



PATRICK COUNTY VIRGINIA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Patrick County, VA – 2020 Virginia Telecommunications Initiative

Patrick County, Virginia, nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains recognizes the pressing need for broadband connectivity for all potential stakeholders; including its approximately 18,000 residents, 10,200 housing units, 1,200 businesses, 7 public schools, public safety and first responders, and the County's administration. The County desires expansion of broadband access in unserved areas and improved capacity in underserved areas using a Public/Private partnership. The County understands the economics of expanding broadband in rural areas and is prepared to take action to improve private sector investment.

The local government of Patrick County, VA herewith gives notice of its intent to partner with RiverStreet Communications of Virginia, Inc. (RSCVA) dba RiverStreet Networks (RSN) to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for grant funding from the 2020 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI).

The purpose of the grant funding is to provide for the extension of broadband service to unserved areas of Patrick County as defined by the FCC. The first phase of the proposed broadband project will consist of identifying and securing primary backbone services, utilizing vertical assets to create a fixed wireless network, and create a network operations center (NOC) in Patrick County. Broadband service will be provided through RSN, which has been established to serve as an internet service provider (ISP). The proposed vertical assets to be used are located on Bull Mountain in Patrick Springs, on Busted Rock Road in Meadows of Dan, on Mountain View Road in Woolwine, and others as deemed necessary for the full network design. The project will meet or exceed the service level requirements established for the VATI program. The 2020 VATI grant application will be submitted to DHCD by the program's September 3rd, 2019 deadline.

Comments are invited and will be received on this project until close of business August 23, 2019. They can be submitted in person or by mail to Bryce Simmons at 106 Rucker Street – or P.O. Box 466 – Stuart, VA 24171; by phone at (276) 694-8367 during usual business hours and by email to bsimmons@co.patrick.va.us. All comments will be considered and submitted with the application.