The downtown building that once housed Costa Family Practice has been bought by Cozad Telephone Co.

Mark Young, president of the Cozad business, confirmed that his company owns the building at 514 Ninth St.

Young said he plans to remodel the 2,700 square foot structure to house equipment that allows for a diverse route for fiber optic cable.

Optical fibers are used in fiber-optic communications which allow transmission over longer distances and at higher bandwidths or rates of data than other forms of communication.

“We’re taking the fiber into Gothenburg and connecting it to Pinpoint out of Cambridge,” he explained.

Originally established in 1918 as a rural telephone company in Cambridge, Pinpoint Communications offers telecommunications technology.

Cozad Telephone is already connected to Qwest’s fiber optic cable, Young said, noting that a back-up connection with Pinpoint will give the company more diversity.

For example if the existing fiber optic line is cut, he said customers in Cozad can’t call outside of town.

Young said Pinpoint also sells bandwidth less expensively than other fiber optic cable carriers.

“Everything now takes bandwidth,” he explained. “You need it for faster speed and because more people are using the Internet.

“We need to keep our customers happy.”

The Gothenburg building is being remodeled to accommodate the telecommunications equipment and will include the installation of duct and fiber.

Although Cozad Telephone employees will visit the building from time to time, Young said there will be no one manning the building each day at this point.

“We’ll clean up the building so it looks good aesthetically and be ready for the next step if there is one,” he said.

Young said the telethony industry is changing so fast that expanding the business to Gothenburg is an opportunity to offer different types of services.

Telephony, according to SearchUnifiedCommunications.com, is technology associated with electronic transmission of voice, fax or other information between distant parties using systems historically associated with the telephone, a handheld device containing both a speaker or transmitter and a receiver.

With the arrival of computers and the transmittal of digital information over telephone systems and the use of radio to transmit telephone signals, the Web site describes the distinction between telephony and telecommunication as blurring.

“We look forward to working with Gothenburg,” Young said. “You are business friendly down there.”

Cozad Telephone has nine employees.

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