

**GLOUCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**NOTICE OF AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) 2018 Application:**

Effective immediately, notice is hereby given that the Gloucester County Board of Supervisors is requesting public comment on the proposed Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant Application for 2018. Comments will be accepted from August 25 through September 30, 2017.

**BACKGROUND / SUMMARY:**

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has announced a competitive grant and application process to award \$1 million to eligible applicants to provide Last-Mile services, including Middle Mile networks, equipment or other investments required to deliver Last-Mile service to unserved areas of the Commonwealth. The primary objective of the VATI is to provide financial assistance to supplement construction costs by private sector broadband service providers, in partnership with local units of government to extend service to areas that are presently unserved by any broadband provider. Unserved areas are defined as having broadband speeds of  $\leq 10$  Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload. Applications must be submitted by a unit of government (Towns, Cities, Counties, EDA/IDA, Broadband/Wireless Authorities, Planning District Commissions, etc.) with a private sector provider(s) as a co-applicant. Cox Communications has agreed to collaborate as the private provider partner in the proposed project. Awards of funds will be made public in January of 2018 and all proposed projects must be completed by June 30, 2018. Public comment is encouraged.

**COMMENT SUBMITTAL**

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