

**Community Focus Statement C:** Provide greater access to important services for Homestead Valley residents and businesses



**Action Statement C.2:** Work with local utilities to provide higher-speed Internet access for Homestead Valley residents, including broadband internet (20Mbps or higher), free public hotspots, and improved cell phone reception.

**Benchmark:** Faster, reliable Internet access is available creating a community where people want to work and live.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** \$2,000–\$8,000 per outdoor hotspot, plus ongoing maintenance costs

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Establish community support for expanded internet and cell phone coverage, including community hotspots.	Champion	Month 1 - 6	Frontier Communications local contact <a href="http://west.frontier.com/">http://west.frontier.com/</a>
2. Form a committee to advocate for better and more reliable Internet access in Homestead Valley.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	Month 6	PCWorld, How to Set Up Public Wi-Fi at your Business <a href="http://www.pcworld.com/article/2031443/how-to-set-up-public-wi-fi-at-your-business.html">http://www.pcworld.com/article/2031443/how-to-set-up-public-wi-fi-at-your-business.html</a>
3. Coordinate with the local service provider to identify Internet problems in the community, and potential solutions.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	Month 6 - 12	TurboFuture, How to Build a Large Citywide WiFi Hotspot/Zone <a href="https://turbofuture.com/computers/How-to-Build-a-Large-Citywide-WiFi-HotspotZone">https://turbofuture.com/computers/How-to-Build-a-Large-Citywide-WiFi-HotspotZone</a>
4. Encourage local business owners to offer community WiFi hotspots.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	Month 6 - 12	Case Study: Vermont Council on Rural Development <a href="http://vtrural.org/programs/digital-economy/services/wifi/toolkit">http://vtrural.org/programs/digital-economy/services/wifi/toolkit</a>
5. Identify community gathering locations that could serve as free public hotspots.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	Month 12 - 18	
6. Coordinate with the service provider to develop a plan for public WiFi. Identify a funding plan.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	Month 18-24	
7. Oversee ISP hotspot installation and establish a contract for ongoing maintenance of the system.	Homestead Valley Internet Improvement Task Force	On-going	

\*Previously considered for Johnson Valley Community Center but determined not feasible.