

Lancaster County Broadband Authority Report to the Board of Supervisors August 29, 2019

Complete minutes of the Broadband Authority's meetings are available online at www.lancova-broadband.org, but this report will update you on important items that are in process.

- 1. The county-wide needs assessment survey is now complete and we are awaiting the data analysis and final report from the Center for Innovative Technology. We had a robust response to the survey. In addition to the responses that were submitted on our website, we received just over 800 paper responses. These were entered into the system by Authority members and three very dedicated volunteers. The full analysis won't be available until next month, but anecdotally we can report that most respondents indicated that they did not have internet service that meets their needs. The survey was the first task performed under the Telecommunications Planning Grant, and having successfully completed it, we expect to be approved for the remainder of the grant funds.
- 2. We held a special meeting this month to start the process for issuing a formal Request for Information from interested parties and potential vendors to design and implement a comprehensive plan for extending internet service to the entire County.
- 3. We will host another special public meeting next Tuesday, September 3rd at 9:00 a.m. in the Lancaster Community Library. Our guests will be Representative Rob Wittman, and the Governor's Chief Broadband Adviser, Evan Feinman, and his Deputy, Courtney Dozier. The meeting will include a question and answer period, and everyone is invited to attend.
- 4. We had a representative at the Virginia Telecommunications Officers and Advisors meeting where new FCC proposals were described and we also attended the Economic Development Authority's recent public meeting, where broadband was the single most talked about item.
- 5. We continue to pursue a number of contract-related matters with Atlantic Broadband and others.