

# Serving the Unserved

August 10, 2021



# Purpose

- To update the public on the status of cable buildout in the community
- Request authority from the BOCC to expand options for cable buildout in Calvert County



# Cable Franchise Scope

*According to FCC rules:*

Cable franchises DO address provision of cable television service in exchange for use of the public right-of-way.

They DO NOT

- Address broadband or internet service.
- Provide exclusive right to provide cable television service.
- Allow the county to regulate cable rates.



## 2018 Franchise Agreement Key Points:

- Maintains 15 homes per mile density requirement
  - Lowest density approved in Maryland
- Extended the length of a standard (cost-free) drop from 125 feet to 300 feet
- Provides a clear cost-sharing formula for line extension when minimum density is not met

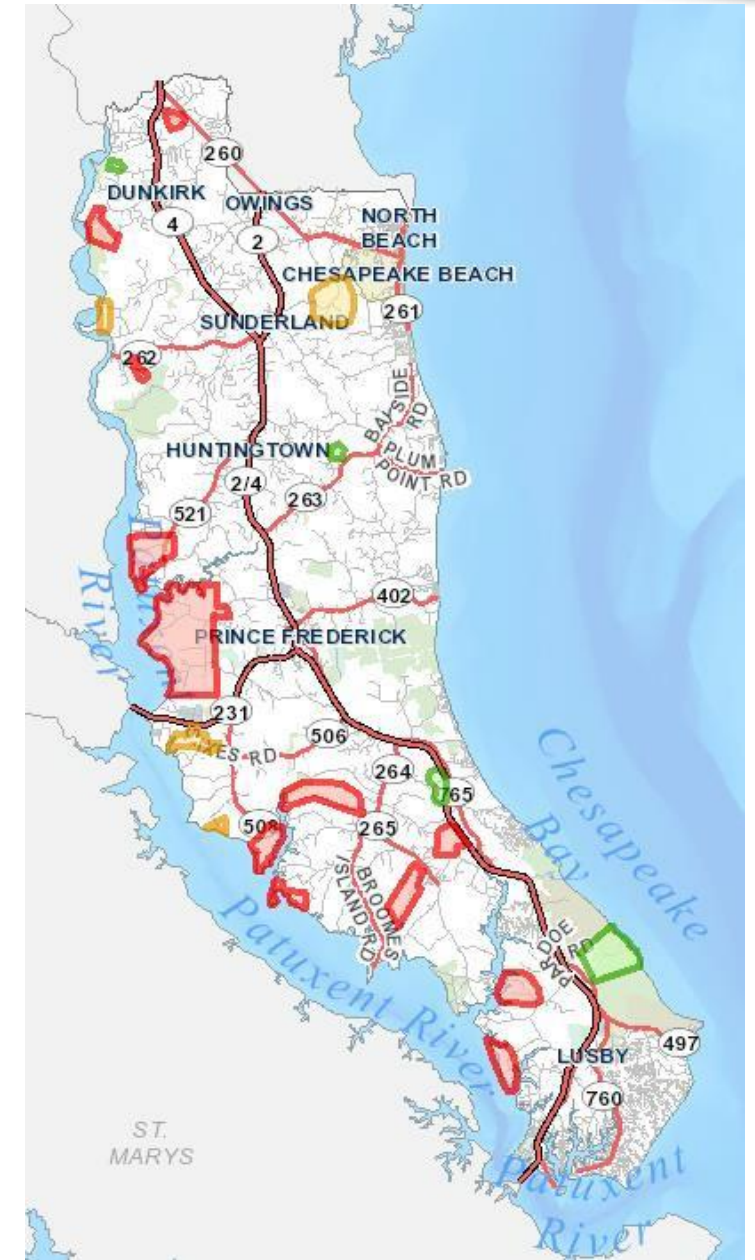
# Serving the Unserved

There were originally 20 unserved communities identified in Calvert County, or approximately 475 (310 remain) homes.

Red = Unserved

Yellow = Under review

Green = Comcast agreed to provide service



# Serving the Unserved



## *Estimated Construction Schedule*

COMPLETION DATE	April 2021 Projection	July 2021 Projection
Double Oak Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
E Cheney Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
Mackall Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
Simmons Ridge Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
Solomons Island Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
3875 Fish Hook Drive	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
Marsh Lane	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
4149 Robinson Rd	Q1 - 2021	Late Q3 - Early Q4 2021
12060 Thelmas Lane	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
2540 Chaneyville Rd	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
Weems Rd	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
Tobacco Ridge Rd	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
St. Johns Chapel	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
W. Cheney Rd	Q3 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
Williams Wharf	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
Blunts Cove	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022
Ferry Landing	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022
Marshall & Chimney Rd	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022
Laveille Rd	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022
Adelina Rd	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022
Potts Point Rd	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022
Barstow Rd	Q4 - 2021	Q2 - 2022

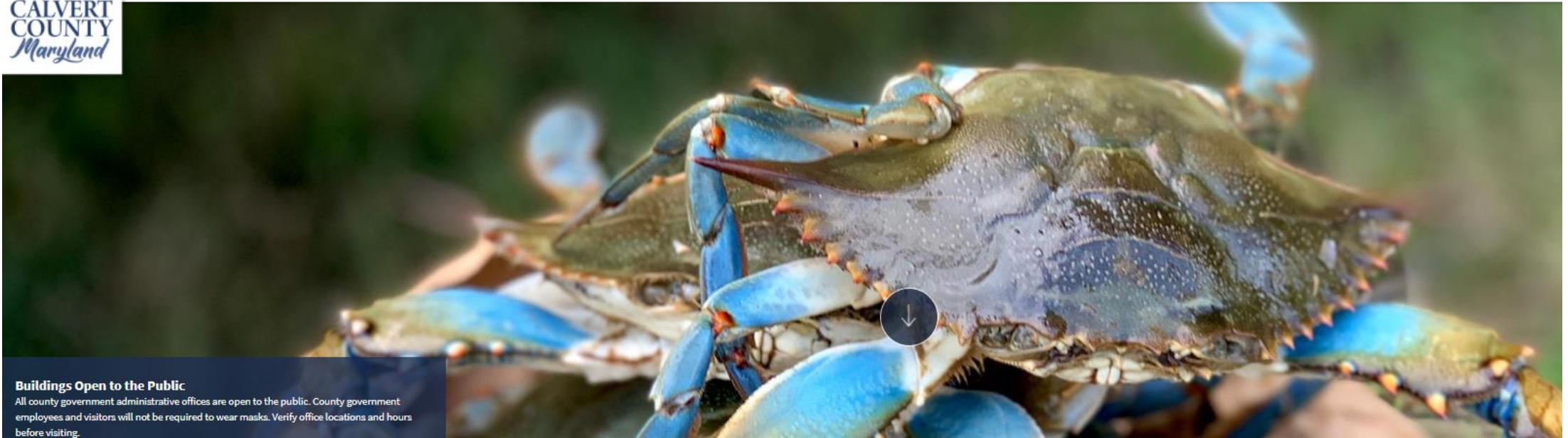
# Serving the Unserved

## How do I find Information?



CALVERT  
COUNTY  
*Maryland*

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS RESIDENTS BUSINESS HOW DO I? COMCAST BUILDOUT



### Buildings Open to the Public

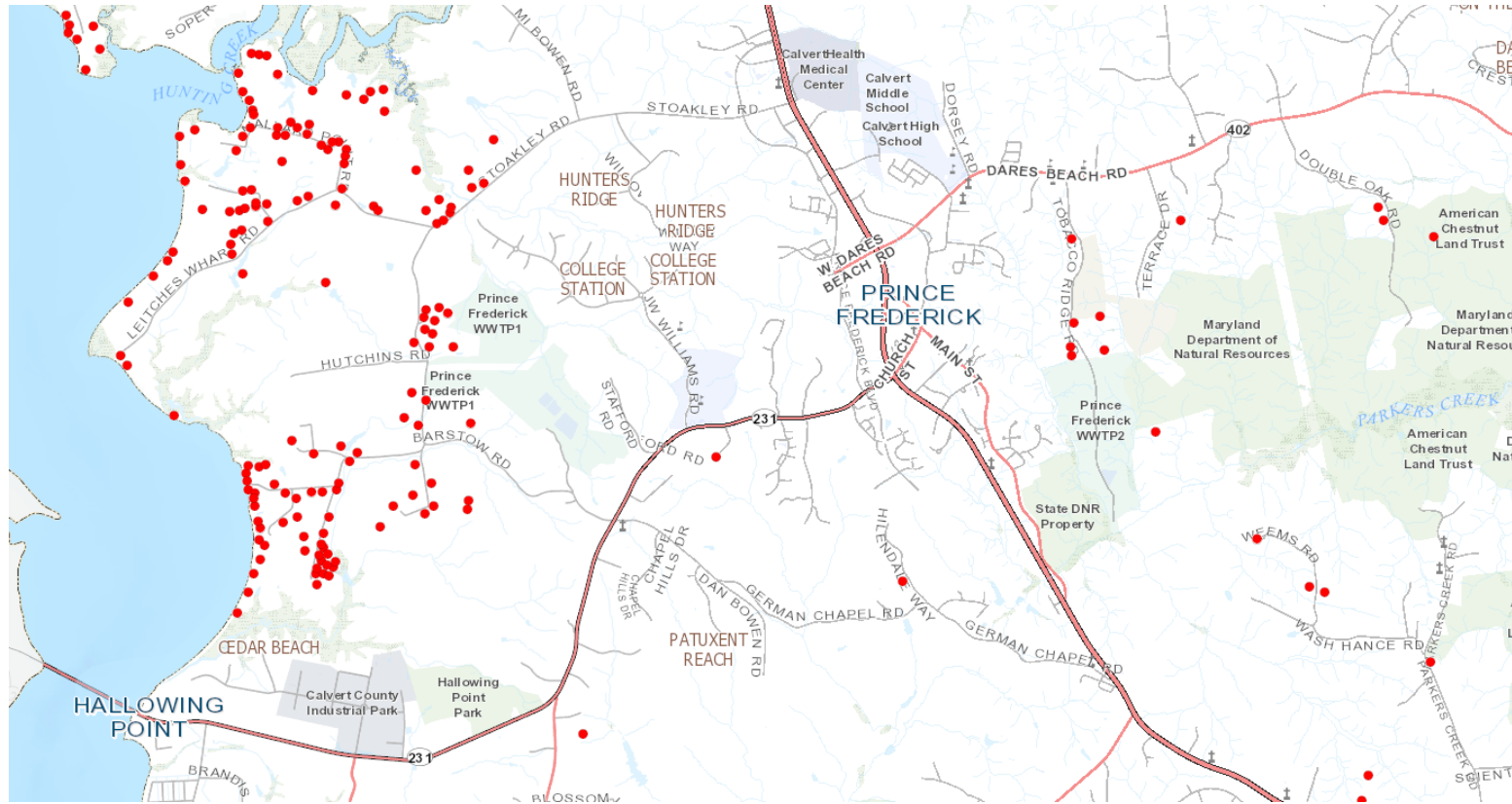
All county government administrative offices are open to the public. County government employees and visitors will not be required to wear masks. Verify office locations and hours before visiting.

CALVERT  
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# Serving the Unserved

## Project Tracking GIS Map





# Funding



## FY2022

- The Franchise Fee was originally budgeted in FY 2022 to complete full buildout of Comcast in the community.
- However, with ARPA funds and state grants available, we are able to utilize funding to complete.
- The Governor's Office of Statewide Broadband, via Governor Hogan grant saved the county \$1.4 million and additional matching funds to provide an additional 60+ homes (\$360,000) with long driveways (beyond 300') with connections.

# Summary:

- Making steady progress
- Comcast approved full buildout
- BOCC desires to complete 100% buildout, beyond 300' originally approved in April 2021
- Reviewed funding options and recommend:
  - Previously planned to use Calvert County Franchise Fee with shared contribution from Comcast
  - Use ARPA Funds for County match
- Have obtained new grants to assist

## **Combined Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects:**

- ✓ Total Construction: \$3,766,158
- ✓ **State Contribution: \$2.259M**
- ✓ County Contribution: \$1,476,918
- ✓ Comcast Contribution: \$406,161
- ✓ Total Homes: 310
- ✓ Total Miles: 49.5



# Summary:

- **The BOCC authorized connection options for consideration:**
  1. Franchise Agreement states connection occurs up to 300' from right-of-way
  2. The BOCC originally determined that there would be a customer contribution beyond 300' per the Franchise Agreement
  3. Given the impact of telework and other connectivity concerns, the BOCC requested staff identify opportunities to connect all homes, regardless of the 300' + required by the Franchise Agreement

# Summary:

- **Options Identified:**

1. Grant opportunities were identified to connect homes beyond the 300' at no cost to the consumer.
2. Comcast, working with the State of Maryland, received grant funds for full buildout of the county.
3. The County's matching cost remains the same.

# Requested Actions:

## Staff seeks approval on the following:

1. Authorize staff to finalize plans to build 100%, including addresses beyond 300' identified in the Comcast Franchise Agreement.
2. Authorize staff to return with an updated Agreement, to extend Comcast services in the Community beyond the 300' ROW.
3. Authorize staff to utilize ARPA funds to assist with full buildout.

*Thank you.*  
**Questions?**

