



**ALBEMARLE COUNTY  
BROADBAND AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN A REGIONAL VATI 2022 APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Albemarle Broadband Authority (the Authority), consistent with Albemarle County's FY20-22 Strategic Plan, is committed to bringing universal broadband internet access to its citizens across the County within the next three years; and

**WHEREAS**, Firefly Fiber Broadband, Dominion Energy, and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative have developed a Regional Internet Service Expansion (RISE) project with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District as the lead applicant including the Authority being one of multiple public bodies serving multiple localities included in the project to make fiber to the home broadband internet service available to the unserved locations in Albemarle County.

**WHEREAS**, the preliminary planning for the regional project has identified 6,046 locations in Albemarle County as being unserved without access to speeds faster than 25 mbps download or 3 mbps upload and the preliminary design includes 649 miles of fiber optic cable to be installed in Albemarle County to make service available to those locations, with a cost estimate of \$47,505,000 for the construction, and

**WHEREAS**, the breadth of this project in Albemarle County and across the other participating jurisdictions creates a need for additional grant funding to make the project financially feasible, and

**WHEREAS**, this project will seek grant funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development through its Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) with an application on or before 14 September 2021 and local contributions to the project will strengthen the regional application by earning it additional scoring points.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Albemarle Broadband Authority commits to participating in the regional project and fully supporting the application including providing local matching funding not to exceed \$4,368,000 subject to appropriation.

\* \* \* \*

**MOTION**

I move the Board of Directors to adopt this Resolution committing it to participate in and fully support the joint regional application for VATI 2022 grant funding to achieve universal broadband accessibility in Albemarle County, with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District serving as lead applicant, and to commit local matching funds not to exceed \$4,368,000 subject to appropriation.

\* \* \* \*

I, Bucky Walsh, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Albemarle County Broadband Authority by a vote of 6 to 0 as recorded below, at a meeting held on August 25, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bucky Walsh, Chair

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Dir. Walsh	<u>_x_</u>	___
Dir. Jaquith	<u>_x_</u>	___
Dir. Fritz	<u>_x_</u>	___
Dir. Henry	<u>_x_</u>	___
Dir. Palmer	<u>_x_</u>	___
Dir. Price	<u>_x_</u>	___