

BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
APPROVED MINUTES
September 30, 2022
11:00AM – 2:00PM
Hanover County Administration Building
7516 County Complex Road
Hanover, VA 23069
Virtual Option provided via Google Meet

Members Present

Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair
 Delegate Kathy Byron, Vice Chair
 Senator Lynwood W. Lewis
 Senator Ghazala Hashmi
 Delegate James Leftwich
 Delegate Thomas Wright, Jr.
 Delegate David Reid
 Secretary Caren Merrick (Representative)
 Secretary Matt Lohr (Representative)
 James Carr
 Mike Culp
 Kristie Helmick Proctor
 Ray LaMura
 Casey Logan
 Steve Sandy
 Richard Schollman

Members Absent

Call to Order	Senator Jennifer Boysko, Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.
Roll Call	Mr. Chandler Vaughan, Senior Broadband Policy Analyst at the Office of Broadband, called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Approval of Minutes: May 19, 2022 Meeting	A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting of the Broadband Advisory Council. (Votes for: Boysko, Byron, Hashimi, Leftwich, Lewis, Wright, Jr., Reid, Merrick, Lohr, Carr, Culp, Proctor, LaMura, Sandy, Schollman, Logan)
Office of Broadband Updates	Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Broadband, provided an update from the Office of Broadband's activities. Components of the update included active Virginia

	Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) projects, the Line Extension Customer Assistance Program, legislation from the 2022 General Assembly Session involving the Office of Broadband, and the Office of Broadband’s role under the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act’s broadband programs.
VATI Project Dashboard Demonstration	Chandler Vaughan provided a demonstration of the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) project dashboard, which was debuted at the meeting. The VATI project dashboard provides key project progress statistics for VATI projects awarded since January 2021 and is available through dhcd.virginia.gov/vati
House Bill 445 & Senate Bill 446 Broadband Services to New Development Report	Grace Wheaton, Senior Policy Analyst in the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (DHCD) Policy Office, and Chandler Vaughan, presented DHCD’s findings and recommendations to the Broadband Advisory Council regarding the study established by H.B. 445 and S.B. 446 concerning the expansion of high-speed broadband service and associated infrastructure in new residential and commercial development.
Public Comment	No public comment was provided at the meeting.
New Business	Several council members noted the potential in delays of project construction because of the make-ready efforts required for broadband deployment. Broadband providers and their representatives noted that owners of electric poles, which often carry telecommunications infrastructure, are scaling up for handling requests to ensure those poles are adequate and equipped to handle the broadband infrastructure required for Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Projects. The outcome of the discussion was a work group to analyze make ready efforts and the scalability of make ready efforts for VATI projects.
Adjournment	Upon a motion made and properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.