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District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Rodney A. Hathaway County Administrator

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## NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NOTICE ON INTENTION TO APPLY FOR GRANT

## <u>Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) 2020 Application:</u>

As required by the application process for the 2020 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) grant, New Kent County intends to partner with Cox Communications to apply for a grant to extend broadband services along Talleysville Road (State Route 609) to the White House Farms community. The Virginia Department of Community Development implements VATI and will be awarding \$19 million this year to eligible applicants. Proposals are to be submitted by September 3, 2019.

## **Background / Summary:**

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has announced a competitive grant and application process to award \$19 million to eligible applicants to provide last-mile services to unserved areas in 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 less than 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload or less. In addition, a proposed project area is considered eligible if 10% or less of serviceable units have access to service with no additional special construction costs from any provider as of the date of the application for the proposed project areas. 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. Public comment is encouraged.

## **Comment Submittal:**

Name: New Kent County Administration E-mail: rahathaway@newkent-va.us

12007 Courthouse Circle / PO Box 150, New Kent, VA 23124

Office Hours: 8 am to 4:30 pm

Phone: (804) 966-9683 (For direct comment or to request assistance)