



Amherst County Board of Supervisors
County Resolution No. 2023-18-R

For consideration on December 5, 2023

A RESOLUTION, NO. 2023-18-R

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Amherst, Virginia,
Supporting and Encouraging the award of the Firefly/TJPDC VATI 2024 grant
application.**

Approved as to form and legality by the County Attorney

WHEREAS, Amherst County is committed to bringing universal broadband internet access to its citizens across the county, and

WHEREAS, Firefly Fiber Broadband has developed a grant application with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District serving as the lead applicant with the county being one of multiple counties included in the project to make fiber to the home broadband internet service available to the unserved locations in the county, and

WHEREAS, the preliminary planning for the application has identified 410 additional locations in the county as being unserved without access to speeds faster than 100 mbps download or 20 mbps upload, and the preliminary design includes 32 miles of fiber optic cable to be installed in the county to make service available to those locations, with a total project cost estimate of \$1.9 million, creating a need for additional grant funding to make the project financially feasible, and

WHEREAS, this project will seek grant funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development through its Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) with an application on or before 19 December 2023,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA: That Amherst County fully supports and encourages the award of the Firefly/TJPDC VATI 2024 grant application to help ensure every unserved and underserved citizen has access to highspeed broadband.

I. That this resolution shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

Adopted this 5th day of December, 2023.



Tom Martin, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Member

Vote

Tom Martin, Chair.....	<u>Aye</u>
Claudia D. Tucker.....	<u>Aye</u>
Drew Wade.....	<u>Aye</u>
David W. Pugh, Jr.,	<u>Aye</u>

ATTEST:



Jeremy S. Bryant, County Administrator