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**Frank M. Smith, II, President & CEO**

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**July 26, 2021**

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

Dear Dr. Holmes:

I am providing this VATI Application Notice to notify the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development of **Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority in cooperation with the the County of Roanoke** may submit an application for the FY2022 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI).

**Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority in cooperation with the County of Roanoke** intends to submit an application for an fiber optic transport and last mile along state route 658 also known as Rutrough Road in Roanoke County to the Explorer Park Area of Roanoke County for the purposes of supporting the local community with mission critical telecommunications backbone infrastructure and last mile connectivity. The project will provide an essential optical transport backbone and last mile connectivity for citizens in support of Universal Service. This is a true multi-jurisdictional project that will service the community for many years to come. In addition, the Roanoke Valley Broadband has already received the necessary crossing permits and right of away agreements from the National Park Service's Blue Ridge Parkway division.

**Ms. Tywanii Ross** will be our main point of contact for the purposes of the application process, and can be reached at:

**601 South Jefferson Street,  
Suite 110  
Roanoke, VA 24011  
540.204.9341  
[tross@highspeedroanoke.net](mailto:tross@highspeedroanoke.net)**

**The Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority** understands that this VATI Application Notice is required in order to submit an application for the 2022 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative and that this notice is not binding on the entity represented by the undersigned, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Smith II", is written over a horizontal line.

Frank M. Smith II  
President & CEO  
Roanoke Valley  
Broadband Authority