

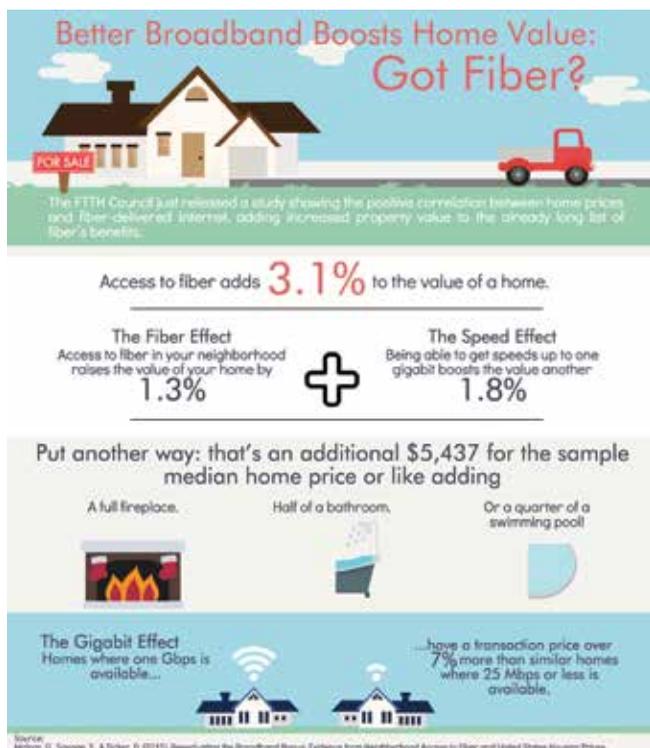
FTTH Boosts Home Values

A new study commissioned by the FTTH Council Americas shows that access to fiber-delivered Internet boosts home values by up to 3.1 percent.

By Heather Burnett Gold / FTTH Council Americas

In June, the Fiber to the Home Council Americas released a white paper that showed access to fiber may increase a home's value by up to 3.1 percent. Using the National Broadband Map and a nationwide sample of real estate prices from 2011 to 2013, the study's authors investigated the relationship between fiber-delivered Internet services and housing prices. The boost to the value of a typical home – \$5,437 – is roughly equivalent to adding a fireplace, half a bathroom or a quarter of a swimming pool to the home.

The new study found that, for homes where 1 Gbps broadband was available, transaction prices were more than 7 percent higher than for homes located where the highest speed available is 25 Mbps or lower.



Community Toolkit Program & Economic Development Conference Series

The FTTH Council's Community Toolkit helps cities get a jump-start on the gigabit highway. Don't miss the Community Toolkit Program in Lexington, September 16 and 17.

The study adds to a growing body of research that demonstrates the consumer benefits from widespread access to fiber broadband Internet. A number of studies have linked broadband networks and new investments in such networks to improved economic performance. The speed and reliability that fiber provides offer further benefits. Most recently, in 2014, the FTTH Council released a study that found higher per capita GDP in communities where gigabit Internet was available. Infrastructure investment, job creation, entrepreneurship, and business relocation or expansion are all manifestations of this growth.

The evidence is mounting: Investment in fiber improves the economic performance of a community as well as its quality of life. Around the United States, local leaders have started to think about how Internet infrastructure in their communities catalyzes economic, educational and governmental innovation. ❖

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