

AGENDA

Broadband Advisory Council Meeting

November 14th, 2025

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

In-Person Option:

General Assembly Building - Senate Committee Room B
201 N 9th St
Richmond, VA 23219

Virtual Option (via Microsoft Teams):

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 277 520 291 683 2

Passcode: bt68h63Y

Dial in by phone:

[+1 434-230-0065,411865531#](#) United States, South Hill

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 411 865 531#

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| I. | Opening | |
| | a. Call to Order | Chairman |
| | b. Roll Call | DHCD Staff |
| II. | Consent Agenda | Chairman |
| III. | Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2025 Meeting | |
| IV. | Overview of Discussion | Maggie Beal, Director, DHCD
Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D., Director,
Office of Broadband |
| V. | Office of Broadband Updates | Office of Broadband Staff |
| | a. Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) | |
| | b. Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP) | |
| | c. BEAD Deployment | |
| | d. BEAD Non-Deployment | |
| VI. | Virginia Department of Transportation | TBD |
| VII. | Discussion of 2026 Session Legislative Items | Council Members |
| VIII. | Public Comment | Chairman |
| IX. | New Business | Council Members |
| X. | Adjournment | Chairman |

BROADBAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

May 14, 2025

3:30 PM

Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump

12042 West Broad Street

Richmond, VA 23233

Virtual Option provided via Microsoft Teams

Members Present

Chair, Senator Boysko
Delegate Herring
Delegate Krizek
Delegate Willett
Senator Hashmi
Steve Sandy
Ray LaMura
Casey Logan
Rich Schollman
Jimmy Carr
Ray LaMura
Kristie Proctor
Secretary Juan Pablo Segura
Secretary Matthew Lohr

Members Absent

Delegate Leftwich
Christian Goodwin
Senator Hackworth

Call to Order	Senator Jennifer Boysko, Acting Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.
Roll Call	Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D. Director of the Office of Broadband, called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Broadband Advisory Council	<p>Motion by Delegate Krizek to nominate Jennifer Boysko as Chair. The motion was seconded. No other nominations held. Voting held All BAC members in favor to.</p> <p>Nominations for Vice Chair was motioned by Boysko to elect Krizek.</p>
Approval of Minutes: December 6, 2024 Meeting	<p>Christian Goodwin should be added as present to the list of attendance to previous meeting.</p> <p>A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2024, meeting of the Broadband</p>

	Advisory Council. The motion passed to adopt the minutes as presented.
General Remarks	Bryan Horn, Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) provided remarks on the cancellation of the Digital Equity Act Capacity Grant
Overview of Discussion	Tamarah Holmes Ph.D., Director of the Office of Broadband provided brief verbal updates on the Office's work. Dr. Holmes detailed how we are adding focus on affordability and adoption in addition to maintaining focus on infrastructure.
Office of Broadband Updates	<p>Caroline Luxhoj, VATI Program Manager, presented on: VATI project progress detailing passings constructed and yet to be constructed; VATI 2022 risk determination statuses; common reasons for project delay; and an overview of the funding rounds for the Virginia Make Ready Initiative (VMRI).</p> <p>Director of the Office of Broadband Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D. gave an overview on the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) program highlighting that 100% of BEAD eligible locations will be covered via a mix of technologies to reach all unserved and underserved locations. All states and territories received a 90-day extension to submit Final Proposals bringing the deadline for Virginia to July 2025.</p> <p>Kayla Bravo, Policy Planner within the Office of Broadband provided an overview of DHCD's work to build on the momentum of addressing broadband access to close the digital divide in Virginia, including: (1) a cellular connectivity program which can help cover the cost of cell towers and extend service to locations without baseline cell coverage; (2) multi-dwelling unit (MDU) connectivity program to provide unit-level connectivity to unserved MDUs targeting low-income households first; (3) state agency and state organization partnerships to implement broadband adoption programs which fall under six digital opportunity focus areas; and (4) a gap fill long-term connectivity barriers to service locations left of BEAD mapping or one-off locations discovered during project build outs. They also gave a call to action to engage all cities, counties, and tribal governments to apply for the Virginia Affordability and Adoption Planning Grant (VAAPG) to begin a study to better understand broadband affordability and adoption needs within their</p>

	<p>jurisdictions to best address their needs with the forthcoming federal funding.</p> <p>Council members shared their sentiments, interests, thoughts on the developing work within the Office of Broadband.</p>
Public Comment	No public comment was provided at the meeting.
New Business	<p>Council members fielded commentary and questioning on BEAD deployment progress and BEAD non-deployment planning and framework developed by the Office of Broadband.</p> <p>Ray LaMura expressed concern over the specific barriers to broadband deployment and requests data from DHCD on entities most responsible for deployment delays. Additionally, he requests the Solicitor General be present at the next Broadband Advisory Council to engage on the passing of legislation pertaining to broadband deployment.</p> <p>Delegate Paul Krizek requests for a representative for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to be present to elucidate councilmembers on the consistency of permitting and zoning codes and their enforcement as it pertains to the process of deploying broadband.</p>
Adjournment	Upon a motion made and properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.



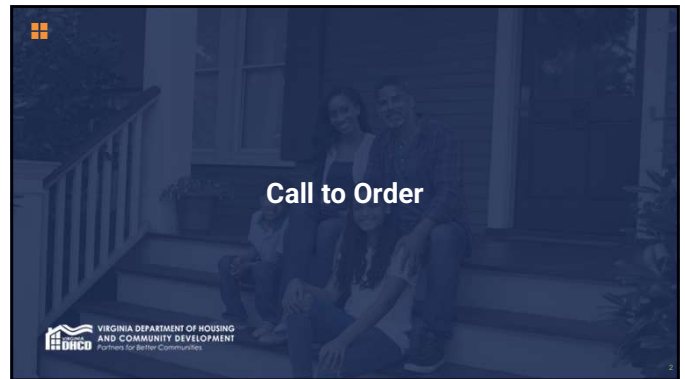
Broadband Advisory Council Meeting

November 14, 2025



DHCD VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Partners for Better Communities

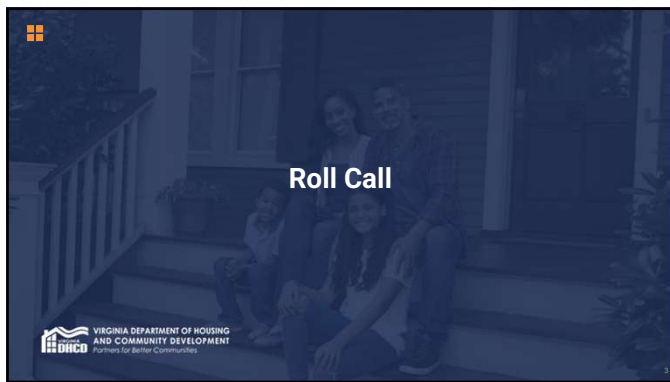
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Call to Order

DHCD VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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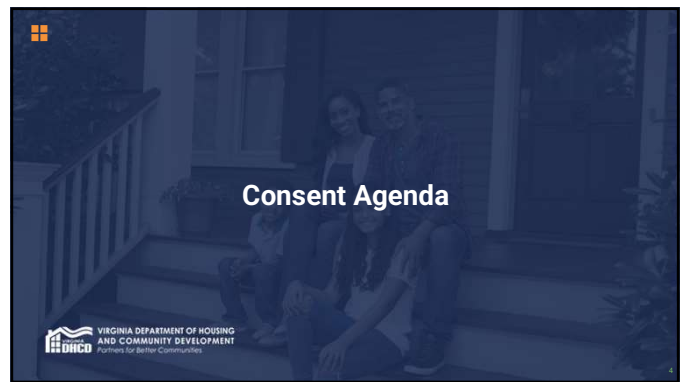
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Roll Call

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Consent Agenda

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Approval of Minutes
May 14, 2025 Meeting

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Overview of Discussion

Presented by Maggie Beal, Director, VA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D, Director, Office of Broadband

- Office of Broadband Updates
- Virginia Department of Transportation
- Discussion of 2026 Session Legislative Items
- Public Comment
- New Business

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Office of Broadband Updates

Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)
Presented by Caroline Luxhoj, Program Manager, Broadband Deployment

Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP)
Presented by Caroline Luxhoj, Program Manager, Broadband Deployment

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program: Deployment
Presented by Chandler Vaughan, Associate Director, Office of Broadband

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program: Non – Deployment
Presented by Chandler Vaughan, Associate Director, Office of Broadband

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Office of Broadband Updates

Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)
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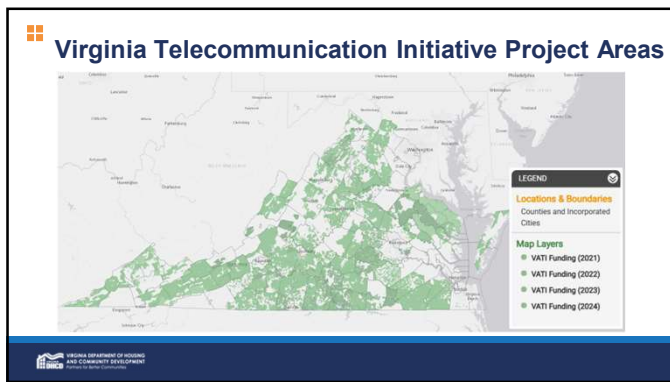
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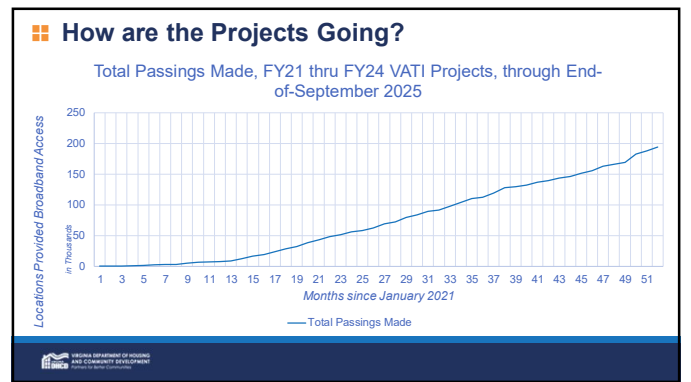
Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program: Non – Deployment
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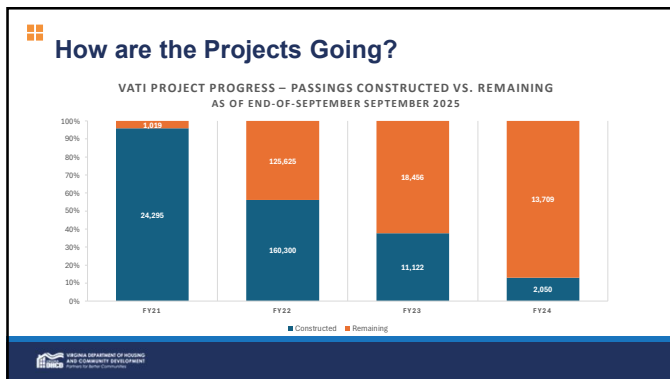
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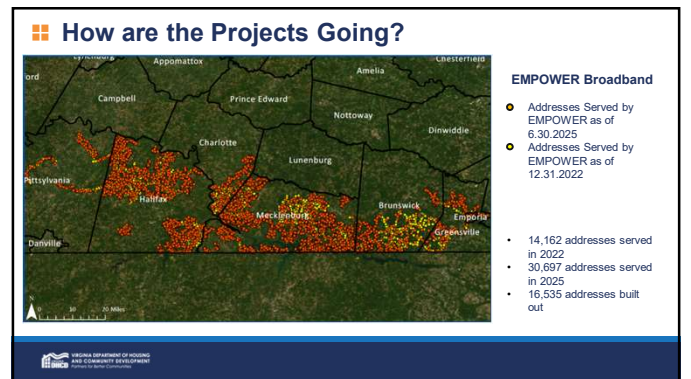
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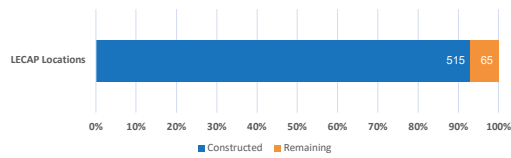
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Line Extension Customer Assistance Program (LECAP)

LECAP PROJECT PROCESS – PASSINGS CONSTRUCTED VS. REMAINING
AS OF OCTOBER 2025



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Office of Broadband Updates

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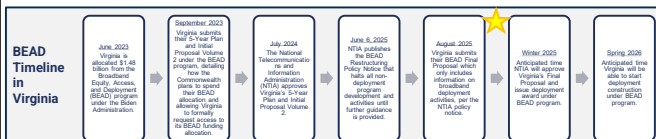
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Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD)

Virginia was allocated \$1.48 billion of federal investment under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reach universal broadband coverage in the Commonwealth. On August 29th, the Commonwealth recommended **\$613.3 million** in grant awards for deployment projects to the U.S. Department of Commerce for final approval of Virginia's BEAD Final Proposal. **This funding will be used to deploy broadband service to the remaining 133,472 unserved locations in the Commonwealth.**

The remaining funding from Virginia's BEAD allocation is reserved for broadband-related, non-deployment initiatives.



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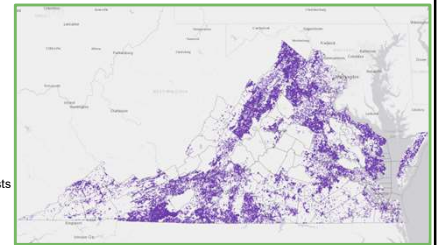
BEAD Update: Deployment

"Benefit of the Bargain" Round

- Opened June 13
- Closed July 26
- Included 2 application cycles
- Awards Announced August 6
- **First State to Announce Awards**

Virginia is Finalizing Details with NTIA

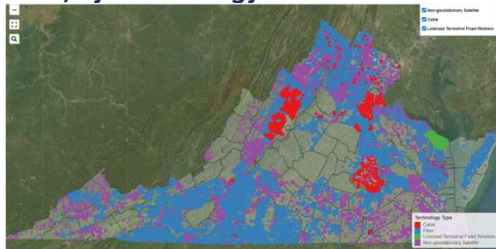
- Final Proposal Submitted on Aug. 29
- Initial Award Proposal of \$613.3M
- NTIA is negotiating with states on costs
- Current Award Proposal is \$545M



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BEAD Deployment: Review of Proposed Awards, by Technology



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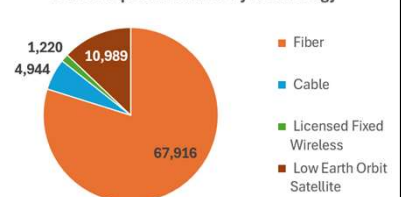
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BEAD Deployment: Proposed Award by Technology

- Virginia's BEAD Awards represent a technology-neutral application process
- Applicants, including their proposed technologies were considered based on their feasibility to cover the specific conditions of an application area

- 79.8% Fiber
- 12.9% LEO Satellite
- 5.9% Cable
- 1.4% Licensed Fixed Wireless

BEAD Proposed Awards by Technology

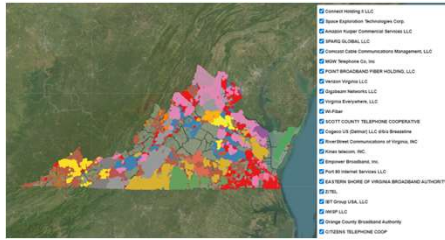


Note: Total is 85,069 locations, not 133,472. The difference is locations already served by broadband and illegitimate locations (rocks, abandon structures, haybales).

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BEAD Deployment: Review of Proposed Awards, by Internet Service Provider



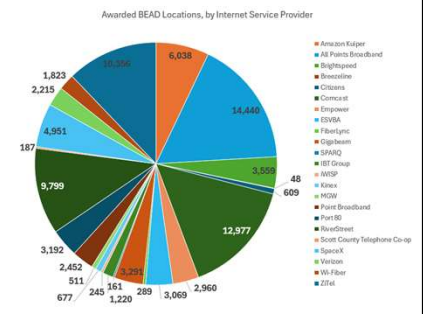
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BEAD Deployment: Proposed Awarded Locations by ISP

- 23 Internet Service Providers
- Applicants were screened for technical capability.

Top Ten Internet Service Providers Awarded, by Locations

All Points Broadband	14,440
Comcast	12,977
ZTtel	10,358
RiverStreet	9,799
Amazon Kuiper	6,038
SpaceX	4,951
Brightspeed	3,559
Gigabeam	3,291
Port 80	3,192
Eastern Shore Va Bb Authority	3,069

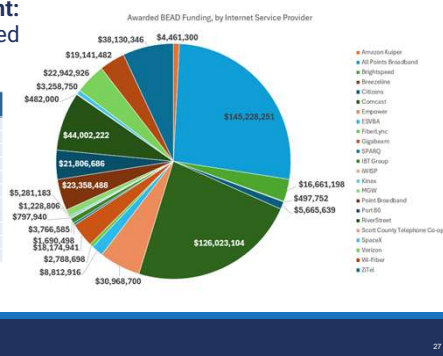


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BEAD Deployment: Proposed Awarded Funding by ISP

Highest Average Subsidy Per Location, by Internet Service Provider

Wi-Fiber	\$ 10,500
SPARQ	\$ 10,500
Empower	\$ 10,462
Breezeline	\$ 10,370
Verizon	\$ 10,358
MGW	\$ 10,335
All Points Broadband	\$ 10,057
Comcast	\$ 9,711
FiberLync	\$ 9,649
Point Broadband	\$ 9,526



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BEAD Deployment: What's Coming Next?

- Federal Approval**
 - Expected around Thanksgiving, per 90-day federal approval timeline
 - Must be received before moving forward with some pre-contract items
- Pre-Contract Phase**
 - Includes receiving final project details prior to signing a contract with the awarded internet service provider
 - (New to BEAD) Includes an environmental review process
- Signing Contracts**
 - Earliest Contract Signature expected March-April 2026
 - Once contracts are signed, construction can begin

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BEAD Deployment: What's Coming Next?

Differences in Grants Administration

VATI

- Direct Management by Local Government
- Less Stringent Federal Requirements
- Usually cost-reimbursement based

BEAD

- Direct Management by Va OoB
- Additional Federal Requirements (EHP, BABA, C/SCRM)
- Primarily performance milestone based

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Office of Broadband Updates

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Proposed Uses for BEAD Non-Deployment Funding

Pending federal guidance, Virginia is slated to have \$800 million in remaining BEAD funding to design non-deployment programs.

Non-deployment programs address the digital divide beyond access to broadband infrastructure, after deployment projects have been funded.

Category	Description
Cellular Connectivity*	Identify gaps in cell coverage and build infrastructure through private sector partnerships to serve regions without voice and data cell coverage.
Multi Dwelling Unit (MDU) Connectivity*	Identify MDUs that don't have unit level broadband availability and extend connectivity to units.
Gap Fill Long Term Connectivity Barriers*	Utilize innovative technologies to reach locations that will be inevitably mis-mapped under BEAD.

* Pending revised guidance from the Department of Commerce on allowable uses of non-deployment funds.

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Virginia Department of Transportation

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Discussion of 2026 Session Legislative Items

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Public Comment

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New Business

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Adjournment

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UPDATE ON VDOT IMPLEMENTATION OF JLARC RECOMMENDATIONS

in “Broadband Deployment in Virginia” report (Dec. 2024)

| Robert Hofrichter, Director, Office of Land Use

November 2025

Joshua Heslinga, Director, Governance & Legislative Affairs

Land Use Permitting Authority

- The Commonwealth Transportation Board has the power and duty to regulate use of the highway system. [Va. Code § 33.2-210](#).
- Pursuant to that authority, the Board has promulgated land use permit regulations. See [24 VAC 30-151](#).
- Permitting ensures that all work performed in the right of way of any highway in the state system complies with laws, regulations, standards, and policies; preserves the integrity and functionality of the highway; and provides for the safety of the traveling public.

JLARC Report and VDOT-Related Recommendations

- In December 2024, JLARC issued [a report entitled “Broadband Deployment in Virginia,”](#) regarding the efforts to make high-speed internet available throughout Virginia.
- Out of the report’s 14 recommendations, three related to VDOT (each discussed on subsequent slide).
- Overall, the report found that the “Vast majority of VDOT broadband-related land use permits have been issued in a timely manner, but some permits take a long time to be approved, which can delay broadband deployment projects.”

Recommendation 1: Implemented

1. VDOT's central office should develop and publish on its website, by March 1, 2025, the specific information each VDOT residency requires from applicants for broadband-related land use permits and include on the permit application itself a link to these requirements.

STATUS: Implemented (March 2025)

VDOT developed and published a fiber broadband checklist detailing the information needed.

Apply online for a new permit

Apply online as a guest user or as a registered user.

(See the permit types and required forms lists below before applying online.)

Most land use permits can be obtained at **VDOT district offices**. Certain permits, such as district-wide permits that cover regional activities rather than a specific location, are issued through the VDOT Central Office Land Use Permit section in Richmond.

[View information on Broadband Coordination.](#)

[Checklist for Fiber Optic Broadband Plans](#)

Checklist: Recommendation 1 Implementation

- VDOT's [fiber broadband checklist](#) (partial screenshot at right) details the information and elements needed for an acceptable permit application.
- That checklist is accessible from both the permit application (see screenshot on slide 7) and [the land use permitting information page on VDOT's website](#).

FIBER UTILITY PLAN CHECKLIST

Company Name: _____ Job Number: _____
Point of Contact: _____ Email Address: _____
District: _____ County: _____
Route Name: _____ Route Number: _____

Check box if provided		If item is not provided, provide EXPLANATION BELOW
SUBMITTAL PACKAGE		
A	Completed LUP-UT or Online Submittal via the below link. https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/	
B	If parallel installation is planned within the Limited Access Right of Way, the executed Resource Sharing Agreement must be submitted with this plan.	
COVER SHEET		
1	Project name and date of plan preparation	
2	Title block information, index of sheets, consulting firm and contact information, including e-mail as well as a 24hr emergency contact.	
3	Provide emergency contact personnel information such as 911, State Police, Hazmat, VDOT contact and District Work Zone coordinator or on detailed MOT plan if required.	
4	Provide name and contact information of the utility owner and contact information of the Engineer/Designer of the plans.	
5	Include a vicinity map showing names and route numbers that will be included in the permit, and the surrounding area of the work.	
6	Legend showing the symbols used on the plans and the color coding used to mark the plan.	
7	Show the 811 logo and add note that all utilities must	

Recommendation 2: Implemented

2. VDOT should, by March 1, 2025, modify its land use permit application to direct applicants to indicate in the “project description field” whether the requested permit is related to a Virginia Telecommunication Initiative [VATI] project funded with federal pandemic relief funding that expires at the end of December 2026; a Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment [BEAD] project; or other time-sensitive broadband project.

STATUS: Implemented (March 2025)

**VDOT’s permit application now calls for the applicant to indicate whether the requested permit is related to a time-sensitive broadband project.*
(screenshot on next slide)**

** Note: BEAD funding has not yet been awarded, so, to date, the applications related to time-sensitive broadband projects all concern VATI.*

Screenshot: Recommendation 2 Implementation

← ↻ 🏠 🔒 https://oaplusonline.vdot.virginia.gov/lupspermit

Tax map number

Applicant job number

REQUEST

* Request permission to perform the following activity(s) as per attached plan.

For BEAD, VATI or other government funded fiber broadband programs, include the following information in the box below:
Funding source, required deadline for the funding, and the DHCD application number. A link to the [Fiber Optic Broadband Checklist](#) has been provided to assist with plan design.

* Permit term requested ?

Recommendation 3: Implemented

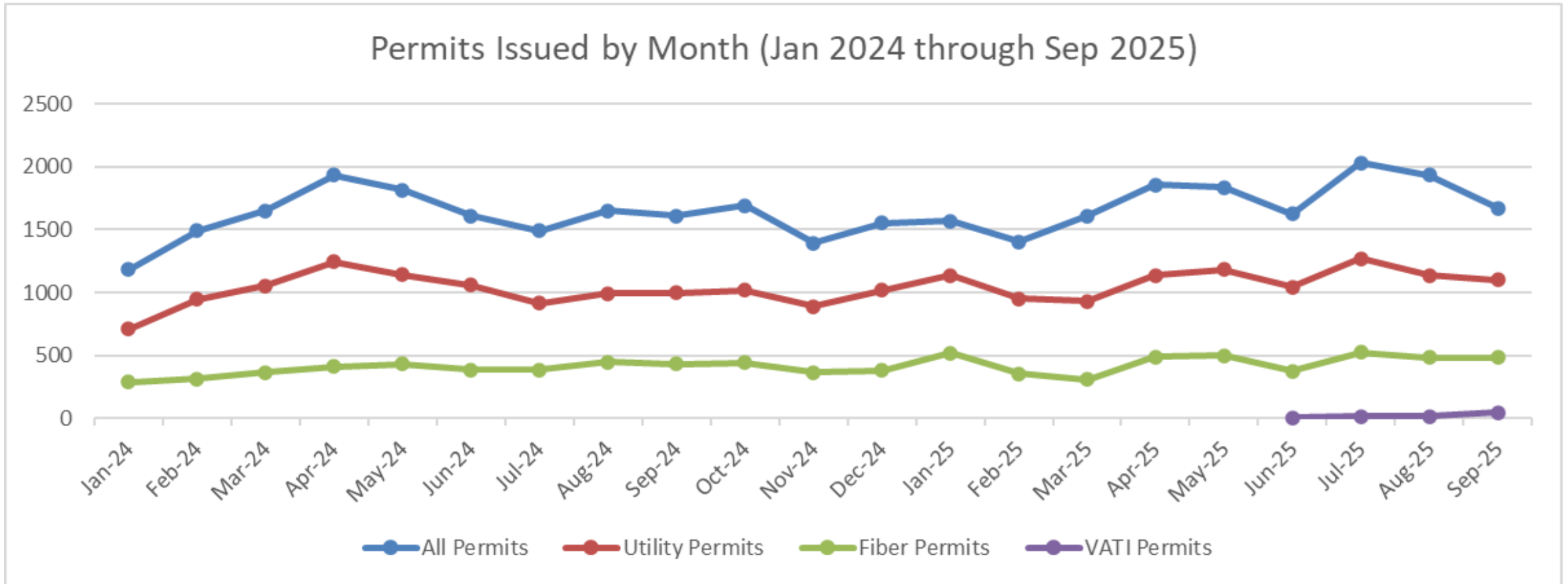
3. The VDOT residency and district offices should prioritize processing broadband-related land use permit applications for Virginia Telecommunication Initiative projects funded with federal pandemic relief funding that expires at the end of December 2026, when practical.

STATUS: Implemented

- **VDOT has communicated internally about prioritizing these permits.**
- **The Permits Section conducted training for the Districts and presented the issue at a statewide conference to raise awareness and ensure understanding.**
- **VDOT is monitoring performance, but it is difficult to draw conclusions about effects on permit issuance speed at this point. (Details on subsequent slides.)**

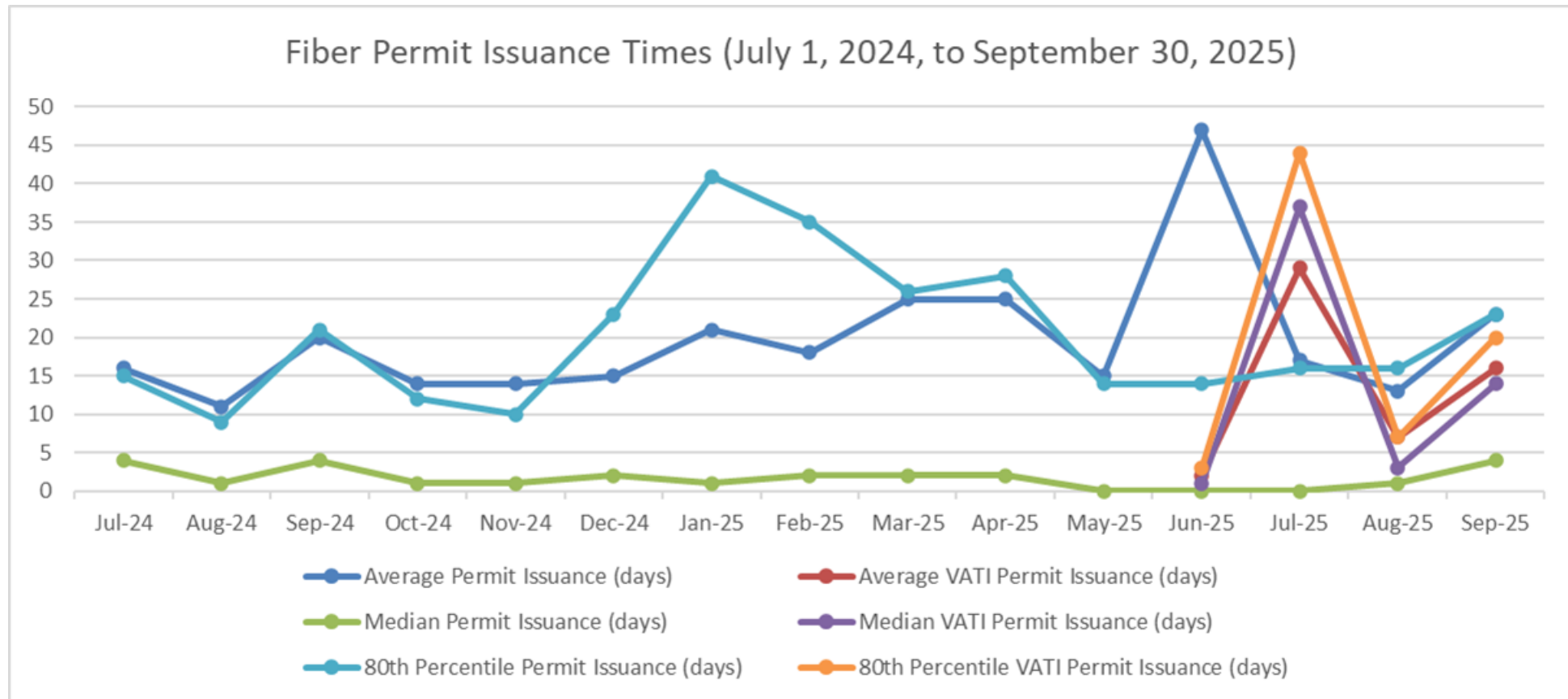
Permitting Data: Overall Scope

Most of VDOT's permitting does not concern fiber broadband, and time-sensitive broadband is a small part of even that.



Permitting Data: Fiber Broadband

A limited period of data exists, but, after an initial spike in July, that data shows VATI-associated permit issuance occurring faster than permits overall (as measured by the average & 80th percentiles).



Conclusions

- **Permitting serves important safety objectives.**
- **VDOT is committed to doing its part to handle reviews of fiber broadband permit applications as efficiently as possible.**
- **VDOT will continue to monitor permit application and processing statistics.**
- **The permit issuance process benefits from submission of complete and accurate applications, and permit issuance can be delayed if applications are incomplete or changes are needed.**
 - **225 broadband applications were returned for changes in 2025 (through end of September)**

Questions?