

2024 Legislative Issue Form

To propose a CCI legislative issue, please complete this form. Feel free to use more than one page and include any supplemental materials.

- 1.) Contact Information (of person bringing forth issue):
 - a. Name: Mark Pfaffinger
 - b. Title: Support Services Director & CIO
 - c. **County**: Larimer County
 - d. **Phone Number:** 970-498-5050
 - e. E-Mail Address: mpfaffinger@larimer.org
- 2.) **Issue/Problem to be addressed** (What is the problem this legislation is seeking to solve?) Owner/landlords of Mobile Home Parks and multi dwelling unit (MDU's) can refuse entry to broadband utility providers and they currently require a right of entry agreement to bring improved service offerings to the residences that are leasing space in those parks or buildings. This includes voter approved, publicly owned and operated broadband services. In order to provide fair and equitable access to high-speed broadband we need to require Mobile Home Park and MDU owners to allow access so they can offer competitive services to those residences.
- 3.) **Background on this Issue/Problem** (How did this come to be? Why are you seeking a legislative remedy?) Larimer County is working partnership with our local municipal broadband providers and have numerous projects to expand fiber broadband services into mobile home parks and MDU's but are refused entry by the owner of the property or asked to provide financial incentives for entry. Those projects are on hold and the residences will not have access to high-speed internet services if the owner refuses to allow entry. This issue also disproportionately impacts our low-income residents.

4.) Proposed Solution/Legislative Remedy to this issue.

Modify the Colorado Statutes to prevent owners of multi-family dwelling units and mobile home parks from barring voter approved publicly owned and operated broadband *and* publicly owned and operated municipal or county broadband from providing services to residences.

5.) Have you explored a non-legislative solution to this problem?

Yes, we have tried to convince owners of these properties of the benefits of fiber and continue to attempt to negotiate entry with little response.

One potential question is if counties or municipalities have the authority to do this already?

Also, in 2022 the FCC passed a rule banning revenue sharing between ISPs and MDU owners, so they are aware of the issue on a federal level. (This also shows how entrenched this practice is and has been)

6.) Statutory Citation to be modified AND proposed/revised language (The Colorado Revised Statute is available for free at <u>this link</u>, by selecting "Colorado Revised Statutes").

- This would be either amending, or adding to 219-27-201
 - (At least this is where SB23-183, which removed the voter required opt out to municipal broadband was.)
- It could also have a nexus to statute governing mobile home parks and/or MFH tenant-landlord issues.
 - Mobile Home Parks-38-12-200 and beyond
 - Multifamily- 38-12-900 and beyond
 - Unfair Housing practices- 24-34-502
- 7.) Relationship of this issue to County Commissioner's roles and/or authorities.

Please submit this completed form to Brittney Becerra at bbecerra@ccionline.org by Friday, July 7.



- 8.) Has this proposal been approved by the Board of County Commissioners? Yes.
- 9.) List any potential Proponents/Opponents & their perspective; indicate any groups/individuals with whom you have already discussed this issue.

Potential proponents would be housing advocates, and mobile home park advocates and any organizations working toward broadband equity. The residents of MDUs and MHPs would appreciate having better access to quality internet, especially if they are in areas with voter approved or publicly funded broadband. Other proponents would be the municipal broadband providers that are currently in existence. CML would likely support.

Opponents would likely be:

- Private ISP Providers (Lumen, Comcast Etc.)
- Multifamily Broadband Council
- Likely various Chambers of Commerce
- National Multifamily Housing Council
 - They opposed a similar bill in San Francisco. <u>https://www.bbcmag.com/multifamily-broadband/community-connectivity-is-threatened</u>
- 10.) Have you visited with your legislator(s) about this proposal? What was their reaction? Are members of <u>your delegation</u> likely to sponsor, support, or oppose this proposal? We have and have identified potential sponsors.
- 11.) **Anticipated Fiscal Impact (to counties, state, other stakeholders, etc.).** None, it will improve competition and drive down costs for residents.
- 12.) Please list the local subject matter experts CCI staff can follow up with for more information on this proposal.

Mark Pfaffinger (contact above) Loveland Pulse Fort Collins Connexion

13.) If your county is submitting multiple issue forms, please rank each issue.