

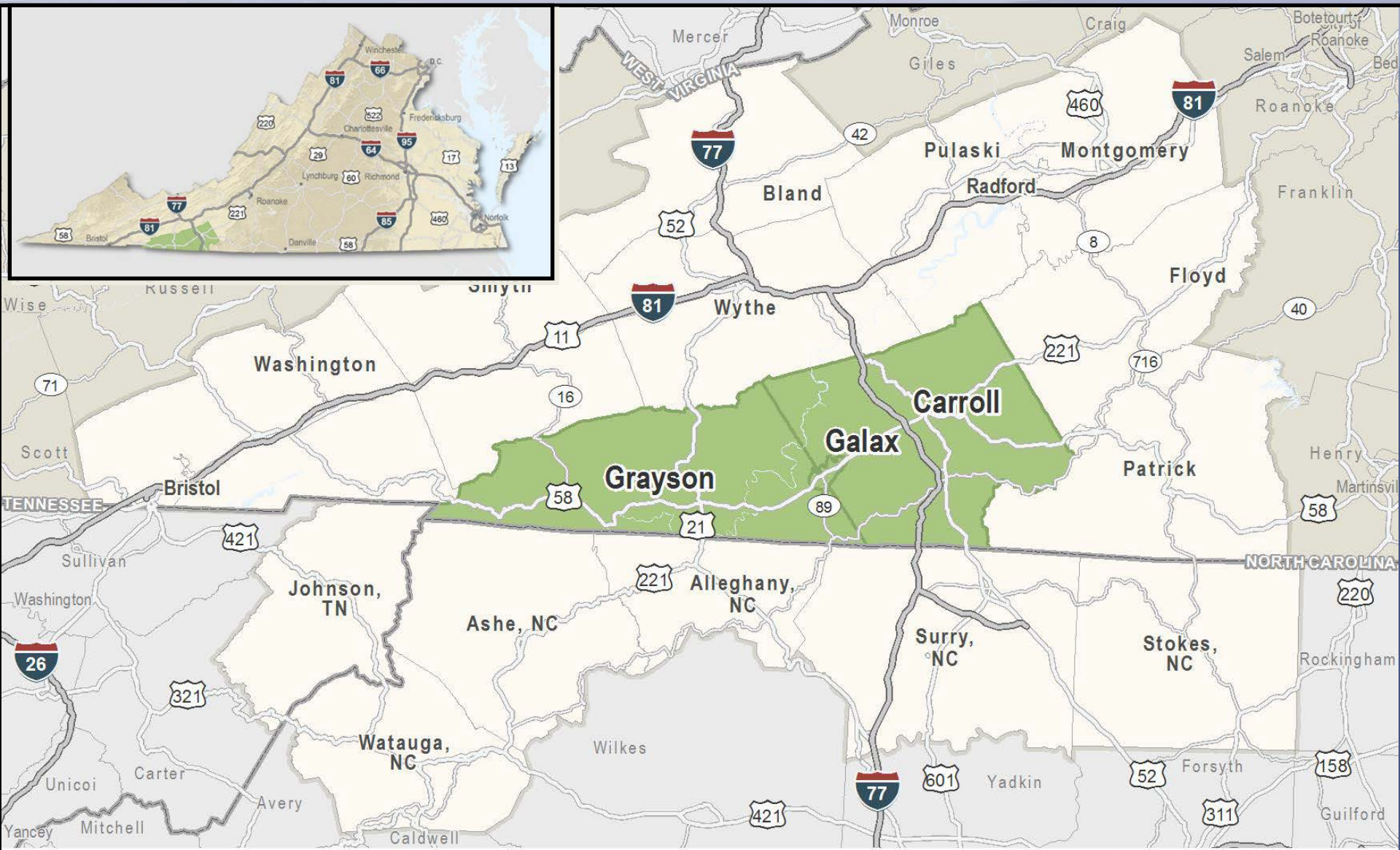


Growing Your Economy Through Regional Partnerships

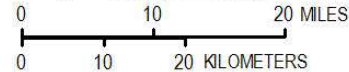
**Gary Larrowe, County Administrator
Carroll County, VA**

**Jonathan Sweet, ICMA-CM, County Administrator
Grayson County, VA**

**2014 VACo Annual Conference
November 10th, 2014 – The Homestead, Hot Springs, VA**



Extended Labor Area U.S. Interstate U.S. Highway State Highway

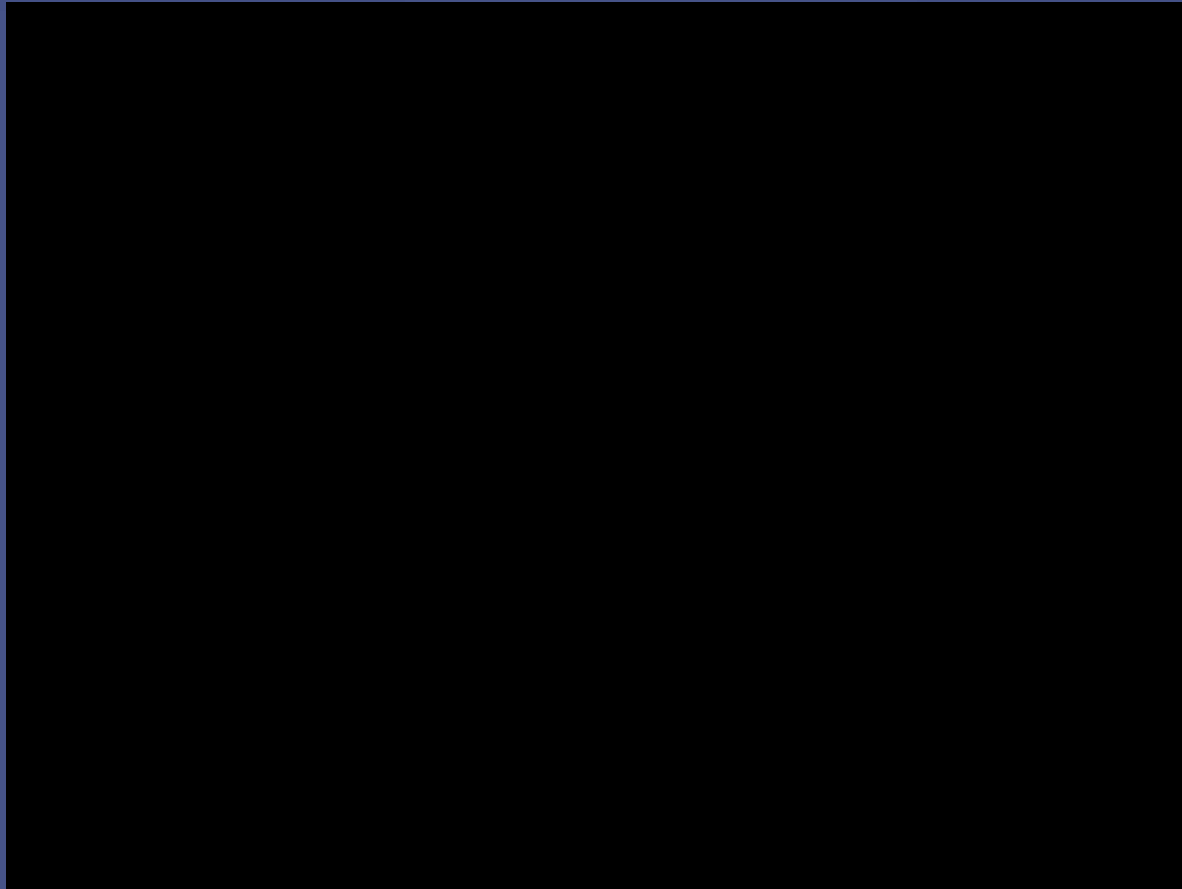


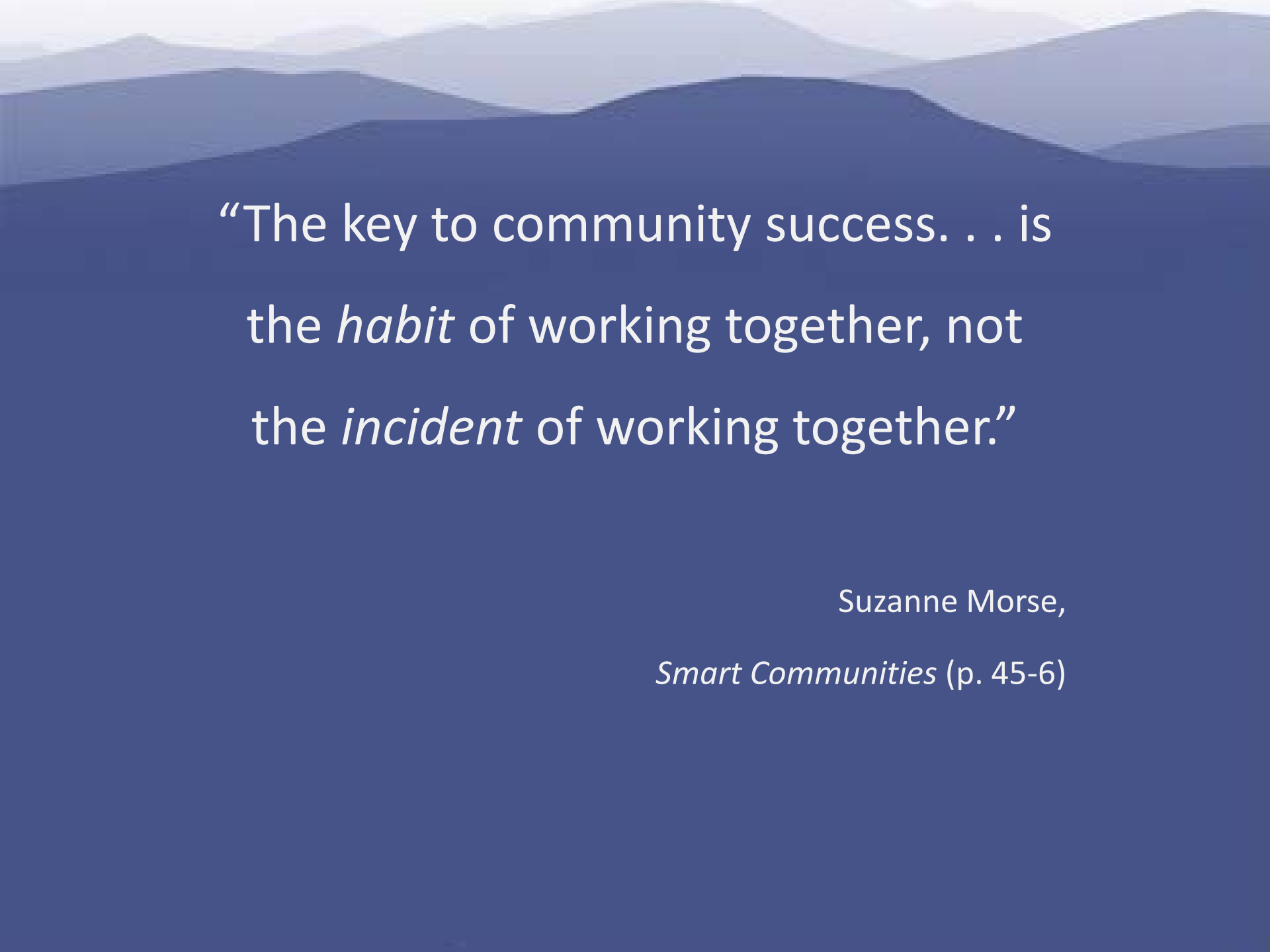


EXPORT

The “Big Bang”

How Regional Partnerships are Formed...





“The key to community success. . . is
the *habit* of working together, not
the *incident* of working together.”

Suzanne Morse,

Smart Communities (p. 45-6)

The Purpose of Our Regional Partnership:

To Revitalize and Diversify Our Regional Economy

- Facilitate Employment Opportunities
- Stimulate Capital Investment
- Retain & Grow Human Capital
- Bolster Private Enterprise
- Foster an Entrepreneurial Culture

The Benefits of a Regional Approach

- Leverage Limited Resources
- Collective Expertise and Professional Capacity
- Cost Share and Risk Mitigation
- Pooled Political Capital in Richmond
- Increased Overall Horsepower (Synergy)
- Removes Inter-jurisdictional Competition

The Benefits of a Regional Approach (Continued)

- Provides Opportunity for Creative Solutions/Projects/Programs
- Allows Jurisdictions to Overcome Individual Deficiencies and Limitations
- Fosters a True Team Approach to Solving Collective Problems

The Benefits of a Regional Approach (Continued)

- Allows the Region to Better Compete for Projects and Opportunities
- Larger Impact with Marketing and Media
- It is what Richmond Wants to See and Support

**Simply the Right Thing to do and
the Right Time to do it**

Joint Resolution

MARCH 26, 2008

Whereas the governing bodies of Carroll County, Galax City, and Grayson County have been elected to serve the people of the region; and

Whereas during the last several years the region has experienced a significant increase in the closing of industries that have provided long term employment for many people in the region for generations; and

Whereas the governing bodies recognizing the benefits of regional cooperation worked together in 2007 to renew the efforts of the Regional Industrial Facilities Authority now doing business as the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority (BRCEDA); and

Whereas the benefits resulting from that cooperation can be enumerated as follows:

Grants totalling more than \$565,000 to provide resources to renew the structure of the local economy;

Grant of \$225,000 from the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification Commission for the Southwest Virginia Farmers Market to expand its capability to handle seasonal vegetable crops;

Opening a call center at the Crossroads Institute that provides two hundred sixty-five jobs;

Developing, adopting, and implementing the first phase of the Wired Road - a comprehensive plan for broadband deployment in the region;

Employment of a regional Director of Entrepreneurial and Business Development;

Opening a Small Business Development Center office with a full-time director to serve the region; and

Whereas greater economic benefits can be achieved with a comprehensive plan for regional economic renewal that provides a clear direction and calls all who serve the people of our communities to join together to use the available resources to develop a sustainable local economy that provides opportunities for jobs and needed core services for our people;

Now therefore be it resolved that the governing bodies of Carroll County, Galax City, and Grayson County meeting in joint session acknowledge that the need to continue to work in cooperation with each other is critical to the revitalization of the region's economy; and

That the governing bodies of Carroll County, Galax City, and Grayson County invite all local governments, local citizens, groups, and civic organizations to join in making a commitment to creating and implementing a comprehensive regional plan for the future of our region that celebrates the uniqueness of our communities while recognizing that we are bound together by the natural, cultural, and human assets with which we have been blessed.

To that end, we affix our signatures and invite others to do the same as a sign of commitment to working together for the sustainable future of our communities and our region.



W.S. "Sam" Dickson, Carroll County BOS Chairman



C.M. Mitchell, Galax City Council Chairman



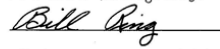
Mike Maynard, Grayson County BOS Chairman



Gary Larowe, Carroll County Administrator



Keith Holland, Galax City Manager



Bill Ring, Grayson County Administrator

Transformative Regional Projects





Regional Economic Success:

266 New Businesses



1,208 New Jobs

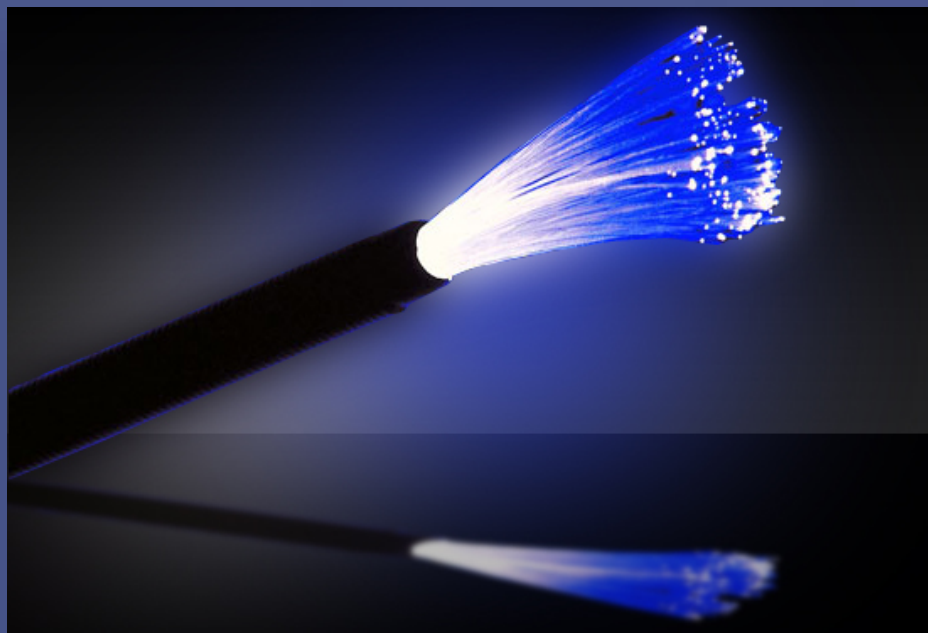


\$52.3M Investment



The future of broadband in southwest Virginia.

First Virginia Community-Owned Open- Access Network







Regional Product Development

\$22 Million in Grants and Local Investments

273-acre developed commerce park

Virginia Tobacco Commission “Megasite”



WILDWOOD
COMMERCE PARK





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Questions?

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[•http://youtu.be/8HggAV7V6Wg](http://youtu.be/8HggAV7V6Wg)