

Lancaster County Broadband Authority

Report to the Board of Supervisors

November 15, 2018

During the first two weeks of the month of November the Broadband Authority received its Employee Identification Number (EIN), and Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers, which are required for non-profit and government agencies and if you want to do business with the federal government. Complete minutes of the Authority's meetings are available, but this report will highlight several important items that are currently in process.

1. The Authority is continuing to pursue discussions with the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) about the timing and content of our access and utilization survey. While CIT continues to be behind schedule they have provided some information on other pieces of the assessment process that can be focused on in advance of the survey.
2. The Authority is focused on budget concerns, and submitted an initial Master Plan and a request for consideration for planning funds to the Lancaster County Economic Development Authority (EDA). The EDA has responded stating that they will consider our request at their January Board meeting.
3. The Authority is working with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to get details of Virginia Community Development Block Grant (VCDBG) planning grants via CAMS. Our intent is to apply for the maximum of \$30k and we currently estimate Phase 1 work to cost ~\$60k, therefore, additional funding is required to get through the planning phase.
4. The Authority has initiated a conversation with a member of the Middlesex County Broadband Authority to determine where we can cooperate to expand broadband/internet access in our counties.
5. An Authority member has been in communication with Dominion Energy regarding potential blank conduit between Lancaster and Middlesex Counties.

Based on these communications, Dominion is not willing to put in conduit in their easement if owned by another entity nor under spec. However, Dominion is willing to discuss potential business relationship(s), capital and operational costs. The Dominion Energy contact is Charlotte McAfee.

6. Finally, we are working to set up a meeting with Jim Cornwell for his assistance/guidance on issues such as planning for our eventual RFP, NDAs and tax issues.