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News Release

Brightspeed Will Soon Connect Southern Virginia Homes and Businesses with Gig-Speed Internet

Company's multi-million-dollar investment will provide high-speed internet to more than 20,000 across local communities

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — June 5, 2024 — Brightspeed, the nation's fourth largest fiber broadband builder focused on empowering more homes with ultrafast, reliable internet, announces construction of its Brightspeed Fiber Internet network across Southern Virginia is underway. The company is currently working to connect almost 22,000 locations in and around Martinsville, South Boston and Galax.

What to Expect During Construction

Residents in Martinsville are already seeing Brightspeed trucks in their local neighborhoods as crews work to bring nearly 12,000 families and businesses online. Construction in South Boston and Galax areas to bring the fiber network to another 10,000 locations will begin once permitting and surveying are complete. Brightspeed's highest priority is working quickly and efficiently within these local communities, keeping safety at the forefront.

Virginians can check for fiber availability in their area by visiting <u>www.brightspeed.com/brightspeed-fiber-internet/</u> and signing up to receive alerts when service is available at their location. Once connected, customers can expect straightforward bills, easy-to-understand plans and internet connections that just work.

Southern Virginia is Getting the Best in Broadband

The Brightspeed Fiber Internet network leverages the latest XGS-PON (10-Gigabit Symmetric Passive Optical Network) technology to bring gig-speed capabilities and consistent responsiveness that enable multi-device households to connect, work, study, stream, communicate and game efficiently and reliably in Virginia.

Brightspeed Fiber is More Than Just Internet

Put simply, high-speed internet equals opportunity for households and businesses alike, and access to fast, reliable and affordable internet and Wi-Fi will help close the rural-urban digital divide. That's why Brightspeed is building its smart, fiber optics-based network in communities around Martinsville, South Boston and Galax — so residents and business owners have the reliable connectivity they need to work, learn, play and thrive.

Brightspeed is already investing \$2 billion in deploying next-generation fiber-optic technology to build a more reliable, super-fast broadband internet network that will reach more than three million homes and businesses across 20 states. Additionally, the company will continue pursuing state and federal broadband grant funding to augment its current fiber network build plan in Virginia to help close the digital divide.

About Brightspeed

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. and with assets and associated operations in 20 states, Brightspeed provides broadband and telecommunications services through a network platform capable of serving more than 6.5 million homes and businesses. Our more than 4,000 employees are committed to building a future where more communities benefit from a more connected life, deploying a state-of-the-art fiber network and a customer experience that makes being connected as simple as it should be. For more information, please visit <u>www.brightspeed.com</u>.

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