



Established 1692

Essex County, Virginia

202 South Church Lane
Post Office Box 1079
Tappahannock, Virginia 22560

July 19, 2021

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

Dear Dr. Holmes:

I am providing this VATI Application Notice to notify the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development that Essex County, Virginia intends to apply for the FY2022 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Grant.

Essex County, Virginia intends to submit a multi-county application with Caroline County and King William County, partnering with Atlantic Broadband (ABB), that will result in universal broadband coverage in Essex County. The application will include the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) areas awarded to ABB. ABB will include RDOF areas awarded to Space Exploration Technologies per 2022 VATI Guidance regarding satellite providers and will include RDOF areas awarded to Starry/Connect Everyone (S/CE) as S/CE has communicated to the VATI office they will not participate in the 2022 VATI grant process. Additionally, ABB will include passings that require special construction costs based on the distance of the drop to a service location. The proposed project areas encompass the entire county. The project will take between two and three years to complete. As such, extensions, or exceptions to typical VATI completion timeframes should be expected.

Essex County will serve as the multi-county application lead for the three counties partnering with ABB as the service provider.

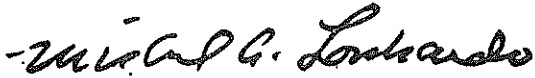
Robert Hodges will be our main point of contact for the purposes of the application process, and can be reached at:

P.O. Box 1079, Tappahannock, VA 22560
404-313-6163
rhodges@essex-virginia.org

Essex County, Virginia understands that this VATI Application Notice is required to apply for the 2022 the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative Grant and that this notice is not binding on the entity represented by the undersigned, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Lombardo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael A. Lombardo
Essex County Administrator