



PATH FOUNDATION

January 24, 2022

Debbie P. Donehey
Chair, Rappahannock County Broadband Authority
3 Library Road – P.O. Box 519
Washington, Virginia 22747-0519

Dear Ms. Donehey,

The PATH Foundation Board of Directors has reviewed the Rappahannock County Broadband Authority request for \$1,314,232 to support its efforts to bring universal broadband coverage to the residents of Rappahannock County. I am pleased to inform you that \$1,000,000 has been approved for the RCBA to help meet the funding obligations of the proposed regional agreement with Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI), All Points Broadband, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative and other partners. The PATH funding is contingent on Rappahannock County government ratifying this proposed regional agreement.

It is our understanding that PATH funding for this broadband initiative can be split across at least two consecutive years beginning in FY23. Our board and staff are committed to working with this timeline.

Make no mistake. The PATH Foundation leadership is excited about this opportunity for the citizens of Rappahannock County. We have long been aware of the internet connectivity challenges that detract from the quality of life of Rappahannock residents and businesses. The lack of internet access has negative impacts on education and access to healthcare for residents of all ages. Elderly residents are deprived of an important technology that helps them remain connected rather than socially isolated. Many residents who could work from home cannot do so. Through this PATH grant, in combination with the other funders, these challenges can be overcome in the near future.

If you have questions, please contact Senior Program Officer, Andy Johnston. He will be more than glad to assist.

Sincerely,



Christy Connolly
President and CEO