

October 8, 2024

MEMBER  
JURISDICTIONS

Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D.  
Director, Office of Broadband  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
600 East Main Street, Ste 300  
Richmond, VA 23219

CHESAPEAKE

RE: Letter of Intent to Apply for the Broadband Equity, Access, and  
Development (BEAD) Program

Dear Dr. Holmes:

NORFOLK

I am providing this BEAD Letter of Intent to notify the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) that the Southside Network Authority (SNA) will be submitting an application for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Development Program (BEAD).

PORTSMOUTH

The SNA was formed by the five Southside cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach with the goal of developing a state-of-the-art Fiber Optic Network that would connect the entire 757 region. The 119-mile fiber ring named the Regional Connectivity Ring (RCR), will serve as the backbone of 757's current and future digital ecosystem.

SUFFOLK

To ensure success of the RCR network, the SNA has made strategic partnerships to facilitate network completion. With over 50 years of experience in installing and maintaining the nation's infrastructure, Danella Construction was selected to be the contractor for the construction of the Southside ring. Columbia Telecommunications Corporation (CTC) was selected to design and conduct project management duties of the middle-mile network based on their over 30 years of experience in IT engineering consulting. To facilitate last-mile connectivity, SNA formed a P3 partnership with Global Technical Systems (GTS). GTS is a local Defense Technology Contractor, with a long history of providing secure network connectivity to the United States Government and is committed to providing broadband service to the unserved, underserved, and community anchor institutions.

VIRGINIA BEACH

The SNA intends to seek federal funding for last-mile connectivity to unserved, underserved, and disadvantaged neighborhoods as well as community anchor institutions located in the Hampton Roads region. Applications may be regional in nature or city-specific for our member cities.

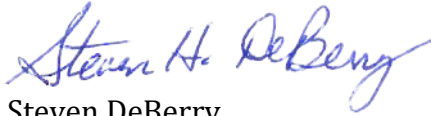
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
STEVEN H. DeBERRY  
THE REGIONAL BUILDING  
723 WOODLAKE DR  
CHESAPEAKE, VA 23320  
Mobile: 757-617-1999  
Office: 757-420-8300

The SNA understands that this BEAD letter of intent is required in order to submit an application for the BEAD NOFO and that this notice is not binding on the entity represented by the undersigned or the DHCD.

The main point of contact for the SNA during the application process is as follows:

Steven H. DeBerry, Executive Director  
Southside Network Authority  
c/o Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)  
The Regional Building, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320  
(757) 420-8300  
[stevenhdeberry@gmail.com](mailto:stevenhdeberry@gmail.com)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven H. DeBerry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' and 'D'.

Steven DeBerry  
Executive Director, Southside Network Authority