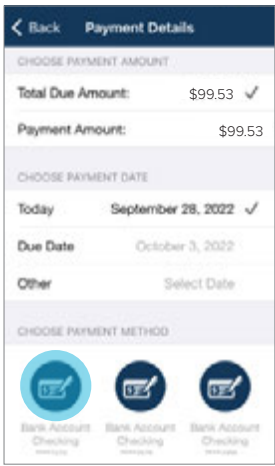
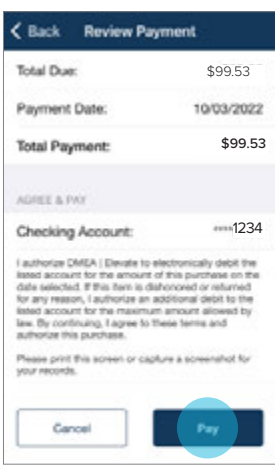
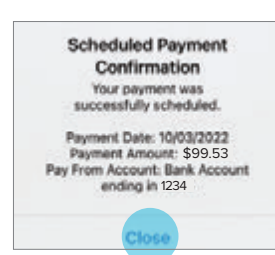
Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 18 at the time of the programs but not yet have graduated from high school; be dependents of a DMEA member (your parents/guardians are DMEA members); and submit a completed application and a 500-word essay before January 1, 2023.



PARTIAL PAY ON SMARTHUB

Pay both your DMEA and Elevate accounts

DMEA members and Elevate subscribers can pay their accounts together or individually using the new SmartHub app. Here is how to pay separately:

<p>1</p> <p>Open your SmartHub app. Click on the 'Bill & Pay' tab at the bottom of your screen.</p>		<p>2</p> <p>Navigate to 'Pay Partial Amount.' All your bills will be listed under the next screen.</p>		<p>3</p> <p>Choose which bill to pay by clicking anywhere in the bill's field.</p>	
<p>4</p> <p>Verify payment amount and date, and choose your payment method on the Payment Details screen.</p>		<p>5</p> <p>Review your payment and click 'Pay' to complete.</p>		<p>6</p> <p>Click 'Close' after viewing your payment confirmation, and select 'Partial Payment' again to pay your other accounts using the same process.</p>	



Montrose Office

11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Read Office

21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
W; 8:00am-5:00pm

Contact Us:

1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com |    

Your Board of Directors:

<i>Bill Patterson, District 1</i>	<i>Kyle Martinez, District 2</i>
<i>Jacob Gray, District 3</i>	<i>Ken Watson, District 4</i>
<i>Kevin Williams, District 5</i>	<i>Damon Lockhart, District 6</i>
<i>Enno Heuscher, District 7</i>	<i>Stacia Cannon, North</i>
<i>Jock Fleming, South</i>	

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.instake@usda.gov.

DMEA Destinations

Seasonal adventures,
right in your backyard.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Montrose

Tree Lighting

Celebrate the beginning of the holiday season at Montrose's annual tree lighting ceremony. Head down to the Montrose County Courthouse on November 25 (the day after Thanksgiving) near dusk and enjoy hot cocoa, carolers, and camaraderie.

Delta

Parade of Lights

Bring the kiddos downtown early for a chance to make their Christmas wish with Santa at the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m on Friday, December 2. Then enjoy live music and the tree lighting ceremony in West Legacy Park before the parade starts at 6:00 p.m.

Paonia

Paonia Holiday Art Fair

Find arts, crafts, food and family-friendly activities on the 200 block of Grand Avenue at the 30th Annual Paonia Holiday Art Fair, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Saturday, December 3. This annual festival offers unique and affordable gifts for everyone on your gift list.

What's your local go-to for fun? Submit your suggestions to communications@dmea.com

Brighten Your Holidays

with LED & Timers

Nothing makes a home feel more festive than well-lit holiday decorations. This season, make your holiday decorations shine even brighter with LED lights and light timers. You'll save energy and keep your home safe. See below for some tips on lighting this holiday season.

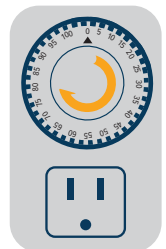
LEDs outshine the rest

Rather than using traditional incandescent lights, consider LED light strands. They're more resistant to breaking than older glass bulbs and they stay cool to the touch reducing the risk of fire or burning. Aside from being a much safer option, they're incredibly energy efficient, consuming up to 75% less energy than traditional bulbs. LED light strands now come in all shapes and sizes, making your decorating options virtually endless!



Peace of mind with timers

A timer for your lights is a great way to ensure that your lights stay on when people are awake, and off when people aren't. According to the National Fire Protection Association, holiday lights cause 40% of Christmas tree fires. To protect yourself, keep your tree lights off when you're not at home or when your family is asleep. If you're away for the holidays, timers can give the impression that your house is occupied deterring potential criminals searching for an easy target.



Keep your home safe, economical, and festive this year. Let light timers and LEDs do the work and enjoy a merry and bright holiday season!