

## Loudoun County, Virginia

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **County Seeks to Partner with Broadband Service Provider to Apply for State Telecommunications Grant**

Loudoun County is seeking expressions of interest from broadband service providers to partner with the county in applying for a Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) grant to expand access to broadband in unserved or underserved areas of the county.

VATI is administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The state-funded program was created to "enhance the sustainability and growth of communities throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia by preparing those communities to build, utilize, and capitalize on telecommunications infrastructure."

Identifying funding sources for public-private partnerships to build out what is referred to as "last-mile" broadband services, or the final piece of connection, is part of the Board of Supervisors' ongoing efforts to ensure reliable broadband access to all areas of Loudoun County.

The county will begin to review and evaluate all responses as they are received. Final submissions are due April 7, 2021.

More information about the grant opportunity, including the formal "Request for Expressions of Interest" document, may be found at <a href="loudoun.gov/broadband">loudoun.gov/broadband</a>.