



June 13, 2022

Dr. Tamarah Holmes, Director
Office of Broadband
Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development
600 East Main Street, Ste 300
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: VATI Grant #2021-007 - Rescope Response

Dr. Holmes:

Thank you for your letter dated May 13, 2022 in which you approved the County's request to rescope the original 2021 award to a wireline project in partnership with Shentel. As mentioned in our original request, Franklin County has been compelled to search for a way to transition its original award to a wireline project.

As part of Shentel and Franklin County's extensive ongoing work to bring broadband to unserved residents of Franklin County, we identified what we believe to be the most expedient and cost effective solution to serve County residents. The solution jointly chosen by Shentel and Franklin County to ensure the fastest delivery of the highest quality broadband to the residents of Franklin County contain 118 locations that were originally included in Shentel's FY2022 VATI award. This overlap is due to predicted Briscnet wireless coverage estimates initially suggesting that some neighborhoods would be partially covered, but have since been unable to receive wireless service. Shentel and Franklin County request that these 118 locations be transferred from the FY2022 project to the FY2021 project for the sake of clarity and simplicity in managing, tracking, and executing the projects.

Despite this transfer of 118 locations from the VATI 2022 project, Shentel will still be able to meet its VATI 2022 award committed passings of at least 3508 because there will no longer be wireless fallout with the upgrade from a hybrid project to a wireline project. Transferring the overlapping homes will accelerate and simplify the FY2021 re-scope without negatively impacting the VATI 2022 project.


This proposed re-scoped project will cover 417 locations and 195 lots with Gigabit wireline connections, with a VATI investment of \$939,469, in addition to \$900,143 in private and County funding being leverage. As noted, this project will cover existing coverage gaps in the County without creating any new gaps. Furthermore, since it will be relying on wireline connections, we believe that

the rescoped project represents the best broadband medium for Franklin County residents and the best use of State and Local money for the long term.

I have attached a revised passings form, funding sources table, derivation of costs table and a project area map. These items will all be loaded into CAMS system as well as GIS .shp files for the project area.

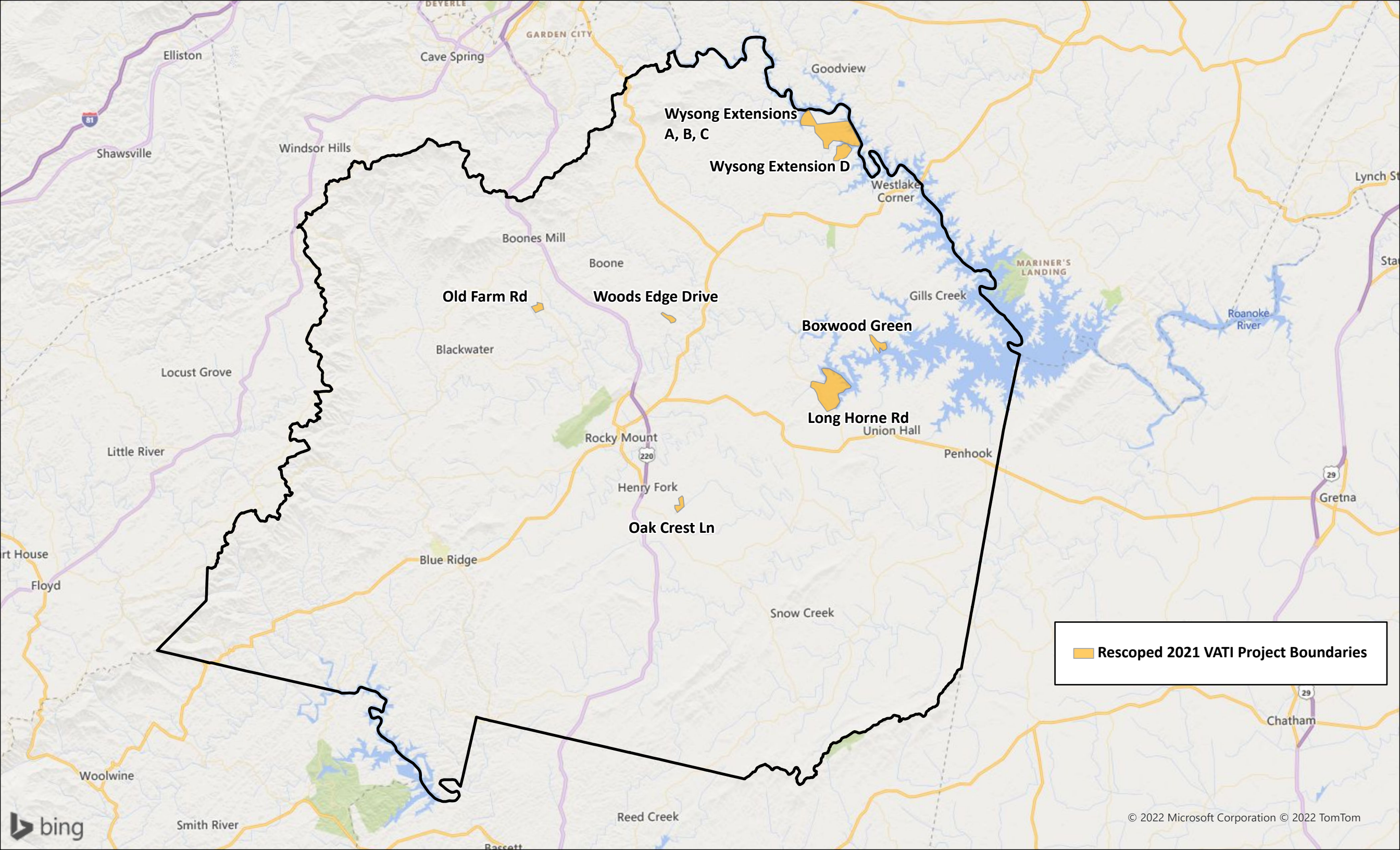
Thank you for your continued cooperation and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Steven M. Sandy, AICP
Assistant County Administrator

Attachments

Cc: Tammy Breski, DHCD
Ammar Al Omari, DHCD
Bryan Byrd, Shentel



Wysong Extensions
A, B, C

Wysong Extension D

Old Farm Rd

Woods Edge Drive

Boxwood Green

Long Horne Rd

Oak Crest Ln

Rescoped 2021 VATI Project Boundaries