

Madison County VATI Grant Application Public Notice

“Delivery of Technology- Culpeper, Orange, and Madison (DOT COM)”

Madison County intends to participate in a joint application with Culpeper and Orange Counties for a 2020 Virginia DHCD Virginia Telecommunications Initiative grant to support the deployment of middle mile fiber optic cable and fixed wireless broadband service in the Cedar Mountain Magisterial District of the county.

Culpeper, Orange, and Madison Counties are currently preparing a regional application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development- Virginia Telecommunication Initiative Program (VATI) Grant.

The project known as “Delivery of Technology- Culpeper, Orange, and Madison (DOT COM)” will allow Culpeper, Madison, and Orange Counties to install a necessary fiber middle mile route along James Madison Highway extending 18 miles. The project will serve schools, vocational training facilities, businesses, healthcare facilities, state agencies, and homes. The project will also allow Orange County to utilize fiber recently installed to every Orange County School and public safety tower. An upgrade to the wireless infrastructure along the route will increase access to homeowners and home-based businesses in Culpeper County who are located in areas designated as unserved and underserved by the FCC.

VATI requires that a municipality partner with a private sector internet service provider in order to apply. Virginia Broadband, LLC, a Culpeper based wireless internet service provider, has agreed to partner in the application. They will use approximately \$23,000 of the grant award to purchase and install a 99’ guyed pole and wireless broadband equipment to serve the identified FCC 477 “Unserved” and “Underserved” census tracts in Culpeper County. Reaching unserved homes is a critical component to a successful application.

Total project cost is estimated at \$1,307,806.00. VATI will provide 80% of the total project cost with a 20% local match requirement.

Comments are invited and will be received on this project until close of business August 30, 2019. They can be submitted in person or by mail to Laura Loveday at 803 South Main Street, Culpeper, VA 22701; by phone at (540) 727-3410 x 5 during usual business hours and by email to lloveday@culpepercounty.gov. All comments will be considered and submitted with the application.