



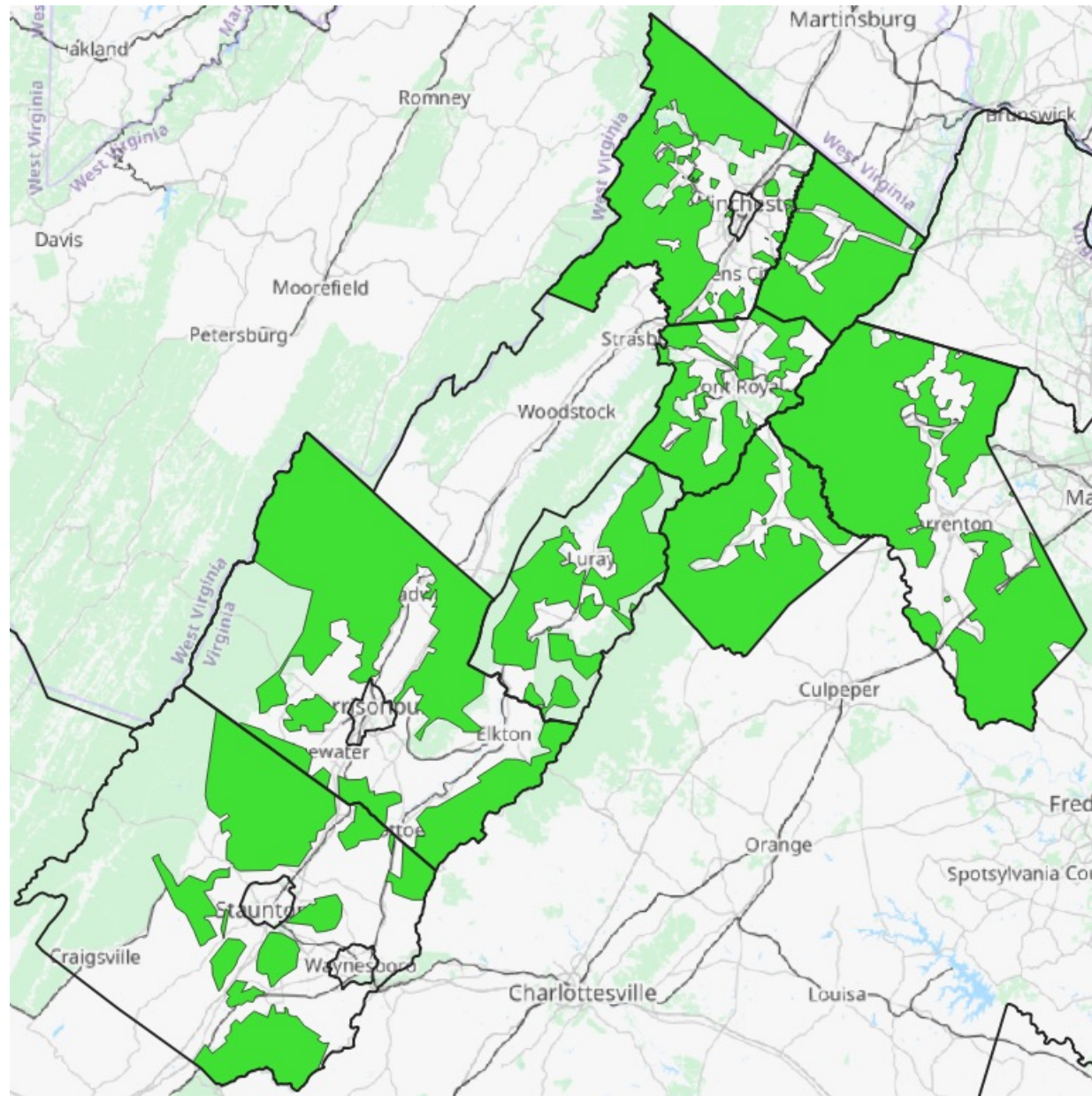
# All Points Broadband Augusta County Update

**January 10, 2024**



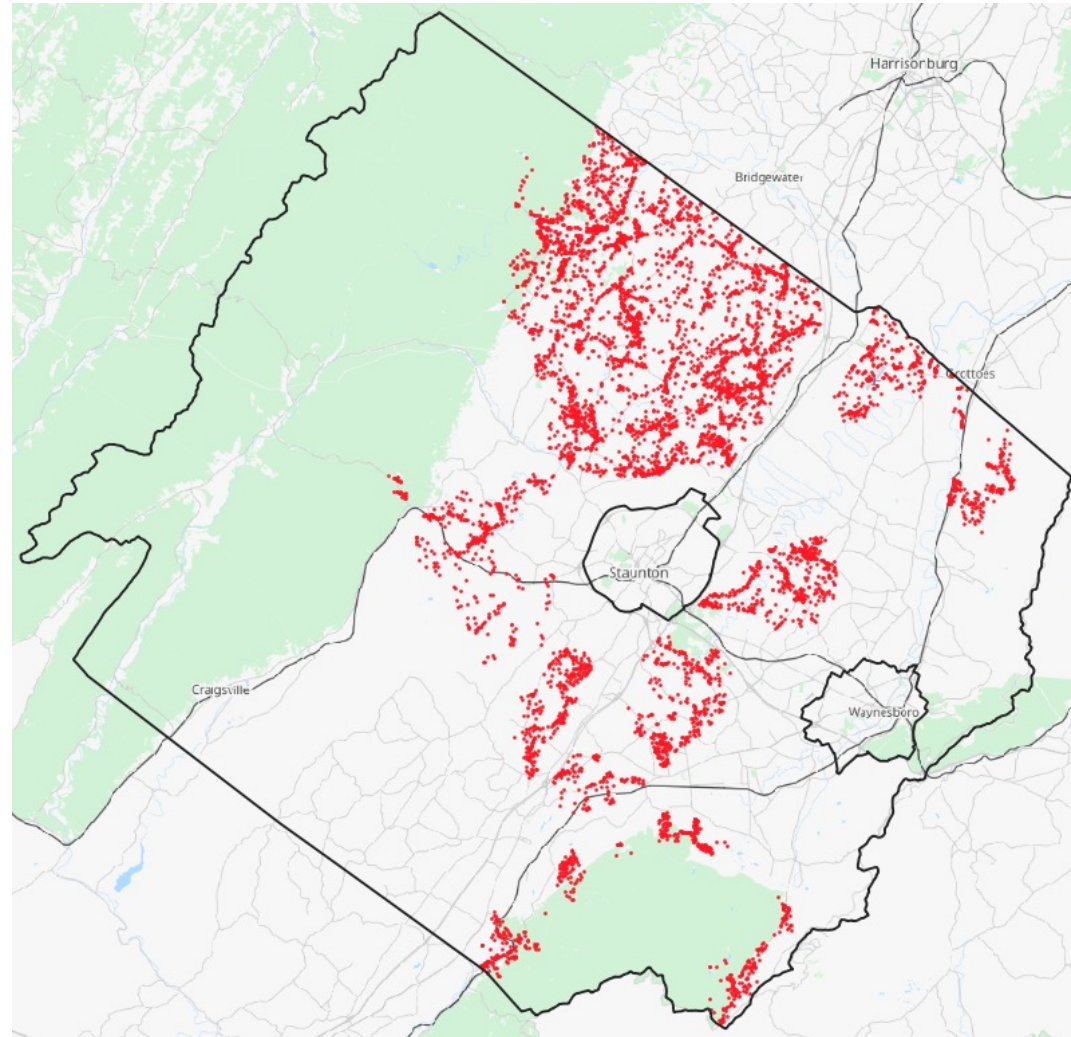
## VATI Project Overview

- Grant awarded 7/2022, starting 36-month project timeline
- ~3,100 miles distribution fiber and middle mile infrastructure
- Making FTTH broadband available to 41,690 unserved locations
- In partnership with Dominion, REC, SVEC



# Augusta Overview

- Partners:
  - Augusta County
  - VA DHCD
  - NSVRC
  - All Points Broadband
  - Dominion Energy
  - Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative
- ~556 miles of last-mile fiber & ~181 miles of middle-mile infrastructure
- Connecting more than 6,000 locations approved during grant process
- Key vendors: Timmons Group, Davey Resources Group



## NSVRC Regional Project Timeline - Augusta

- Q3/Q4 2022: Low-level design underway
- Q1 2023: Make ready fielding and engineering commenced
- Q2 2023: Make ready construction (MRC) commences; Augusta preliminary design rideout completed by Timmons
- Q4 2023: 1<sup>st</sup> Preconstruction milestone achieved for Project; Augusta 1<sup>st</sup> overall
- Q1 2024: Submit 1<sup>st</sup> remittance request for Augusta; State broadband office to finalize BEAD eligibility
- Q2 2024: Last-mile fiber construction to commence in Augusta; submission of BEAD funding applications across region
- Q3 2024: Commencement of customer installations in completed Fiber Service Areas based on where MRC has been completed
- Q3 2025: Substantial completion of regional last-mile network

## Project Status

- Key dependencies for last-mile deployment:
  - 1) Middle mile capacity in place
  - 2) Utility Make Ready
  - 3) Significant queue of constructable miles
- APB coordinating with Dominion on State Corporation Commission (SCC) process for an anticipated petition on schedule for Project timeline
- Site selection activities underway (offices, materials handling, cabinets, etc.)
  - Regional office and warehouse facility acquired in Mt. Crawford
  - Laydown yard acquired across from SVEC location to improve make-ready
- Field-validated low-level design and utility pole fielding are complete; make-ready engineering & construction is well underway and APB expects last-mile fiber construction to begin in Q2
  - Pole fielding is complete in Augusta (18k+ poles); applications for 12k poles accepted, 2400 of those already approved
  - APB construction vendors need significant number of miles approved in a logical manner before they mobilize – disconnected pockets of installed fiber is inoperable



# Utility Pole Fielding – Timmons Group / Davey Resource Group

- Pole fielding is complete in Augusta County



# Website Reminder: APBfiber.com



[Check availability](#) > [Select services](#) > [Installation](#) > [Review order](#) > [Sign in](#)

## Check Availability at Your Address

Start typing your address in search field.  
Addresses inside of a service area are included in the list.

Enter your address, including city, state and zip:

Mt Pisgah, Mt Sidney, VA, United States



Check address

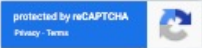
**You are inside of a planned service area.**

### Services will be available to you soon.

To stay updated on work progress, please provide your contact information.



First Name	Last Name
<input type="text" value="Enter First Name"/>	<input type="text" value="Enter Last Name"/>
Phone Number	Email
<input type="text" value="Enter Phone Number"/>	<input type="text" value="Enter Email"/>
Company (optional)	
<input type="text" value="Enter Company"/>	
Comments (optional)	
<input type="text"/>	



By submitting your contact information, you agree that All Points Broadband may contact you regarding your order.

Go To Survey

- Send resident inquiries of service to APBfiber.com
- Residents can pre-register for service and sign up for project updates
- Click “Go To Survey”
- Customers will be notified of service availability on a rolling basis **~90 days in advance**



## Remaining Eligible Locations Outside the Project

- The FY22 VATI grant is set for the specific locations in the polygons included with the application
- APB worked extensively to determine the initial project area. Reminders:
  - Any process involving humans is imperfect
  - Incumbent providers do not share the gaps in their networks and location-specific service data was not available at the time (national broadband map)
  - APB has committed to be your partner for universal service
- For unserved locations outside the FY22 VATI grant, solutions to extend service to these locations include:
  - APB private investment
  - LECAP (long drops within incumbent cable territory)
  - BEAD - **No local match**
- As APB conducts low-level design, national broadband data updates, and counties provide feedback, these locations are identified and flagged
- Key Point: This is an iterative process



## Overview of Virginia's Implementation of BEAD (Infrastructure Act)

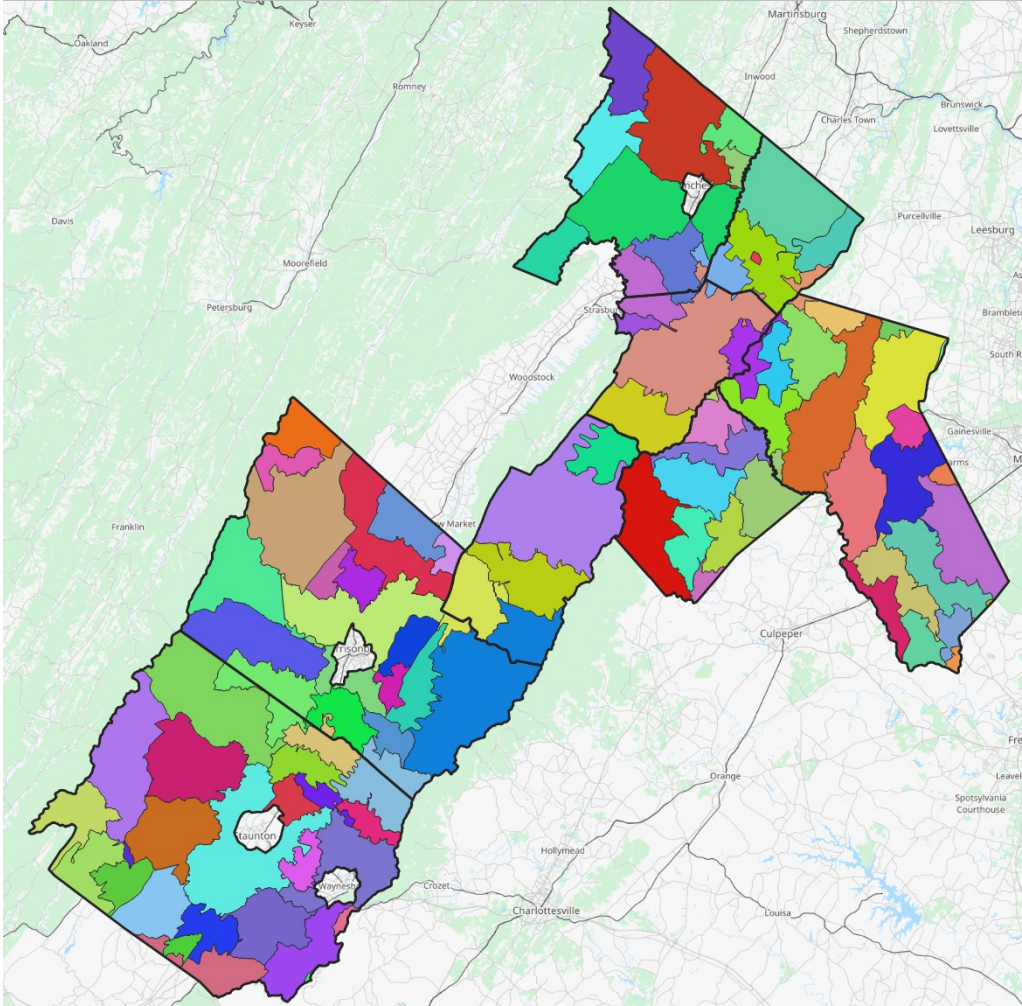
- Virginia's Office of Broadband at DHCD will administer \$1.48B of federal Infrastructure Act funding through program similar to VATI with key differences
  - **Final program guidelines are pending review & approval by NTIA**; however, Virginia is first state to submit all proposal documents
  - VA allocated sufficient funding available for high proportion of FTTH deployment to remaining unserved & underserved locations
  - Only available to "Broadband Serviceable Location" as of 6/15/2023
- Challenge process occurs *prior* to the BEAD application period
  - <https://broadband-challenge-portal.dhcd.virginia.gov/>
  - 30-day submittal window closed on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>
    - *APB submitted over 100,000 challenges (42% of challenges statewide)*
    - Maximize funding to truly unserved locations regardless of APB desirability
  - Challenged ISP have opportunity to rebut; DHCD to finalize ~1Q2024
- DHCD to receive letters of intent for BEAD within 60 days of challenge process completion *and* approval of its BEAD proposal by NTIA before application window
  - See submitted, unapproved Volume Two (the BEAD proposal):  
<https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/sites/default/files/Docx/vati/bead-ipv2-postpubliccomment-submittedtontia-unapproved.pdf>

## Overview of Virginia's Implementation of BEAD (Infrastructure Act)

- BEAD applications must be submitted to served 95% of unserved and underserved locations (including community anchor institutions) within a specific Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)
  - Reduces the number of unincluded locations and predefines BEAD project areas by existing geographic boundary (as opposed to allowing providers to draw their own cherry-picked project areas)
- Providers have 90 days from Letter of Intent period to submit full BEAD application(s) for DHCD evaluation
  - Remaining <5% of locations will require direct engagement by DHCD and likely provider(s)
- Proposed scoring criteria in addition to baseline requirements in BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity (the NOFO)
  - 45%: BEAD funding per project location
  - 20%: Gigabit affordability relative to FCC's Urban Rate Survey
  - 10.2%: Fair Labor Practices of Provider According to NOFO
  - 5%: Speed to Deployment Within 3 Years of Award
  - 9.9%: Universality, Ranging from 95%-100% Locations Included
  - 9.9%: Locality Letter of Support

# ZCTAs in the NSVRC Project

- 141 ZCTAs in the eight counties of the NSVRC project.





## BEAD Key Observations

- BEAD is a tool to supplement the VATI project
- APB's goals for BEAD
  - Aggressively pursue BEAD for missed/newly eligible areas in the NSVRC
  - Wherever possible, construct VATI and BEAD awarded areas simultaneously so there is no on-the-ground difference for residents
  - Ensure localities are informed and prepared during the challenge period
  - Obtain local support for all BEAD applications
- Estimated Timeline:
  - Q4 2023 – Challenge process commences
  - Q1 2024 – Challenge process ends; Letter of intent and initial applications submitted
  - Q2 2024 – Full applications submitted and scored
  - Q3 2024 – Awards announced; DHCD ISP engagement for remaining locations commences
- **VATI project remains #1 priority**



Thank You