

PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO REQUEST FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE

August 2, 2019

The Northern Neck Planning District Commission will submit a grant application to the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) which seeks financial assistance to supplement construction costs of a regional public/private effort to extend broadband services to unserved areas within eight Virginia counties.

The application is being submitted in partnership with Atlantic Broadband, the region's private sector broadband service provider. The estimated total investment for this "last mile" project is \$2,700,000, resulting in the availability of high-speed Internet—with access speeds of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload—to 750 homes and home-based businesses in the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond, Northumberland, Lancaster, King George, Caroline, Mathews, and Middlesex. Service would also be extended into Longwood University's Hull Spring Farms in Westmoreland County.

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) implements the VATI grant program. The goal of the program is "to enhance sustainability and growth of communities throughout the Commonwealth by preparing those communities to build, utilize, and capitalize on telecommunications infrastructure." VATI applications are due on September 3, 2019. Grievances, questions, or comments should be addressed to:

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