



BROADBAND AUTHORITY

August 26, 2019
City Council Briefing

Presentation Outline

- Broadband Authority Definition / Virginia Code
 - Virginia Broadband Authorities
- Municipal / Regional Authority Limitations
- Municipal / Regional Authority Benefits
 - Southside Network Authority
 - Formation Schedule
 - Action Items

Broadband Authority Definition (Virginia Code)

Chapter 15, Title 56, Article 5.1

A county, city, town, electric commission or board, industrial development authority, or economic development authority, other than one in a locality that (i) is eligible to provide telecommunications services pursuant to § [15.2-2160](#) and (ii) has a population in excess of 30,000, may offer qualifying communications services, or enter into public-private partnerships to offer such qualifying communications services, in accordance with the provisions of this article.

Broadband Authority Definition (Virginia Code)

Wireless Service Authorities Act Chapter 54.1, Title 15.2,

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Virginia Wireless Service Authorities Act.” This chapter shall constitute full and complete authority for the doing of the acts herein authorized, and shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes of the chapter.

Virginia Broadband Authorities

Albemarle Broadband Authority
Amherst County Broadband Authority
Appomattox County Broadband Authority
Bedford County Broadband Authority
Bland County Wireless Service Authority, Inc.
Charlotte County Broadband Authority
Cumberland County Wireless Authority
Eastern Shore of Virginia Broadband Authority
Fauquier County Broadband Authority
Franklin County Broadband Authority
King and Queen County Wireless Authority
King George County Wireless Authority
Lancaster County Broadband Authority
Louisa County Broadband Authority
Middle Peninsula Broadband Authority
Middlesex Broadband Authority
Nelson County Broadband Authority
New River Valley Network Wireless Authority
Northern Neck Broadband Authority
Orange County Broadband Authority
Page County Broadband Authority
Pulaski County Wireless Integrated Network Authority
Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority
Shenandoah Wireless Broadband Authority
Spotsylvania County Wireless Authority
Surry County Broadband Authority
Tazewell County Wireless Service Authority

Municipal / Regional Authority Limitations

- Approval SCC and “Certificate of Need” or “Gap Statement”
- Telecommunications Authorities cannot provide “Cable Service” or “Triple-Play” Services
 - Telecommunications service prices cannot be subsidized by government entity funds
- Municipalities (1998 Western Virginia) cannot provide “lit” services without an authority governance

Municipal / Regional Authority Benefits

- Telecommunications Legal Protections
- Regional Collaboration / Interconnection
- Economic Development Opportunities
 - Wholesale Bandwidth Pricing
- Transatlantic Cable Landing Stations
 - “Middle-Mile” access platform
- Public Safety / Smart Transportation

Southside Network Authority

- Board comprised of 5 Southside Cities
 - 50 Year Authority Term-Limit
- Authority Business Model (Middle-Mile)
- Initial Contribution \$200K D&A (80/20)
- Additional, Withdrawn, Dissolution of members
- In-Kind contribution of construction and representation (1/5)
- Board Initial Limits 2 or 4 years (Portsmouth 4 years)
 - 2 Locality Members (Primary & Alternate)

Formation Schedule

- Board Members (August 26)
- Authority Public Hearing (October 7)
 - Council Adoption (October 22)
- Authority Activation (November 15)

Action Items

- Board of Directors Members
 - Portsmouth Authority

The logo features the letters 'Q', '&', and 'A' in a stylized font. The 'Q' and 'A' are outlined in dark blue, while the ampersand is a solid red color. The letters are set against a white background with a subtle drop shadow, and the entire logo is enclosed within a red-bordered white oval shape on a dark blue background.

Q&A