

Southside Network Authority

ANDRIA P. McCLELLAN, CHAIR
ROSEMARY WILSON, VICE-CHAIR

MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS

January 6, 2026

Memorandum #2026-02

TO: Southside Network Authority

CHESAPEAKE

BY: Marcellus Nixon, Executive Director

RE: Southside Network Authority Special Meeting –January 9, 2026

The next meeting of the Southside Network Authority (SNA) will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026, beginning at 1:00 PM in the 757 Room of the Regional Building, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA. 23320. The agenda and supporting documents are attached.

NORFOLK

MN/se

Attachment

PORTSMOUTH

SNA Voting Members:

Debbie Ritter, CH
Andria McClellan, NO
Steven Carter, PO
Dr. Charles Kiriakou, SU
Rosemary Wilson, VB

SNA Alternate Members:

Laura Fitzpatrick, CH
Doug Beaver, NO
Cliff Hayes, PO
Janet Days, SU
Peter Wallace, VB

SUFFOLK

VIRGINIA BEACH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARCELLUS NIXON
THE REGIONAL BUILDING
723 WOODLAKE DR
CHESAPEAKE, VA 23320
Office: 757-420-8300

**SOUTHSIDE NETWORK AUTHORITY (SNA)
BOARD MEETING**

January 9, 2026 - 1:00 PM

**723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA
757 Room, The Regional Building**

1. Call to Order

2. Approval/Modification of Agenda

Board Members are provided an opportunity to add or delete items from the agenda.

Recommended Action: The SNA board should consider approving the agenda.

3. Public Comments

A. Public Comment Period

Members of the public are invited to address the SNA. Each comment is limited to three minutes.

B. Submitted Public Comments

There were no submitted public comments since the last SNA meeting. Any new written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be distributed at the meeting.

C. Transcribed Public Comment - Attachment

The transcript of the public comment from the December 12, 2025 meeting is attached.

4. Meeting Minutes – Attachment

Attached for the SNA's consideration are the minutes from the December 12, 2025, SNA Meeting.

Recommended Action: The SNA board should consider approving the December 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

5. Election of Officers

The Board of Directors shall, at its first meeting of each calendar year, elect its officers, who shall serve terms of one year, and may succeed themselves. It shall have a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Chair and Vice-Chair must be voting members of the Authority Board of Directors. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of

the Board of Directors, but in the event the Chair is absent or unable to preside, the Vice-Chair shall preside. In the event neither the Chair nor Vice-Chair is present, the remaining members of the Board of Directors shall elect one of their number to serve as chair *pro tempore*. The Secretary shall be responsible for taking minutes of the proceedings. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping the financial records of the Authority. The Secretary and Treasurer need not be voting members of the Board of Directors, and the offices may be combined.

6. Construction Update - Attachment

7. Executive Director Update

- **Personnel and Budget (P&B) Committee**
- **Member City CAO Meetings**
- **Finance Update**
- **Asset Assessment, Needs Assessment, Conceptual Design Proposals**

8. Closed Session

A closed session pursuant to subsection A.1 of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the promotion, performance, salaries, or benefits of specific employees of the Authority, specifically pertaining to the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director.

9. Items out of Closed Session

10. Old/New Business

11. Adjournment

Transcribed Public Comments
SNA Meeting
December 12, 2025

One person requested to address the SNA at the meeting held on December 12, 2025

Darrell Powell
PCs for People

Good afternoon, everyone. How are you guys doing today? I am just going to take three minutes of your time. Thank you to the Southside Network Authority and Mr. Marcellus Nixon for inviting me.

My name is Darrel Powell, and I am an account manager at PCs for People. If you have never heard of that, we are the nation's largest nonprofit e-recycling company. We are in quite a few states. This is our first time opening an office and a processing center in the Commonwealth. We go around to companies and pick up retired computers, computers that you no longer use. We refurbish them, wipe the hard drives, and put Microsoft Windows 11 back on them once they are certified. Data destruction and data security are very large priorities for us. We refurbish the computers and redistribute them to recovering veterans and people who live in low-income and underserved communities. We do a lot of community-based work with cities throughout the nation, and we are looking to reach out to cities and municipalities here in the state of Virginia to do the same.

Our price that we charge, we have not met too many companies that can beat us on pricing, because our price is free. We do not charge anything. We are community-based. We provide a certificate of data destruction within thirty days. I am finding it not necessarily easy to beat out other companies, but because we live in Hampton Roads, which is a large military town, and I am a naval veteran myself, so this is very near and dear to my heart. I lived in public housing for a couple of years, about fifty years ago, but I am still connected in that regard. We are here, and we have opened an office in Hampton right off of Pembroke.

I met Marcellus at the Convergence Conference here about three weeks ago, and since then, we have been reaching out to the cities. We feel like it is a win-win. You do not have to pay anything. You can save taxpayer dollars and do a really good thing for the people living in your community, veterans, and people who live in underserved communities.

Please contact us and let us know if you would like to work with us. We have a great big white truck. It is huge. It is like a billboard. Stevie Wonder and Ray Charles would look at it and say man, that is a nice truck. Anyway, I just wanted to let you guys know that we do exist. We feel like we can save you a lot of money in taxpayer dollars, and we do a good job of that. Thank you so much for inviting me here. You guys take care. It is never too early to wish you a Merry Christmas to you and your family. God bless you and have a nice day.

**Southside Network Authority
Summary Minutes
December 12, 2025**

The December 12, 2025 meeting of the Southside Network Authority (SNA) was called to order by Chair Andria McClellan at 1:02 PM. Mr. Marcellus Nixon, SNA Executive Director, called the roll to determine meeting attendance.

Southside Network Authority Voting Members in Attendance:

Debbie Ritter, Chesapeake	Dr. Charles Kiriakou, Suffolk
Andria McClellan, Norfolk	Rosemary Wilson, Virginia Beach
Cliff Hayes, Portsmouth (Alternate) ²	

Other Participants:

Laura Fitzpatrick, Chesapeake (Alternate)	Warren Lyon, SNA Deputy Executive Director
Doug Beaver, Norfolk (Alternate)	Steven DeBerry, SNA ¹
Peter Wallace, Virginia Beach (Alternate)	Michael Lockaby, Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC ¹
Marcellus Nixon, SNA Executive Director	Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO

Others Recorded Attending:

Ellen Bergren and Harvey Miller (Chesapeake); Ken Knight¹ (Danella); Noel Mitchell (GTS); Juan Constantine, Terri Doane, and Michelle Foy¹ (Norfolk); Kelsey Swieringa (Portsmouth); Sean Dolan (Suffolk); Amanda Jarratt and Amy Sullivan (Virginia Beach); and Robert Cofield, Simone Elmore and Andrew Margason (HRPDC Staff).

¹Indicates attendance by electronic means

²Indicates late arrival or early departure

Approval of the Agenda

Chair McClellan asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. There were none.

Dr. Charles Kiriakou Moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Ms. Debbie Ritter. The Motion Carried.

Public Comments

Chair McClellan invited members of the public to address the Authority. There was one in-person request to comment.

- Mr. Darrell Powell, PCs for People Account Manager, reported that his organization collects and refurbishes computers to be distributed to recovering veterans and low-income households.

A full transcription will be included in the subsequent SNA agenda packet.

Chair McClellan asked the Deputy City Managers present who oversees the computers in the localities. Mr. Doug Beaver responded that Norfolk has an Information Technology (IT)

department that would handle that. Ms. Laura Fitzpatrick confirmed that this is also the case for Chesapeake.

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, stated that he had worked with PCs for People in the past year, and it was an overall great experience. The process was professional, efficient, and easy. He added that PCs for People comes with his highest recommendation.

Ms. Ritter noted that this is a great program and suggested inviting Mr. Powell to the next Commission meeting to connect with all the localities in Hampton Roads.

Mr. Powell stated that while many children have access to computers at school, not having one at home makes it difficult for them to keep up with their homework. He also noted that access to a computer is important for adults who are trying to find a job. His organization is committed to helping low-income and underserved communities address these challenges.

Ms. Ritter asked how the computers are redistributed. Mr. Powell stated that families have to qualify. If a family receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or free lunches at school, it usually means that they are 200% or less of the federal poverty level. The Community Impact Manager will communicate with applicants to submit their paperwork, and they can choose which computer they want. There is also a walk-in location in Hampton. He noted that the computers cost between \$0 and \$150 and come with a one-year warranty. The program is designed to help recovering veterans, as many of them often lack access to a computer.

Ms. Ritter stated that Chesapeake and Virginia Beach have an apartment building, run by a non-profit organization, which provides permanent housing to formerly homeless veterans. She stated that computers might have a significant benefit for them.

Chair McClellan thanked Mr. Powell for his comment. She stated that the SNA is trying to provide connectivity, but without the hardware, that connectivity is meaningless. His organization plays a crucial role in achieving this goal.

Mr. Nixon reported that there were no submitted public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Chair McClellan asked if there were any suggested modifications to the November 3, 2025 and November 14, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. There were none.

Ms. Ritter Moved to approve the meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Rosemary Wilson. The Motion Carried.

Construction Updates

Mr. Warren Lyon presented the timeline, the production dashboard, and maps showing the progress regarding conduit and fiber. He stated that the timeline is still pending due to the permits in Virginia Beach. He added that he should have an updated timeline in January. As of November, 77% of the conduit, 69% of the handholes, 20% of the fiber, and 69% of the tracer wire have been installed for the entire project.

²Mr. Cliff Hayes arrived

Mr. Lyon highlighted the progress for each of the member localities as follows:

- Chesapeake:
 - Co-Build Agreement for approval by SNA today
 - City Council expected to approve in its January 27, 2026 meeting

Mr. Lyon provided background information on the Chesapeake Co-Build. The SNA and Chesapeake are building segments of their respective fiber rings in the same area, which includes 19 miles of fiber build. The co-build agreement saves the SNA \$667,436.90 using a cost-avoidance model provided by CTC, which is based on extrapolating Danella's construction costs for similar work on the SNA fiber ring.

- Norfolk:
 - 96% conduit, 77% handholes, 27% fiber, and 87% tracer wire completed
 - Courthouse/Granby Relo under construction, 1.492 feet completed, updated Traffic Control Plan (TCP) requested and approved
 - E. Virginia Beach Boulevard and W. Brambleton Ave scheduled for late December to allow completing all the bridge work in the same time frame
 - Railroad Buckingham Branch scheduled for December 15, 2025
- Suffolk:
 - 98% conduit, 75% handholes, 12% fiber, and 53% tracer wire completed
 - Railroads:
 - Rail Pros Indian Trail scheduled for January 5, 2026
 - 2 G&W Construction in progress, directional bore will be completed today, bridge attachment
 - Bridges Road Relo: Aerial crossing in December 2025
- Virginia Beach:
 - 11% conduit, 7% handholes, and 9% tracer wire completed
 - Permitting:
 - All 31 permits submitted and 30 approved
 - Permit V is under review at VDOT
 - 3 drill crews, 4th will be added by the end of 2025. Additional 1-4 crews expected in January
 - Permit Q under construction with 2000 feet completed
 - Permit R pending locates, construction expected to start on December 15, 2025
 - Cable crews expected in late January 2026
- Portsmouth:
 - 83% conduit, 85% handholes, 59% fiber, and 98% tracer wire completed
 - Tunnel Facility Drive Permit approved
 - Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) agreement for access to Mid-Town Tunnel under central office review

Mr. Lyon provided background information on the ongoing negotiations with VDOT regarding the mid-town tunnel agreement. The SNA has requested the following from VDOT:

- Use of limited Right-of-Way (ROW)
- Approach from Western Freeway Bridge to Mid-Town tunnel
- Eastbound tunnel crossing
- Tunnel Egress to Regional Connectivity Ring (RCR)

VDOT, in return, requested the following:

- SNA provides dark fibers at top of RCR for 17.6 miles in Norfolk and Suffolk
- Construction to VDOT facilities and handholes for meet points
- Tunnel maintenance
- Infrastructure maintenance

In response to a question by Chair McClellan regarding the tunnel maintenance, Mr. Lyon responded that there is existing conduit in the tunnel that is in need of repairs. As part of the agreement, the SNA will repair the galvanized steel in the tunnel.

Mr. Beaver asked why the old Mid-Town tunnel is used for the conduit instead of the new tunnel. Mr. Nixon clarified that there is existing conduit in the old tunnel. Chair McClellan added that the existing conduit will be utilized, even with the necessary maintenance required; it will be more cost-effective than building new conduit.

Chair McClellan thanked Mr. Lyon and Mr. Nixon for the progress that was made. She also thanked Danella and VDOT for their willingness to work together.

Mr. Lyon asked the SNA Board to consider approving the VDOT agreement as presented and to issue invoices to the member cities, as outlined in Attachment 5B, to fund the specified VDOT construction. Furthermore, he asked the SNA Board to consider the Chesapeake Co-Build agreement as shown in Attachment 5C of the agenda packet.

Chair McClellan noted that the VDOT agreement is dependent on their approval and signature. She added that a change order for Danella is forthcoming and that approximately \$100,000 from each of the member cities will be allocated from the capital improvement funds that were set aside.

Dr. Kiriakou Moved to approve the VDOT agreement as presented; seconded by Ms. Ritter. The Motion Carried.

Ms. Wilson Moved to approve the Chesapeake Co-Build resolution authorizing execution and delivery of an agreement to purchase certain assets, including fiber conduit, rights of way, and easements, from the City of Chesapeake; seconded by Dr. Kiriakou. The Motion Carried.

Executive Director Update

Mr. Nixon thanked everyone for their efforts on the VDOT and Chesapeake Co-Build agreements.

A.) Personnel and Budget (P&B) Committee

Mr. Nixon reported that the P&B Committee was created to develop a policy manual. The committee is comprised of Mr. Lockaby, Ms. Marjorie Smith, Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Tealen Hansen, and Ms. Kelli Arledge. He noted that the P&B met virtually on December 3, 2025 and made significant progress. A draft manual will be presented to the SNA for approval at the January 9, 2026 meeting.

B.) Economic Development Committee

Mr. Nixon stated that the Economic Development Committee had met four times since it was established, with the last meeting being held on December 7, 2025. The committee is comprised of the Economic Development Managers of all the SNA member cities, as well as Hampton and Newport News.

The last conversation was about competition and to understand the challenges that the economic development directors are facing. Additionally, the regional technology infrastructure, what the SNA is delivering as part of a technology ecosystem, and where the project is headed in the long term were discussed.

C.) Finance Update

Mr. Nixon provided a financial update on the RCR project, stating that the remaining balance for the project is about \$10 million. The Chesapeake co-built is budgeted for \$1.7 million. He indicated that \$17 million have been invested at this point.

Chair McClellan inquired about the anticipated amount of the change order for Danella. Mr. Lyon responded that the amount will be determined toward the end of the project, as it will also include traffic planning costs. Mr. Nixon assured that the change order amount will not exceed the funds remaining in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Nixon presented the draft budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 27. He emphasized that this budget was prepared as a contingency in case the SNA needs further financing. The total cost per locality would be \$149,621, which is \$10,000 more than in the previous year.

Mr. Peter Wallace noted that the cities should include this draft budget in their respective city budgets to ensure that funds are allocated for the SNA.

Mr. Nixon reported on the Master Service Agreements (MSAs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs). The SNA is proposing asset and needs assessments, as well as conceptual designs. There are five entities that showed interest in these services. The MSA would govern how the SNA and the entities perform business together. The RFPs will allow the SNA to secure an engineering firm to assist with the service, while the SNA will act as the project manager.

Mr. Nixon stated that, as of now, the SNA has only one revenue stream, which raises concerns. The MSAs would provide an additional revenue stream. The cost for Suffolk, Newport News, and Hampton would be \$250,000, and the SNA would receive \$37,500 for each of these engagements. The Norfolk Airport and New Kent County voiced their interest in a study, and the cost would have to be determined. Mr. Nixon added that there is potential for additional engagements as he continues conversations in Hampton Roads.

An RFP was developed by the HRPDC, and Mr. Nixon asked the SNA Board to consider approval to issue said RFP on Monday, December 15, 2025.

During the discussion, Mr. Wallace expressed his support for the additional revenue stream but raised concerns that the agreement could allow SNA to consult on any project for the city, potentially broadening their involvement beyond the original scope. Mr. Lockaby responded by noting that the MSA is intended as a multi-year arrangement and clarified that the agreement's mention of additional staffing simply provides flexibility, allowing the authority to fulfill services either with its own personnel or by hiring a contractor. Mr. Nixon added that, in practice, the service should be performed by an engineering firm, since both he and Mr. Lyon lack the capacity to handle it themselves.

Mr. Wallace raised additional concerns about insurance requirements, specifically regarding general liability and vehicles. In response, Mr. Lockaby assured that an insurance clause would be included in the RFP and noted that SNA already carries insurance coverage that exceeds the required minimums.

Mr. Wallace stated that the assessment is valuable during the initial stages of developing the infrastructure of the ring. He noted that Virginia Beach conducted a similar study years ago, which was of limited benefit, as the city is not delivering services to the end users. However, such information could be helpful when engaging with residents.

Ms. Wilson stated that the CAOs noted that the SNA should concentrate on finishing the ring before branching out to other entities and taking on additional tasks.

Dr. Kiriakou noted that the City of Suffolk allocated funds for a fiber mapping project within the city. Given the presented proposal, the project needs to be reevaluated to ensure that it aligns with the city's existing plans and funding.

Chair McClellan stated that the assessments are scheduled to begin no earlier than the following March. She clarified that the assessment is optional, and it was discussed that the project should not interfere with the primary goal of completing the fiber ring. She highlighted that the MSAs present an opportunity for the authority to generate additional revenue. Mr. Nixon ensured that both he and Mr. Lyon have the capabilities to work multiple workstreams simultaneously.

Mr. Hayes asked for clarification on whether signing the MSAs would result in the SNA assuming ownership of the localities' infrastructure. Chair McClellan explained that the agreement is strictly for consulting purposes and to explore future opportunities. Mr. Hayes also pointed out that there is already an existing agreement involving the SNA and that the southside cities are included in the original arrangement. Chair McClellan emphasized that the MSAs do not authorize any construction; instead, they simply allow

the SNA to serve as a consultant to any entity as they evaluate potential future fiber build projects.

Mr. Hayes inquired about potential risks to the SNA associated with entering into an MSA. Mr. Lockaby responded that there is no risk to the SNA in having such an agreement. The MSA enables the SNA to issue task orders for conducting assessments of localities' fiber infrastructure, including both city-owned and other entities' fiber, to help them determine next steps. While Virginia Beach and Portsmouth have their own in-house expertise, other localities may rely on the SNA for these services. Mr. Lockaby emphasized that any actual obligations would require Board approval before proceeding. The current discussion is focused on establishing the contractual framework and issuing an RFP to hire a contractor for these services.

Mr. Hayes asked for the CAOs' perspective on the proposals. Mr. Nixon stated that Suffolk delegated this matter to Dr. Kiriakou and his team. He also met with representatives from Newport News and Hampton, noting that their signed proposals are expected to be submitted to the SNA soon. However, the MSAs and RFPs need to be approved by the SNA board first. Mr. Nixon emphasized that the CAOs have requested that this work be carried out, and each city has already allocated the necessary funds.

Mr. Hayes clarified that he was curious about the perspective of the CAOs of the SNA member cities. Chair McClellan responded that this topic had been addressed during the one-on-one meetings and, to her knowledge, no concerns had been raised. Mr. Fitzpatrick added that the direction of the CAOs regarding expansion of the fiber ring to the Peninsula was to wait until the project is completed. However, the assessments could be conducted simultaneously in anticipation of an expansion.

Ms. Ritter noted that the assessments represent voluntary due diligence by potential future partners and are an important step in the process that could lead to additional members joining the SNA. She highlighted that Newport News and Hampton have shown strong interest in becoming involved with the SNA, and noted that conducting these assessments is the most cost-effective approach.

Chair McClellan reiterated that there is no risk to the SNA in moving forward with the assessments and that they create opportunities for the future. Ms. Ritter added that participation is voluntary, and the entities requesting the assessment will cover the associated costs. Dr. Kiriakou confirmed and added that the assessments will generate revenue for the SNA.

Ms. Wilson inquired whether the approach would be handled on a case-by-case basis, but also pointed out that approving the measure could set expectations for future similar actions. Chair McClellan clarified that the MSA simply provides the authority to enter into contracts with interested entities. Mr. Lockaby added that the agreement does not make any promises; rather, it establishes the framework necessary to execute MSAs as needed.

Mr. Nixon asked for a motion to allow the SNA to enter into MSAs and to publish an RFP to secure an engineering firm to perform the services.

Ms. Ritter Moved to approve the MSA framework as presented and to publish the RFP; seconded by Dr. Kiriakou. The Motion Carried.

Closed Session

Chair McClellan asked Mr. Lockaby to provide the language for a motion to move into closed session.

A closed session, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Subsection A.29 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Code"), for the purposes of discussion of the award for a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews with bidders and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Authority, relating to infrastructure maintenance contracting.

A closed session, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Subsection A.1 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Code"), for the purposes of discussion or consideration by the Authority of personnel, including the terms of their contracts relating to the health insurance benefits for the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director.

Mr. Lockaby added as part of the motion that he, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Crum, Ms. Simone Elmore, legal and information technology counsel, and the Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), be permitted in the closed session.

Ms. Wilson Moved to proceed into closed session as stated by Mr. Lockaby; seconded by Ms. Ritter. The Motion Carried.

The Authority proceeded into closed session.

Return to Open Session

The SNA reconvened into open session. Chair McClellan asked Mr. Lockaby to read the following motion into the record:

Motion to return to open session and to certify, by a roll call vote, pursuant to section 2.2-3712 subsection D of the Code of Virginia, that to the best of each member of the Board's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session by the Board of Directors.

Ms. Wilson Moved to reconvene in open session as stated by Mr. Lockaby; seconded by Dr. Kiriakou.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Ritter	Yes
Chair McClellan	Yes
Mr. Hayes	Yes
Dr. Kiriakou	Yes
Ms. Wilson	Yes

The Motion Carried.

Items out of Closed Session

Chair McClellan asked for a motion to adjust the employment contracts for Mr. Nixon and Mr. Lyon to allow for a health insurance reimbursement rate on an annualized basis starting January for an estimated amount of \$10,300 for Mr. Nixon and \$8,600 for Mr. Lyon.

Dr. Kiriakou Moved to approve as stated by Chair McClellan; seconded by Ms. Ritter. The Motion Carried.

Old/New Business

Chair McClellan asked if there was any old or new business to discuss.

Mr. Noel Mitchell, Sparq Networks, updated the SNA on the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program (BEAD). The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) submitted its final federal proposal, which has been approved, allowing the BEAD program to continue.

Mr. Mitchell noted that he attended a workshop in Richmond focused on the pre-contract phase, including remaining stipulations and other required materials. The required shapefiles for last-mile infrastructure design have been submitted and are expected to be forwarded to the local PDCs for review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and historical reviews related to construction, easements, and infrastructure placement.

The review process is anticipated to conclude around June, after which construction for last-mile locations may begin. Mr. Mitchell noted that while the process has been lengthy, the BEAD program is continuing, and progress is being made.

Mr. Hayes inquired whether BEAD funding could be affected if the latest executive order concerning Artificial Intelligence (AI) is implemented. Mr. Mitchell responded that Sparq is required to comply with any regulations issued by the state.

Ms. Ritter asked about the locations that are intended to be served. Mr. Mitchell noted that there are about 200 locations in Newport News, Hampton, Williamsburg, and primarily on the Southside. He offered to provide a formal presentation with precise locations.

Chair McClellan requested clarification regarding the 200 locations, specifically asking whether these refer to individual end users or could include entire apartment buildings. Mr. Mitchell confirmed that the count could include apartments and explained that the assumption is

neighboring areas around a grant-funded recipient location are also likely to be underserved. While the funding is designated for the specific identified locations, once those areas are reached, additional services can be extended throughout the surrounding neighborhood.

Dr. Kiriakou added that this funding is tracked using addresses, and there should be a list for each city that shows what was funded and tracked.

Chair McClellan summarized that after establishing a connection to a BEAD-funded location, it will become significantly easier to connect other underserved sites situated along the same route. She recommended including a BEAD update as an agenda item for the January meeting.

Chair McClellan expressed gratitude to the members and staff for their ongoing participation and contributions to the SNA. She highlighted the fiber ring as a strong example of successful regional collaboration. As the year comes to an end, she noted that the authority is in a much better position than expected earlier in the year.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the SNA, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 PM.

Southside Network Authority (SNA) Project Updates

January 9th, 2026

Outline

- Timeline
- Production Dashboard
- Production Map
 - Conduit
 - Fiber
- Member Cities Update
- Questions

Timeline

January 2026-----June 2026

City of Portsmouth Completion March 2026

City of Chesapeake Completion February 2026

City of Norfolk Completion February 2026

City of Suffolk Completion February 2026

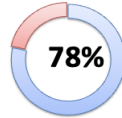
City of Virginia Beach Completion June 2026

Production Dashboard: Through December 2025

SOUTHSIDE NETWORK AUTHORITY (SNA) FIBER PROJECT DASHBOARD

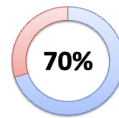
CONDUIT INSTALLED (FT)

465,593



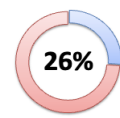
HANDHOLE/VAULTS INSTALLED

698



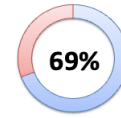
FIBER INSTALLED

146,374

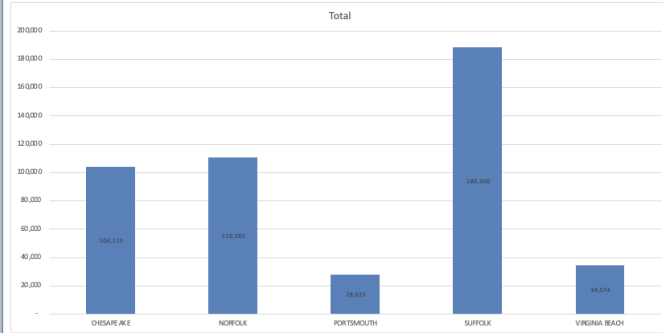


TRACER WIRE INSTALLED

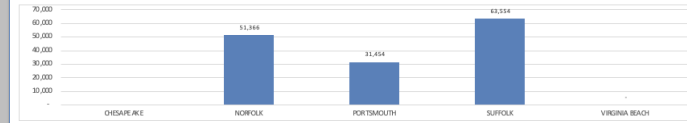
359,912



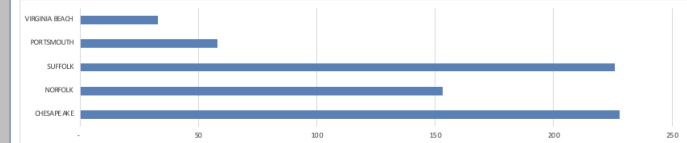
CONDUIT INSTALLED BY REGION



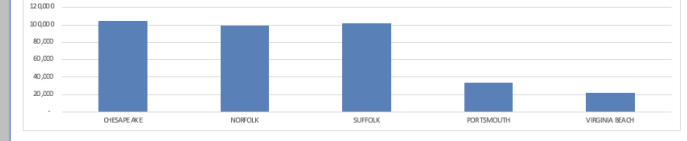
FIBER INSTALLED BY REGION



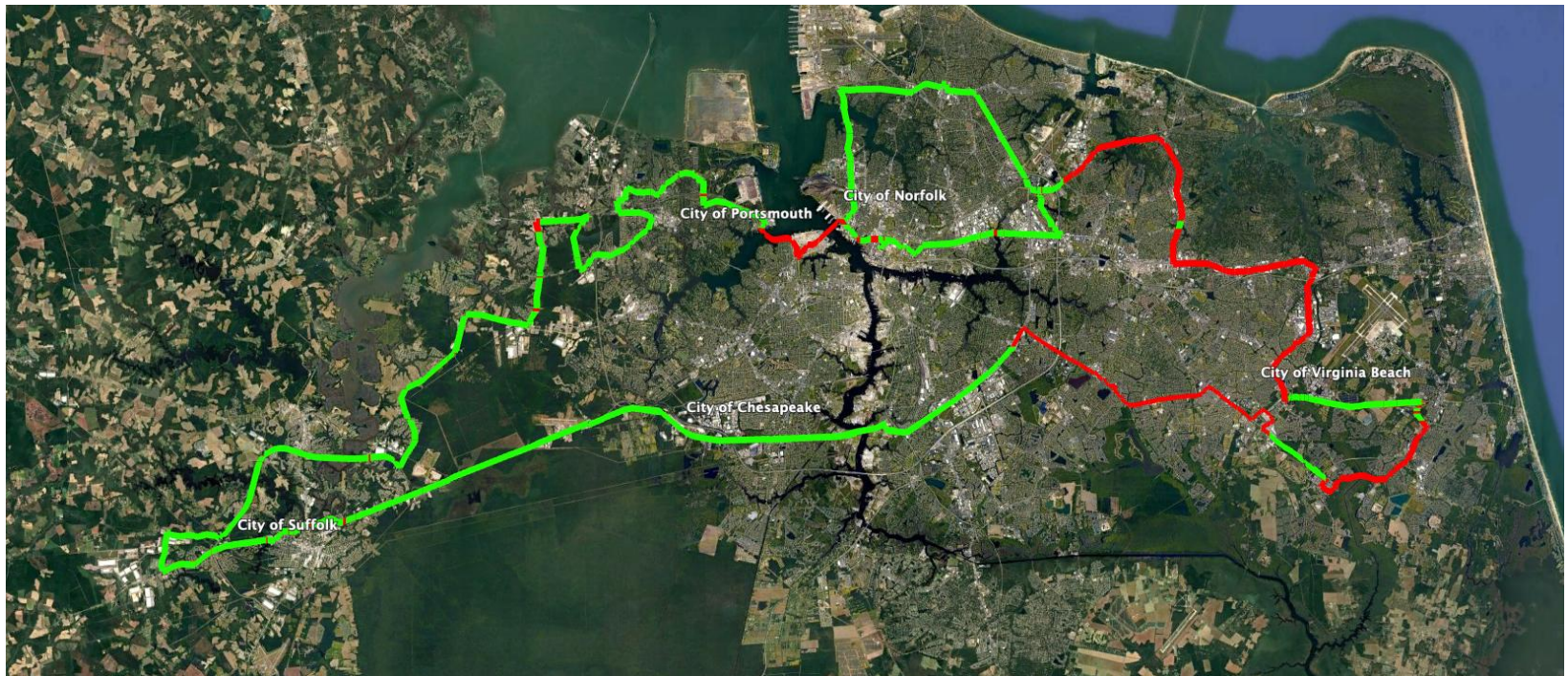
HANDHOLE/VAULTS INSTALLED BY REGION



TRACER WIRE INSTALLED BY REGION



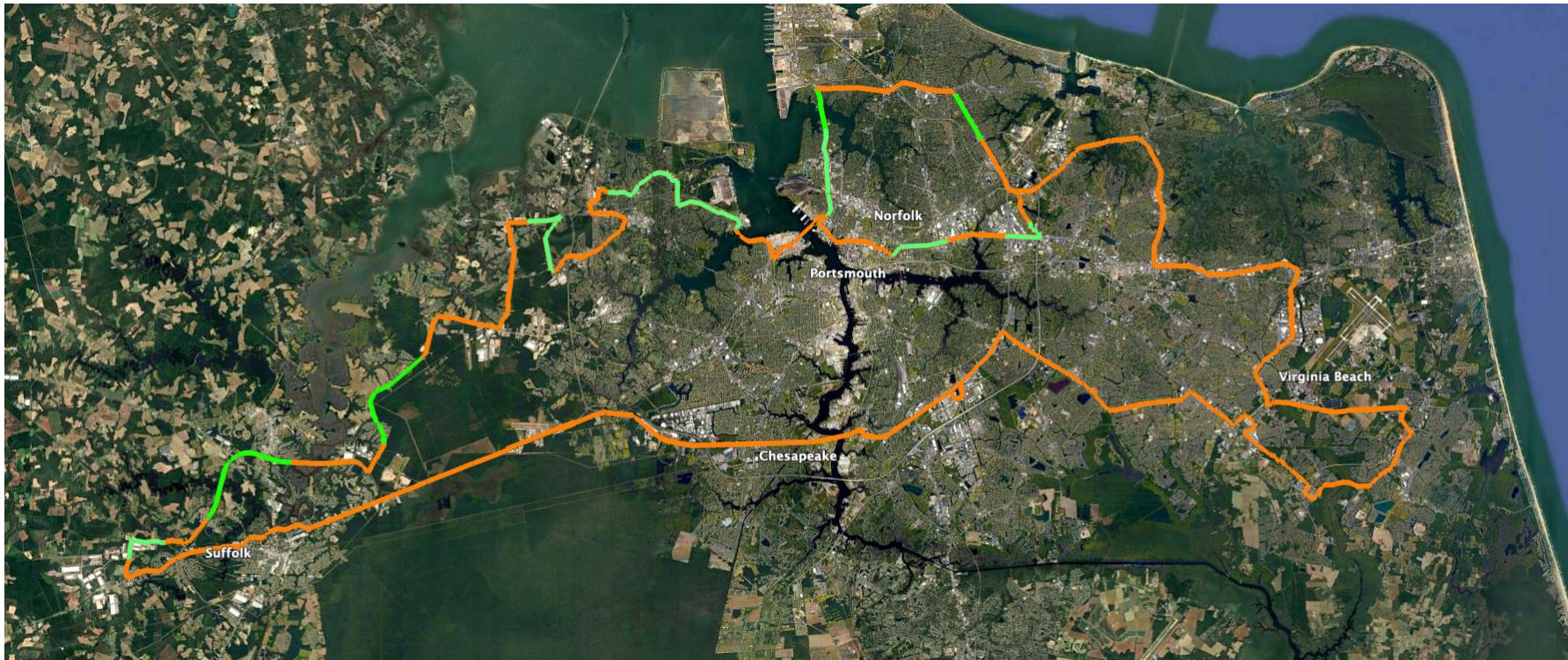
Production Map: Conduit – 465,593 ft



Complete 

Pending 

Production Map: Fiber – 146,374 ft

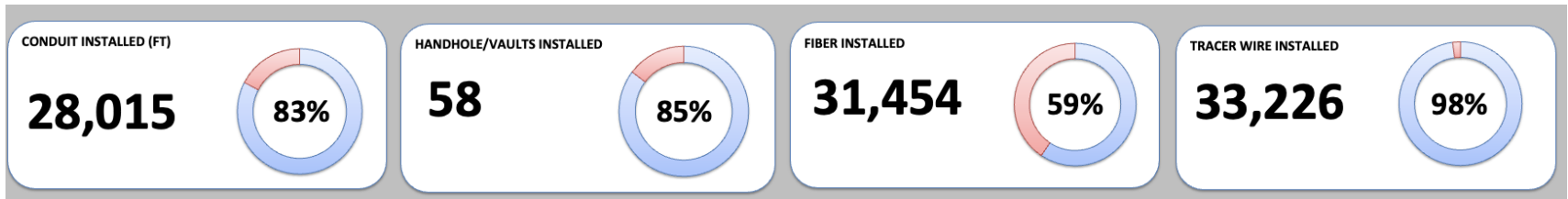


Complete 

Pending 

City of Portsmouth

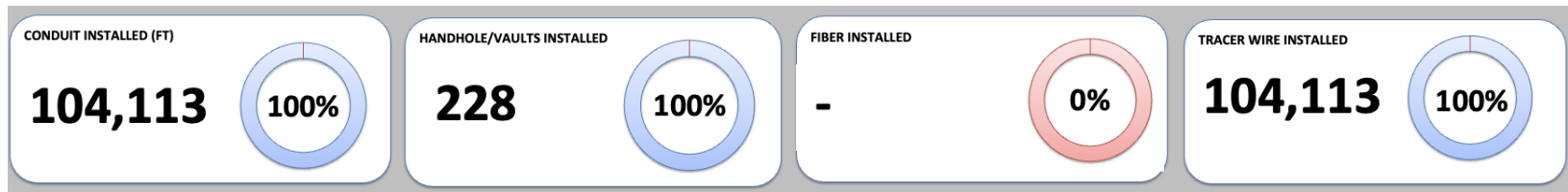
City of Portsmouth Completion March 2026



- **Mid-Town Tunnel – VDOT**
 - Under Central Office Review

City of Chesapeake

City of Chesapeake Completion February 2026

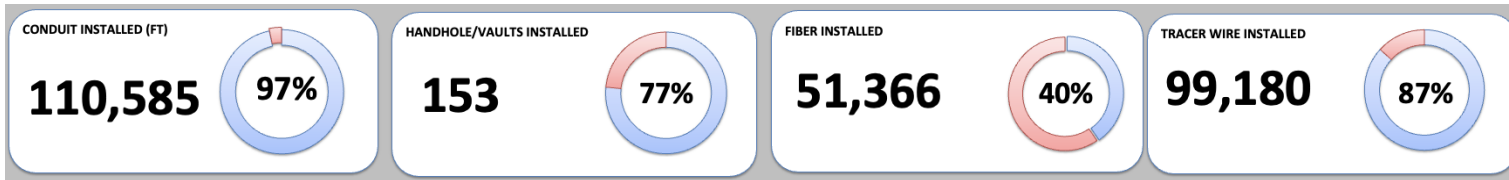


City Council of Chesapeake - January 26th, 2026

City of Norfolk



City of Norfolk Completion February 2026



Downtown Norfolk

- Courthouse/Granby Relo
 - Under construction
 - E. Virginia Beach Blvd, W. Brambleton Ave – January 12th, 2026

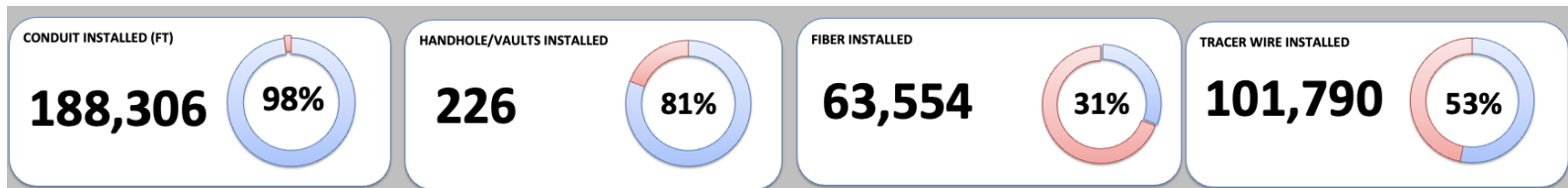
Railroads

- Buckingham Branch
 - January 12th, 2026

City of Suffolk



City of Suffolk Completion February 2026



Railroad

- Rail Pros
 - Indian Trail –completed on January 5th, 2026
- G&W
 - Bridge Attachment - Hwy58 & Wilroy Rd

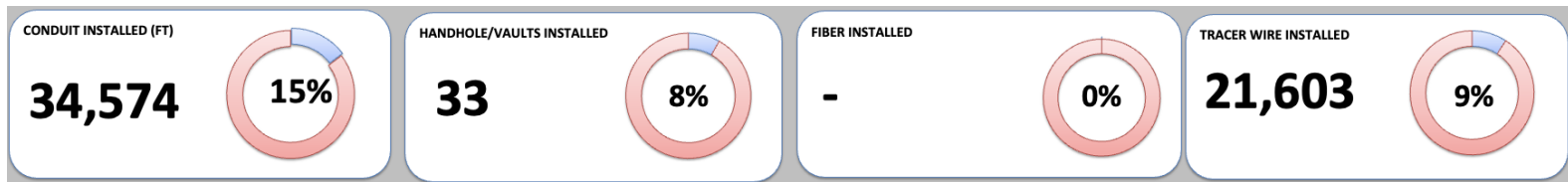
Bridges Rd Relo

- Aerial crossing pending

City of Virginia Beach



City of Virginia Beach June 2026



Permitting - Status Scorecard

Approved																															
Awaiting CVB Review																															
Pending Revision																															
</																															

City of Virginia Beach

City of Virginia Beach June 2026



Construction

- 3 Drill Crews in Virginia Beach
- Permit “Q”
 - Conduit – 9,238ft /10,863ft
 - HH – 4/13
- Permit “R”
 - Conduit – 1,010ft
- Cable Crews – Late January 2026



Construction Status Scorecard

[illegible]

