

AGENDA

Broadband Advisory Council Meeting

May 14th, 2025

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In-Person Option:

Hilton Richmond Hotel

12042 W Broad St

Richmond, VA 23233

Virtual Option (via Microsoft Teams):

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 254 491 800 637

Passcode: wa9rJ99a

Dial in by phone:

[+1 434-230-0065,,332758399#](#) United States, South Hill

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 332 758 399#

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| I. | Opening | |
| | a. Call to Order | Chairman |
| | b. Roll Call | DHCD Staff |
| II. | Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman | Council Members |
| III. | Consent Agenda | Chairman |
| IV. | Approval of Minutes: December 6, 2024 Meeting | |
| V. | Overview of Discussion | Bryan Horn, Director, DHCD
Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director,
Office of Broadband |
| VI. | Office of Broadband Updates | Office of Broadband Staff |
| | a. Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) | |
| | a. Virginia Make Ready initiative (VMRI) | |
| | b. BEAD Deployment | |
| | c. BEAD Non-Deployment | |
| | d. Digital Opportunity | |
| VII. | Public Comment | Chairman |
| VIII. | New Business | Council Members |
| IX. | Adjournment | Chairman |

BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
December 6, 2024
10:00 AM
Meadow Hall (Meadow Event Park)
13111 Dawn Blvd
Doswell, VA 23047
Virtual Option provided via Microsoft Teams

Members Present

Chair, Senator Boysko
Senator Hashmi
Delegate Herring
Delegate Willett
Delegate Srinivasan
Casey Logan
Rich Schollman
Steve Sandy
Jimmy Carr
Ray LaMura
Kristie Proctor

Members Absent

Delegate Leftwich
Senator Hackworth

Call to Order	Senator Jennifer Boysko, Acting Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
Roll Call	Chandler Vaughan, Associate Director at the Office of Broadband, called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2024 Meeting	A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2024, meeting of the Broadband Advisory Council. The motion passed to adopt the minutes as presented.
General Remarks	Acting Chair Senator Boysko acknowledged Breezeline for their hospitality in arranging meeting accommodations and their demonstration of fiber optic network construction efforts in Caroline and Essex counties. Bryan Horn, VA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) provided remarks on the recognition Virginia has received in efforts to bridge digital divide (e.g. BEAD, Virginia Make Ready Initiative, Digital Opportunity).

Overview of Discussion	Tamarah Holmes Ph.D., Director of the Office of Broadband provided brief verbal updates on the Office's work. Dr. Holmes detailed how we are adding focus on affordability and adoption in addition to maintaining focus on infrastructure. from infrastructure to affordability and adoption of broadband
Office of Broadband Updates	Caroline Luxhoj, VATI Program Manager, presented on: historical funding of the program (FY17-FY23), the risk determination process in light of new language added to FY2025 and FY2026 biennium budget, and provided updates on the contracting status of Virginia Make Ready Initiative awards. Director of the Office of Broadband Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D. provided an overview of federal last-mile deployment program, BEAD, to close the availability gap because "access to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband is essential to full participation in society." A timeline of the state's application window and how many letters of intent were received per locality was showcased. Chandler Vaughan, Associate Director of the Office of Broadband provided an overview of DHCD's approach to non-deployment recommendations in alignment with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) guidance, including: (1) a cellular connectivity program which can help cover the cost of cell towers to extend cell service in regions without coverage; (2) multi-dwelling unit (MDU) connectivity program to provide unit-level broadband availability; (3) state agency and state organization partnerships to implement broadband adoption programs; and (4) a gap fill long-term connectivity barriers wherein innovative technologies will be used to reach locations mis-mapped under BEAD. Council members shared their sentiments, interests, and initial thoughts on the developing work within the Office of Broadband.
Public Comment	No public comment was provided at the meeting.
New Business	Council members shared their interests, and initial thoughts on the BEAD Non-Deployment initiatives under development within the Office of Broadband. Ray LaMura requested that the Broadband Advisory Council review concerns from ISPs about state agencies mandating the relocation of broadband that was built to unserved areas with a federal or state grant. As the original purpose of these broadband

	grants were to collaborate with the private sector to extend the internet to unserved areas, that were without an economic rationale.
Adjournment	Upon a motion made and properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Unapproved



Broadband Advisory Council Meeting

May 14, 2025





VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Partners for Better Communities

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Call to Order



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Partners for Better Communities

2



Roll Call



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
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3



Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
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Consent Agenda



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Approval of Minutes: December 6, 2024 Meeting



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Partners for Better Communities

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Overview of Discussion

Bryan Horn, Director, VA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D, Director, Office of Broadband



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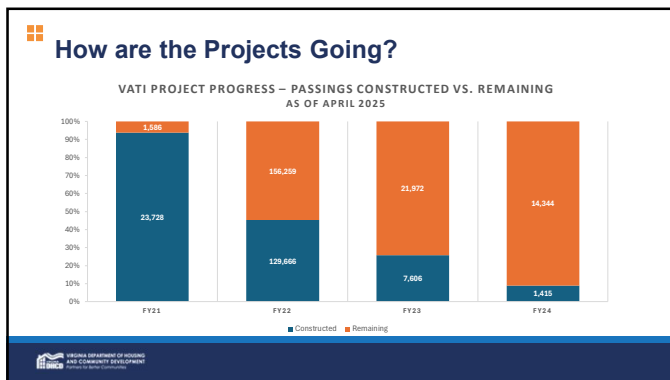
Office of Broadband Updates

In Order of Presenting:

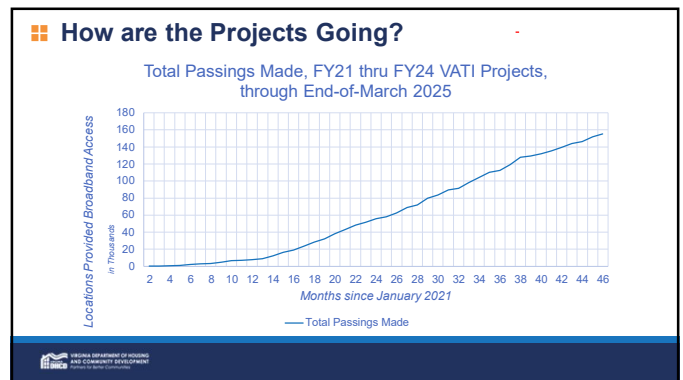
Caroline Luxhoj, Program Manager, Virginia Telecommunication Initiative
Tamarah Holmes, Director
Kayla Bravo, Policy Planner



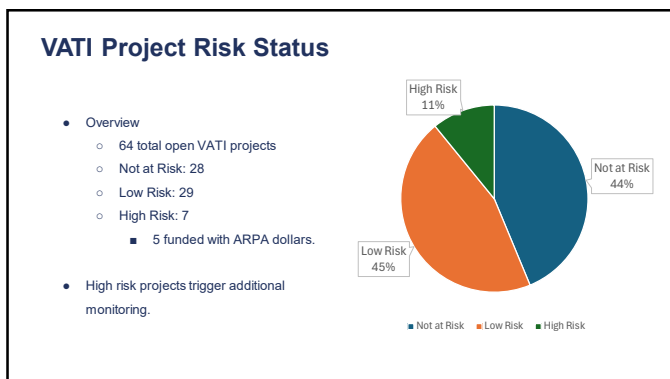
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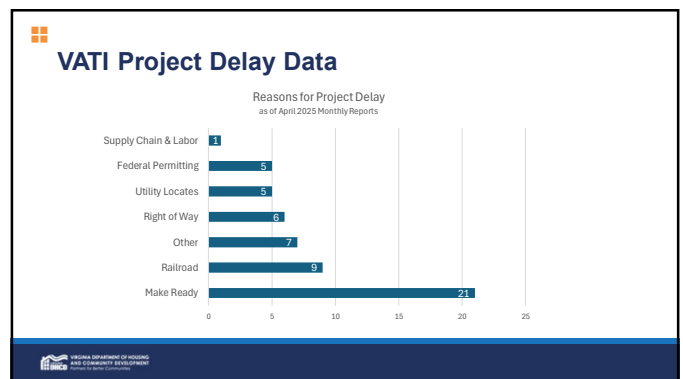
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Virginia Make Ready Initiative Awards to Date

September

- Awarded: \$2,656,961.10
- Leveraged: \$963,864.49
- Locations: 3,520

October

- Awarded: \$6,569,744.14
- Leveraged: \$2,189,902.71
- Locations: 4,871

November

- Awarded: \$6,413,855.18
- Leveraged: \$2,166,781.46
- Locations: 9,587

December

- Awarded: \$7,678,506.48
- Leveraged: \$2,620,394.91
- Locations: 11,353

January

- Awarded: \$2,082,903.89
- Leveraged: \$694,301.30
- Locations: 8,463

February

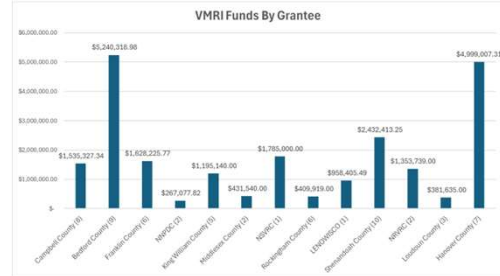
- Awarded: \$1,207,799.64
- Leveraged: \$2,609,060.72
- Locations: 6,191

May

- \$7,370,710.47 available
- Application deadline: May 8
- DHCD currently reviewing proposals
- Awards by end of May
- Expenditures submitted by June 13

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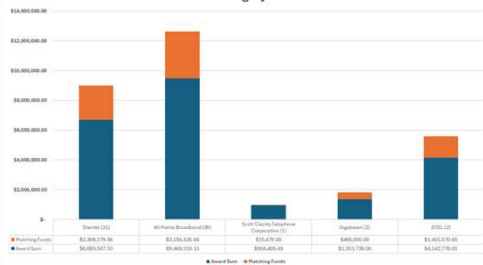
Virginia Make Ready Initiative Awards to Date



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Virginia Make Ready Initiative Awards to Date

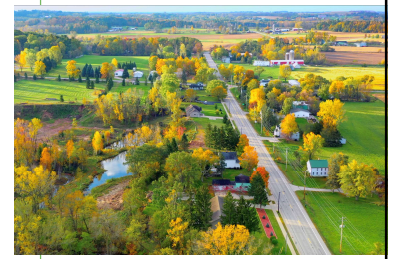
Funding By ISP



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BEAD Update: Deployment

- Application Processes Completed!
 - Initial Cycle Concluded March 1
 - Negotiation Cycle Concluded April 28
- Confidential award notification sent to Initial Cycle awardees on March 27
- Negotiation Cycle awardees will not be notified prior to issuance of pending new federal guidance
- 100% of locations will be covered via mix of technologies



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BEAD Deployment: What's Coming Next?

Negotiation Cycle Review

- Office of Broadband staff continues its review of proposals submitted under the Negotiation Cycle
- These awards may not be announced in order to retain flexibility under new federal guidance.

Final Proposal:

- Office of Broadband staff is developing the Final Proposal, which includes:
 - All award recommendations for deployment projects
 - Detailed plans for Non-Deployment Projects
 - Subgrantee monitoring and compliance measures

Federal Guidance Updates:

- All states and territories received a 90-day automatic extension to submit Final Proposals
- Guidance is forthcoming from National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on changes to BEAD program under Trump Administration.
- Office of Broadband staff will review changes when published and adjust program requirements and timeline accordingly to issue draft Final Proposal for public comment period and submission to NTIA.

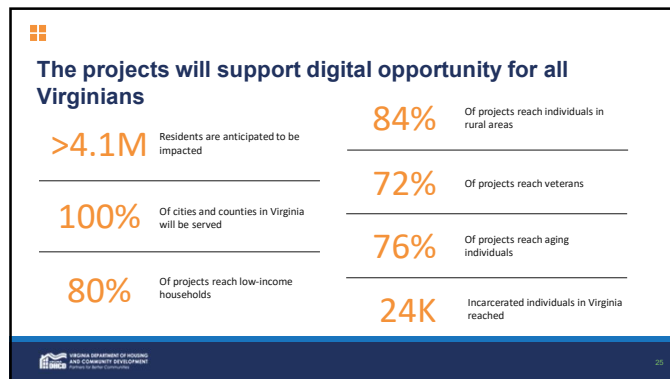
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BEAD Non-Deployment Update

Virginia's work to build on the momentum of addressing broadband access to close the whole digital divide.



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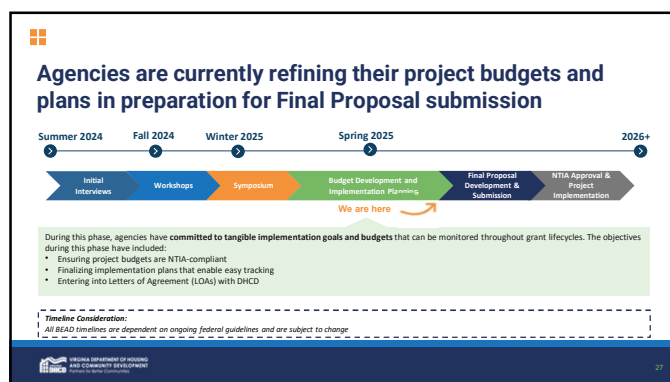


In February, we held a Symposium to foster collaboration and share projects



- 70+ attendees
- 18 agencies, NTIA staff & non-profits
- Intra-agency collaboration in focus area breakout sessions
- Resulted in an operation model for the program, with shared goals for BEAD Non-Deployment Agency Partnerships

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For the Specific Questions on State Agency Partnership Development

Please address additional questions to:

Chandler Vaughan
Associate Director, Office of Broadband | Virginia DHCD
804-801-7124 | chandler.vaughan@dhcd.virginia.gov

Colin Hood
Director, State and Local Government | Guidehouse
804-691-7268 | chood@guidehouse.com

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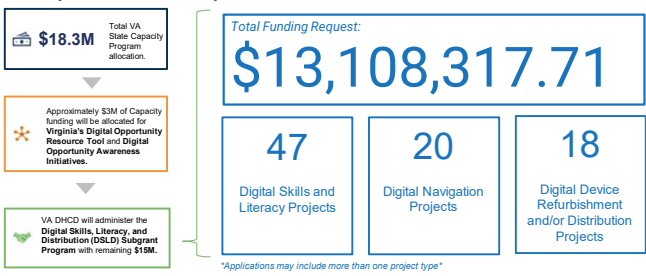
Gap-Fill Long Term Connectivity Barriers



- Flaws in federal BEAD mapping will lead to gaps in connectivity, especially at recently built homes, secondary homes on a same parcel, and homes covered by dense tree canopies
- Deployment challenges, like railroad crossings and private easements will also lead to one-off locations without connectivity discovered during project build outs
- This program would fund innovative technology solutions – like low earth orbit satellite technologies - to reach these left behind locations
- This program would also hold satellite capacity in reserve to respond to emergency events.

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The Digital Skills, Literacy, and Device (DSLDD) Program's application period closed on April 21st



Total VA State Capacity Program allocation: \$18.3M

Approximately \$3M of Capacity funding will be allocated for Virginia's Digital Opportunity Resource Tool and Digital Opportunity Awareness Initiatives.

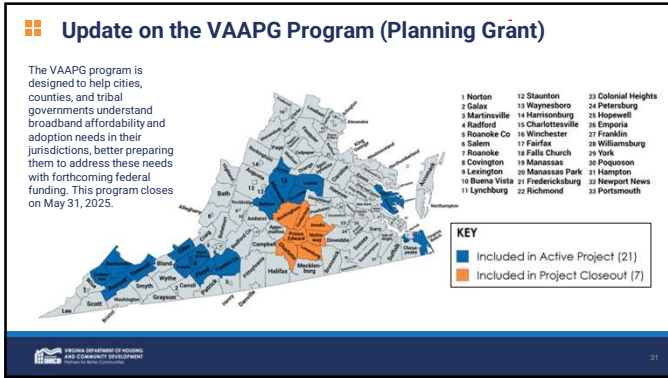
VA DHCD will administer the Digital Skills, Literacy, and Device (DSLDD) Subgrant Program with remaining \$15M.

Total Funding Request: \$13,108,317.71

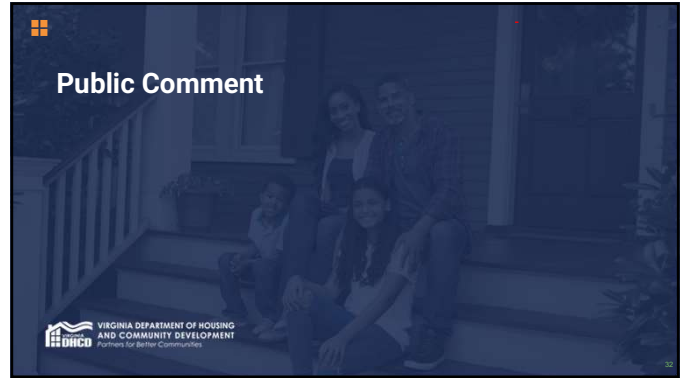
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Digital Skills and Literacy Projects	Digital Navigation Projects	Digital Device Refurbishment and/or Distribution Projects

Applications may include more than one project type

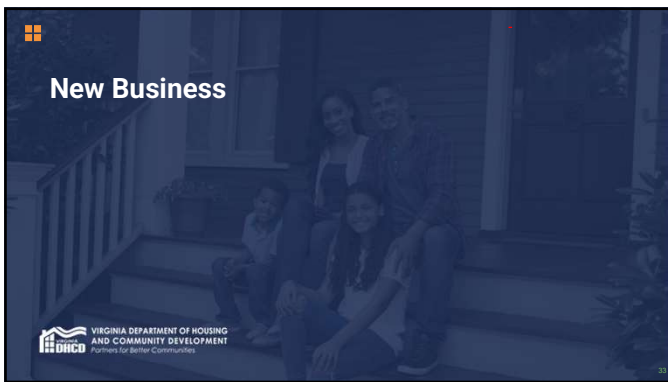
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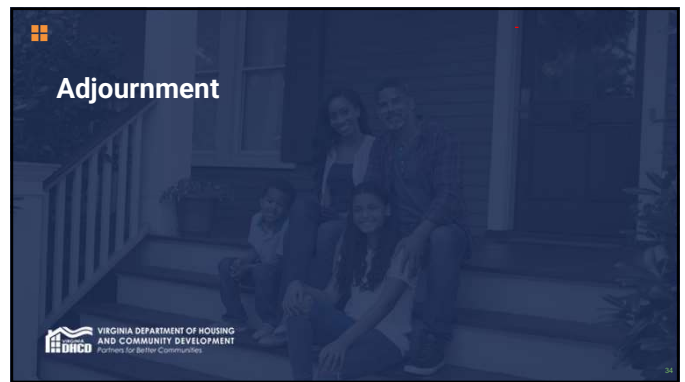
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