



COUNTY OF AMHERST



Public Information Officer

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Extension of CARES Act Funding

On January 3, 2021, President Donald Trump signed a law extending the timeline for using funds provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Originally, all projects had to be completed and all funds had to be spent by December 30, 2020. The extension moved this deadline to December 31, 2021. This change also applies to the additional funding provided to Amherst County specifically for expanding broadband access.

In the fall of 2020 Amherst County committed to using \$1,870,000 of CARES Act funding on expanding broadband services in Amherst County. Firefly Fiber Broadband has been working to lay fiber, however they were unable finish all parts of the project by December 30, 2020. The new deadline allows them to continue working on bringing broadband access to over seven hundred homes in Amherst County.

Amherst County was able to complete multiple other projects with the CARES Act funding before December 30, 2020. Some of the projects included; providing \$650,000.00 in grants to local businesses and non-profits, cleaning the HVAC systems in county buildings to help slow the spread of COVID-19, providing equipment to staff enabling them to work remotely, and installing new bathrooms and water-bottle enabled water fountains at some of the County's parks and trails.



New Bathroom at Roses Mill trail access.

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at jlniehaus@countyofamherst.com or (434)-946-9400.