# Regional Fiber Ring A REALITY! The 757's Regional Broadband Ring

Susan Vitale Chesapeake City Council and Chair, Southside Network Authority

# The Issues...

- Limited number of data services providers
- Unserved and underserved areas (Digital Deserts)
- High cost of Internet services
- Missed opportunities...
  - Community and Economic Development
  - Education
  - Healthcare
  - Quality of Life

# The Opportunity...

# A Digital Port





HECTOR



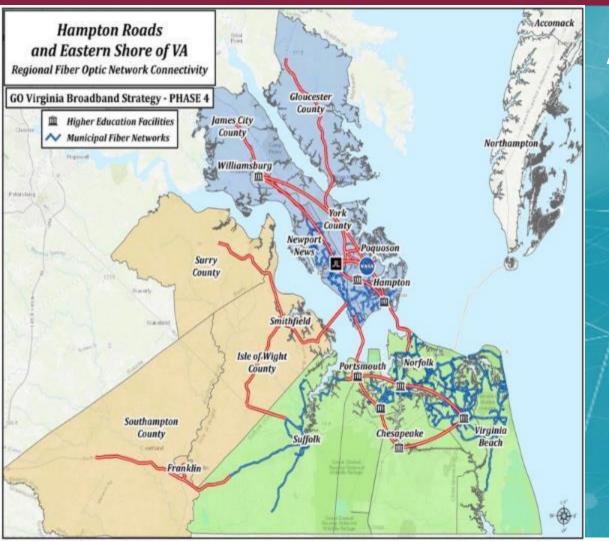
#### Southside Network Authority (SNA)

Created November 2019

Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach

SNA goal is to enable lower cost, faster service and enhanced broadband coverage via our Regional Connectivity Ring

**Designed to allow for expansion to other localities** 

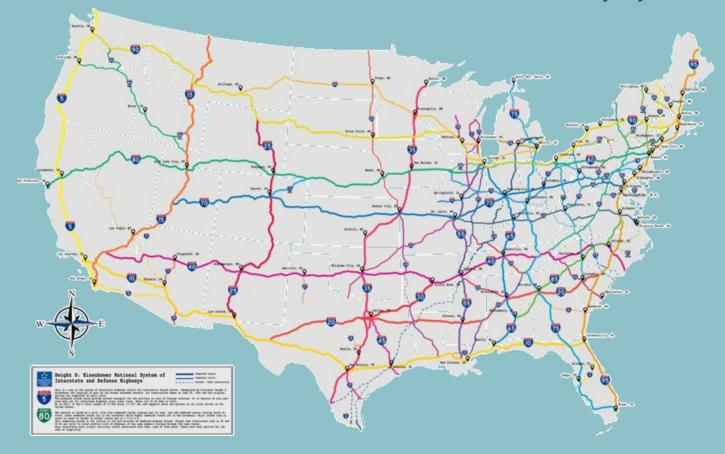


#### An Open Access Dark Fiber Network

### **Our Vision**

Ultimately, this will be a **Fiber Optic Network Ring** that will connect our entire 757 Region.

#### Think National Highway System Without Any Secondary Roads Our Interstates are the Backbone of the Entire U.S. Roadway System



#### Southside Network Authority Regional Connectivity Ring



Our Digital Highway Consists of 288 Digital Strands

Fiber optics (optical fibers) are long, thin strands of very pure glass about the diameter of a human hair. 6 Strands Reserved for Cities in the Network Some Strands Reserved for Education Other Strands Reserved for **Public Safety** Remaining Strands for **Business**/ Economic Growth

**BUILDING IN EXCESS CAPACITY FOR DARK FIBER LEASE** 

#### The Regional Network Ring Will Support Growing Industries in the 757

- Ecosystem for Business Investment and Entrepreneurs: Backbone connectivity for Big Data and Low Latency Demand
- Financial Services: High Frequency Trading
- Data Transfer & Storage: Microsoft / Facebook / Amazon
- Advanced Technology Manufacturing: streamlined production processes
- Medical/Bioscience & Health Industries: Data analytics are key to driving down cost while improving care International Markets



The Regional Network Ring Will

### Improve the Interoperability of Our Region's Emergency Response System



#### The Regional Network Ring Will

# Help The Region Navigate Flooding and Sea Level Rise

### The Regional Network Ring Will Help Support the Future of Autonomous Vehicles and Smart Cities

The Regional Network Ring Will

# Help Make a Case For BRAC.

BRAC will return in three to four years. The Navy wants 30% of their local workforce to telework. Regions that can support this goal will have a stronger case to make when BRAC reappears.





#### The Regional Network Ring Will **Support a Hybrid Workforce** The Distributed Workforce Is Projected to Reach 50% By 2025

#### **COVID-19 Impact**: The Distributed Workforce Is Projected to Reach 50% By **2025**

\*In the middle of COVID-19, Hampton Roads Business Leaders report that over 50% of their workforce currently works remotely. Source: Alliance Wave 3 Survey

10%

1990s

50%\* 30% TODAY 2025

Our Region's Quality of Life Will Attract Remote Workers...

Our Regional Network Ring Will Allow Them to Thrive



### **Regional Ring Cost**

#### Capital Construction and Equipment

	Cost Component		Estimated			
		Cost		Cost		
	Fiber Optic Outside	Outside Plant		2,962,000		
	(OSP) Construction					
	Network Hardware		\$658,000			
	<b>Network Integration</b>	and	\$165,000			
	Testing					
		Total	<b>\$2</b> 3	3,785,000		
	Fi	ve				
	Southside Cities					
K						
		ded				
	\$5M	eac	h			
Anr	nual Ma <mark>intenar</mark> \$760	nce a 0,760	nd	Operat	ing Costs	

Total



#### The Regional Network Ring Will Help Each Jurisdiction Achieve Its Vision

Every jurisdiction can use the Network Ring in a way that helps them advance their own priorities, initiatives and vision.

#### **Major Milestones**

Feb. 2022 Southside Network Authority approves Project Participation Agreement (Costsharing, governance model, \$25M). Feb. 2022 CTC Technology & Energy awarded contract for Construction Admin and A&E of Record. March 2022 Danella Construction, Inc. awarded contract for construction of the regional fiber ring April 2022 Began negotiations with Global Technical Systems for potential P3 Partnership. July 2022 Begin construction of the fiber ring (lay conduit for first 40+ miles of fiber ring).

Phase 1 Will Be Delivered to 757 Southside by the End 2023

### **Our Team**



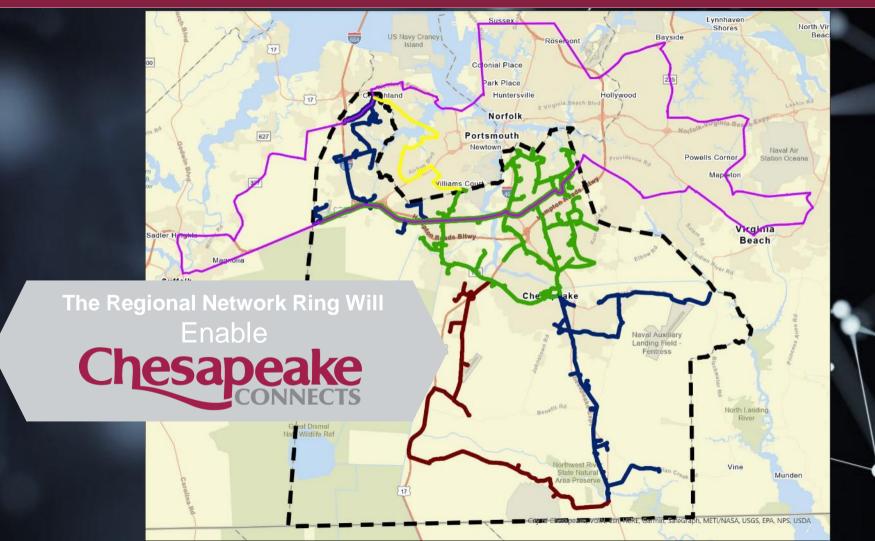
Steven DeBerry SNA Executive Director

Columbia Telecommunications Corporation Construction Oversight and Technical Support

Danella Construction Southside fiber ring Construction

## Supplemental Slides







- Make Chesapeake an exceptional place to live, learn, work, farm and play by
  - Better serving citizens, businesses and visitors
  - Creating <u>a catalyst for private investment</u> in broadband services to all citizens and businesses (more competition)
  - Creating <u>a catalyst for community and economic development</u>
- Leverage the subsea cables and Southside Network Authority Ring
- Provide affordable, broadband services to all City, School and Library facilities
- Ensure network financial and operational sustainability and resiliency



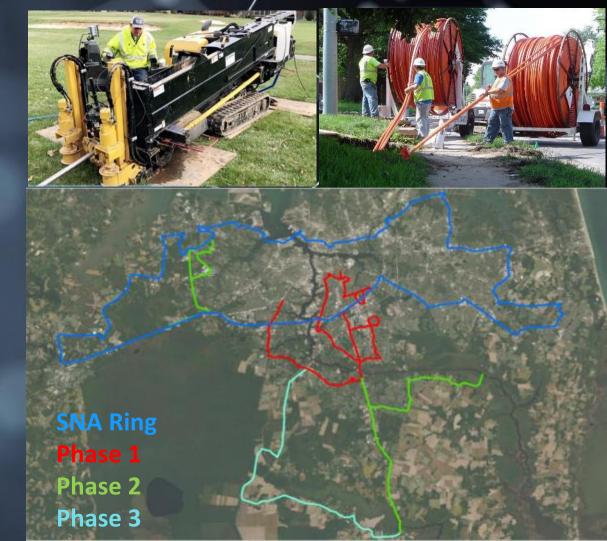
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#### and

Southside Network Authority Co-build

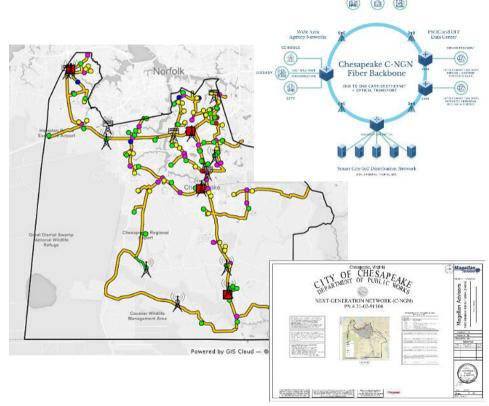
> Operational End of 2023



#### February 2021

### Chesapeake Connects Network Design

- 167 miles of underground construction
- 210 Sites
- Self-healing ring with subsecond service failover on fiber cuts
- New redundancy and resiliency to key sites and facilities
- Interconnections to the SNA-RCR, adjacent city networks and private data center assets
- Deployed in three phases





### Chesapeake Connects Cost Estimates

#### **Capital Expenses**

- \$42.3 million to construct and deploy the network and migrate sites to it
  - \$32 million to construct fiber backbone and lateral routes and wireless overlays
    - Cost may be reduced by co-building, route optimization, value engineering, and other means
  - \$2.8 million in construction and project management
  - \$3.6 million for facility improvements, network equipment and software
  - Includes 10% construction contingency budget

#### **Operating Expenses**

- Decrease the Chesapeake's contracted network service costs from \$1.38 million to \$243,454 by Year 5
- New operating costs totaling \$1.9 million in Year 5
  - Staffing
  - Hardware and Software Maintenance
  - Data Center Collocation & Edge Services
- Opportunities for revenue generation to offset operating costs

