



# Serving the Unserved

*May 2, 2023*





# Purpose

- To provide updates on the status of cable buildout in Calvert County
- Approve and authorized Board President signature on FY21 Broad Infrastructure Grant Disbursement Agreement (Phases 1&2).

# Cable Franchise Scope

*According to FCC rules:*

**1. Cable franchises DO:**

- Address provision of cable television service in exchange for use of the public Right-of-Way.

**2. They DO NOT:**

- Address broadband or internet service.
- Provide exclusive rights to provide cable television service (*meaning other cable companies could invest in the community*).
- Allow the county to regulate cable rates.

# Franchise Agreement Overview



- Adopted by Ordinance 53-18, dated December 11, 2018.
  - *Includes a 5% franchise fee that reverts back to the county's General Fund.*
- Outlines the density requirement to maintain 15 homes per mile.
- Extends the length of a standard (cost-free) drop from 125 feet to 300 feet.
- Provides cost-sharing formula for line extension when minimum density was not met.
- Expires December 10, 2028.

# Full Buildout to Date



- **Spring 2021** Comcast awarded funds via the Maryland FY21 Infrastructure Grant to aid Phases I & II buildout
- **April 2021** BOCC approved full buildout up to 300' from the Right-of-Way per the Franchise Agreement
- **August 2021** BOCC temporarily removed the 300' limitation, enabling cable service to be available to every home in Calvert County at no charge to the constituent
- **November 2021** BOCC approved to reimburse constituents between Jan. 1- Dec. 31, 2021, who had made customer contribution investments
- **August 2022** Allocated additional American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for Phase III
- **September 2022** Phases I & II completed
- **October 2022** Signed an Agreement with Comcast to complete Phase III
- **October 2022** Comcast surveying, designing and formulating Phase III construction schedule
- **April 2022** Comcast awarded funds via the Maryland FY23 Infrastructure Grant to aid Phase III buildout



# Funding

Franchise Fee monies was originally budgeted in FY 2022 to complete full buildout, however, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and state grants help continue to fund the county's cable buildout initiative without the use of franchise fees.

<b>Phases I &amp; II:</b>	State Funding - \$2,259,694 County Contribution (use of ARPA funds) - \$1,476,919
<b>Phase III:</b>	State Funding - \$942,223 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - \$3.4M earmarked County Contribution (franchise fees) – To be determined

# Phases I & II



Project	# of homes served	Completion
Double Oak Rd	3	Completed Winter 2021
E Cheney Rd	3	Completed Winter 2021
Mackall Rd	2	Completed Winter 2021
Solomons Island Rd	5	Completed Spring 2022
3875 Fish Hook Drive	1	Completed Winter 2021
Marsh Lane	10	Completed Fall 2021
Robinson Rd	2	Completed Summer 2021
Simmons Ridge Rd	2	Completed Fall 2022
Thelma's Lane	3	Completed Winter 2021
2540 Chaneyville Rd	2	Completed Spring 2022
Weems Rd	4	Completed Spring 2022
W. Cheney Rd	5	Completed Winter 2021
Blunts Cove	13	Completed Spring 2022
Ferry Landing	8	Completed Spring 2022
Adelina Rd	9	Completed Spring 2022
Tobacco Ridge Rd	6	Completed Summer 2022
St. Johns Chapel	10	Completed Spring 2022
Williams Wharf	7	Completed Spring 2022
Marshall & Chimney Rd	26	Completed Summer 2022
Laveille Rd	6	Completed Summer 2022
Potts Point Rd	37	Completed Summer 2022
Barstow Rd	161	Completed Summer 2022

- All projects in Phases I & II completed by Fall 2022.
- Buildout provided connection to 325 homes across the county.
- With all projects in Phases I & II completed, Comcast is in need of an updated Grant Disbursement Agreement highlighting final costs for these projects.

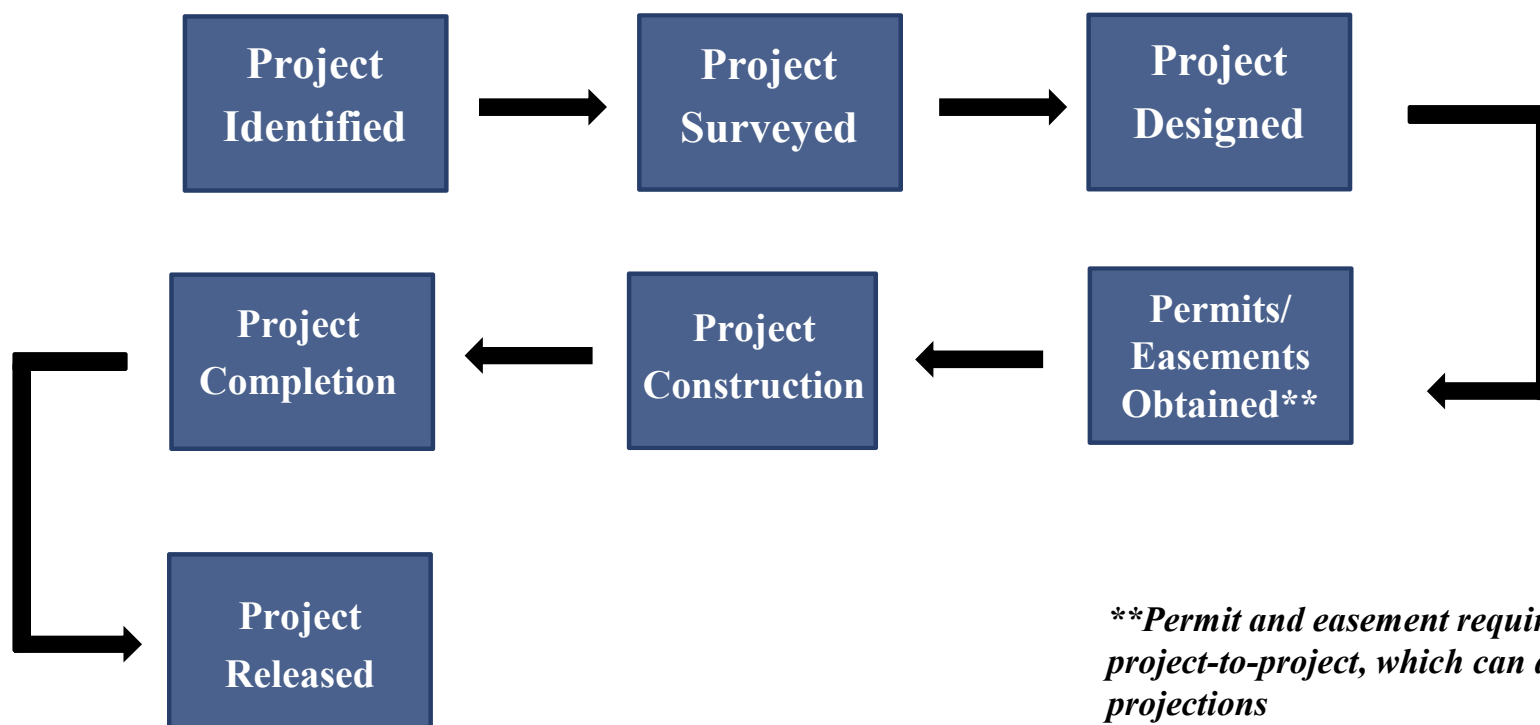
# Phase III



- 415 homes have been identified as needing connection via social media outreach.
- Projected construction schedule for 2023 calendar year has been established for 335 homes.
- Remaining homes are to be placed in current schedule accordingly.
- Citizens can visit the website to confirm their status.
- Citizens who refuse connection will receive notice via a letter indicating their financial responsibility if they chose connection at a later date.



# Construction Process

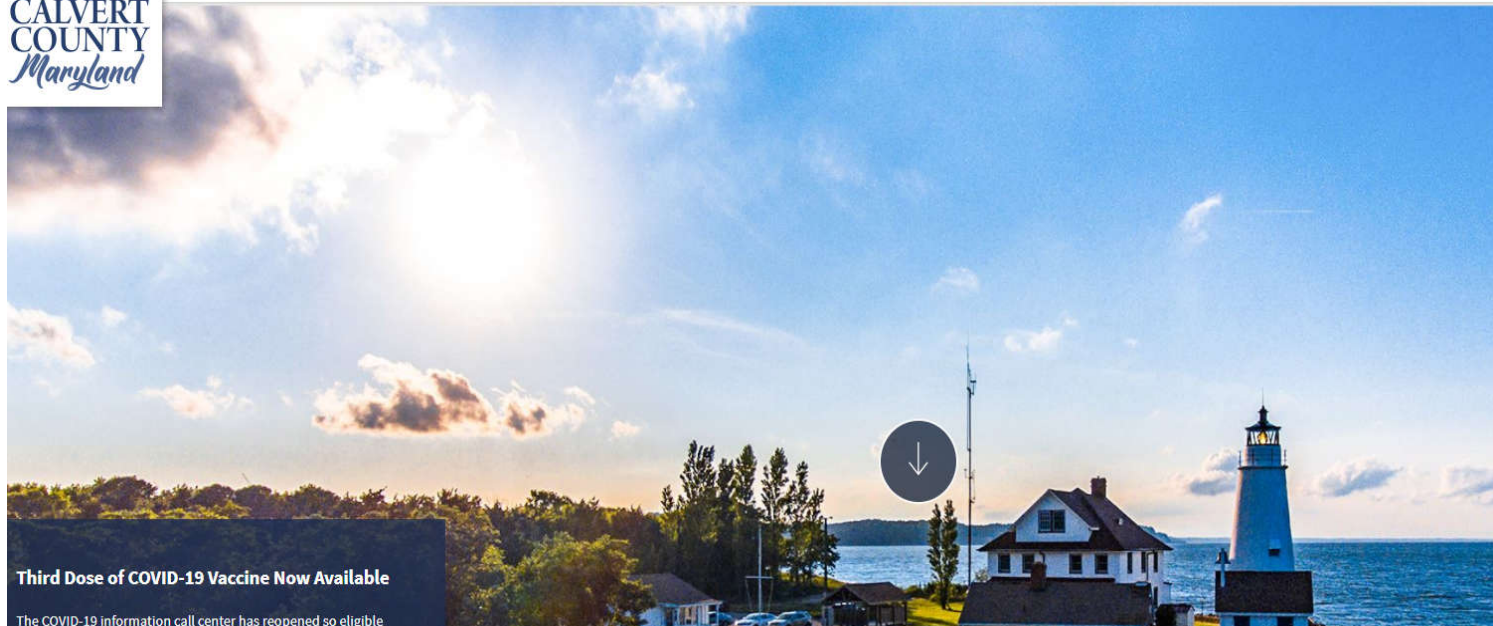


*\*\*Permit and easement requirements vary from project-to-project, which can alter completion projections*

# How do I find Information/Updates?



GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS RESIDENTS BUSINESS HOW DO I? COMCAST BUILDOUT



[www.CalvertCountyMD.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMD.gov)

Current Agenda (PDF)

BOCC Agendas, Minutes and Videos

Calvert St@t - Calvert County Info Dashboard

Comcast Franchise Agreement

Comcast Buildout

Correspondence to Delegates & Senators

Members

Ordinances and Resolutions

Progress Reports

Yearly Schedule

Home - Government - Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) - Comcast Buildout

## Comcast Buildout

### Comcast Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal program that helps eligible families afford a broadband internet connection. For example, households with at least one child eligible for the National School Lunch Program may be eligible for free high-speed Internet through ACP.

Our local internet provider Comcast (Xfinity) is a participating ACP provider and is offering qualified households FREE high-speed internet who enroll in their Internet Essentials program. The Internet Essentials program is available to new and existing Comcast customers.

For more information and to see if you qualify for free internet, please visit the following websites: [www.xfinity.com/ACP](http://www.xfinity.com/ACP) and [www.affordableconnectivity.gov](http://www.affordableconnectivity.gov).

Submit a Comcast Buildout Question

Add Your Address for Comcast Buildout

Comcast Service Extension Map

View the [Comcast Buildout Update June 28, 2022 \(PDF\)](#) presentation.

Find out more about the [Emergency Broadband Benefit \(EBB\)](#) a temporary benefit program from the Federal Government designed to help qualified new and existing Xfinity customers stay connected during the COVID-19 crisis.

### Sign up for updates!

Calvert County Government is currently working with Comcast to connect county residents with access to cable internet service. Sign up below to be the first to receive updates on our Comcast expansion initiative.

\* Email

First Name

Last Name

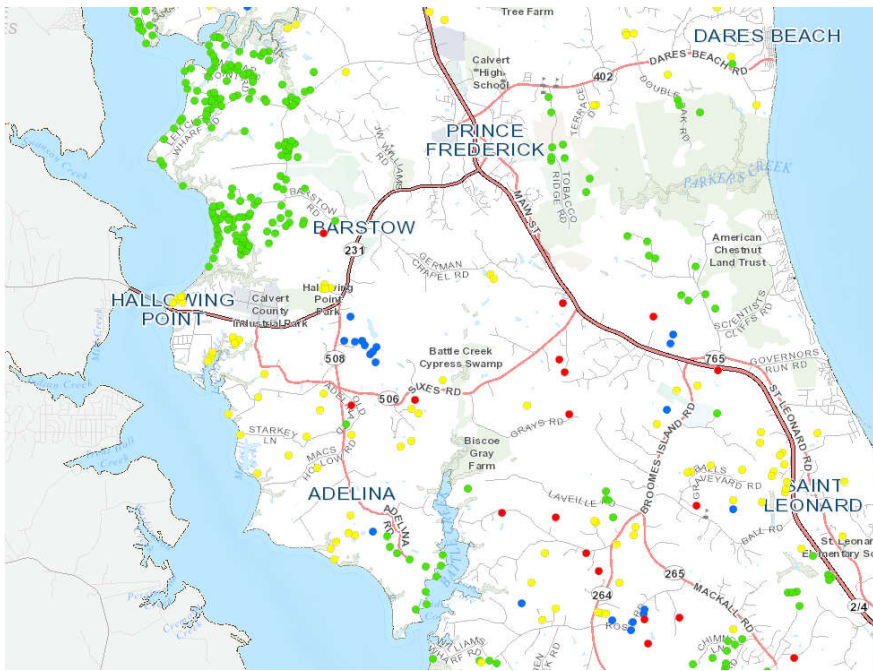
By submitting this form, you are consenting to receive marketing emails from: Calvert County Department of Communications and Media Relations, Courthouse, Prince Frederick, MD, 20678, US. (Please do not contact our office). You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the [unsubscribe](#) link found at the bottom of every email. Emails are serviced by Constant Contact.

[Click Here to Sign Up](#)



**CALVERT  
COUNTY**  
*Maryland*

# Comcast Service Extension Map



**MyCALVERTMAP ADVANCED**

Home < I want to...

☆ Comcast Service Extension Location

Address: 2100 NONNA FARM RD PRINCE FREDERICK  
 Projected Completion Date: 3rd Quarter 2023  
 Construction Status: Permitting Phase

[Add to Results](#) | [View Additional Details](#)

**Instructions**  
 Zoom into the map to see Comcast service extension data.

The I want to... menu also has tools that will enable you to:

- change visible map layers
- reset the map's extent
- find a street intersection

**Legend**  
 Comcast Service Extension  
 ● Complete  
 ● In Progress  
 ● Not Started  
 ● State Grant Project

While efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of this map, Calvert County accepts no liability or responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional inaccuracies in the content of this map. Users assume all risks associated with decisions based on this map. This map is for illustration purposes and should only be used as such.

Questions, comments or suggestions about the map? Contact Technology Services via [email](mailto:email) or call us at 410-535-1600 extension 2511. We welcome your input.

# Requested Action

- Staff requests that the BOCC approve and authorize the Board President to sign the Grant Disbursement Agreement for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development FY21 Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program on behalf of the Board to closeout Phases I & II of the county's buildout initiative.
- Staff requests that the BOCC approve a cut-off date of June 30, 2023, as the final date for citizens to request free connection.



# Thank you

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