Montgomery County Broadband Technical Assistance Project

Public Launch

August 27, 2025

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Background
3. What the Project is and Why it Matters
4. Project Timeline
5. How You Can Participate
6. How to Stay Informed
7. Next Steps
8. Questions and Feedback

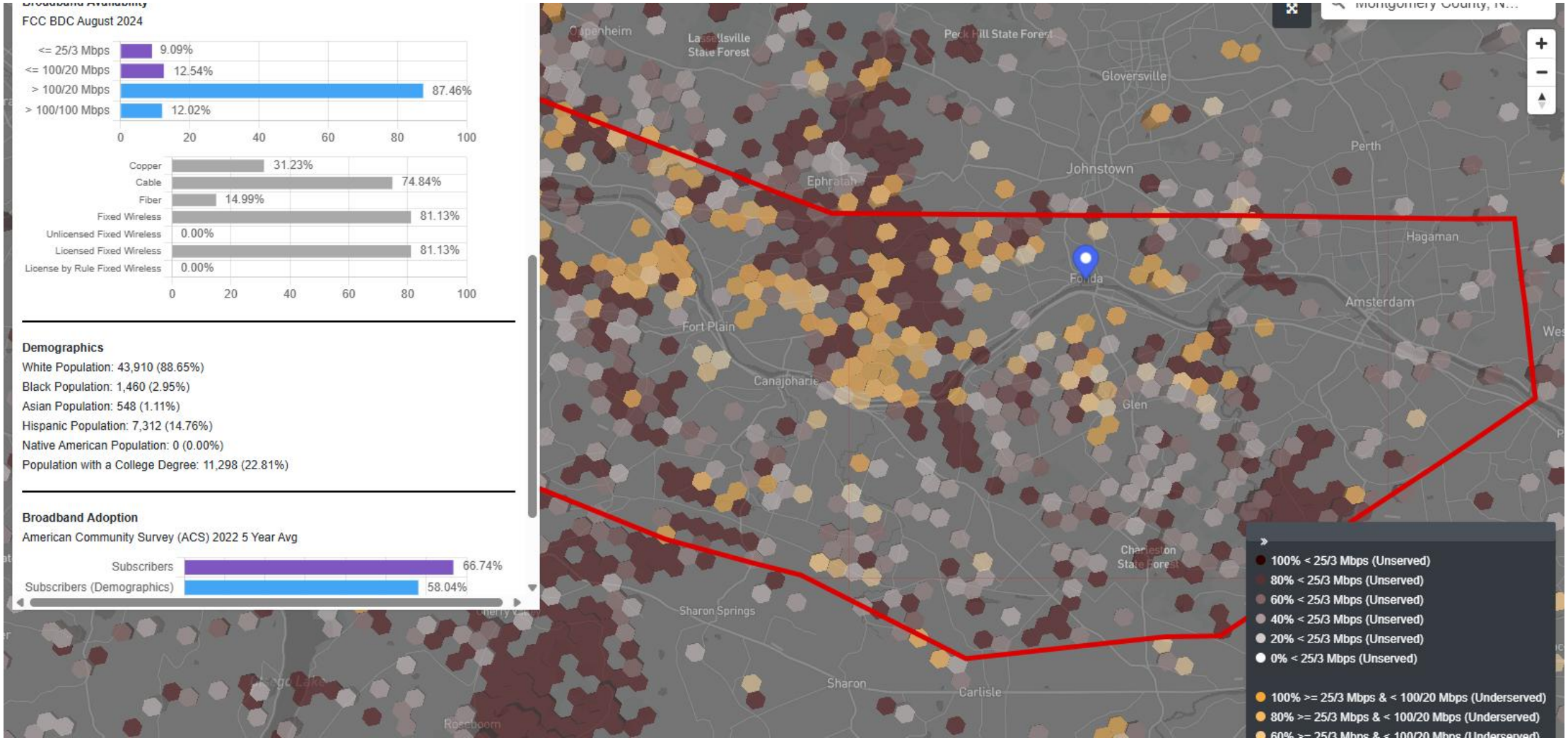
Montgomery County

- Awarded the Broadband Technical Assistance grant from the New York ConnectALL Regional and Local Assistance Program.
- Dedicated to closing the digital divide in Montgomery County, ensuring all residents can access and meaningfully use connectivity.

Vernonburg Group

- Contracted by Montgomery County to provide broadband technical assistance.
- Vernonburg Group envisions a world with meaningful internet connectivity for every person and community worldwide.
- We help governments, companies, and other organizations bring meaningful internet connectivity to communities around the world by developing strategies and supportive policy frameworks, forging partnerships, mobilizing capital, and providing actionable data-driven insights.

Internet Access in Montgomery County



Source: Vernonburg Group Digital Opportunity Map

What is the Project and Why Does It Matter

Montgomery County would like to enable the private broadband market to expand and thrive in Montgomery County so all residents can benefit from internet access.

- Secured funding and partnership from New York State ConnectAll program
- Contracted expert consultants from Vernonburg Group to help.
- Planning to utilize available public grants for incentivizing solutions to serving remote areas of the County.

The Broadband Technical Assistance Project

Objective: To conduct a feasibility study examining the cost effectiveness and viability of publicly-owned broadband infrastructure, open access networks, and other public-private partnerships for broadband deployment.

Activities:

- Community outreach to ensure responsiveness to residents' priorities
- Existing infrastructure inventory and market research
- Exploring models and network designs to address gaps
- Conducting a cost analysis and business plan
- Evaluating financing and funding availability

Intended Result: An actionable plan for a connectivity solution that ensures all Montgomery County residents can get high-speed, reliable internet.

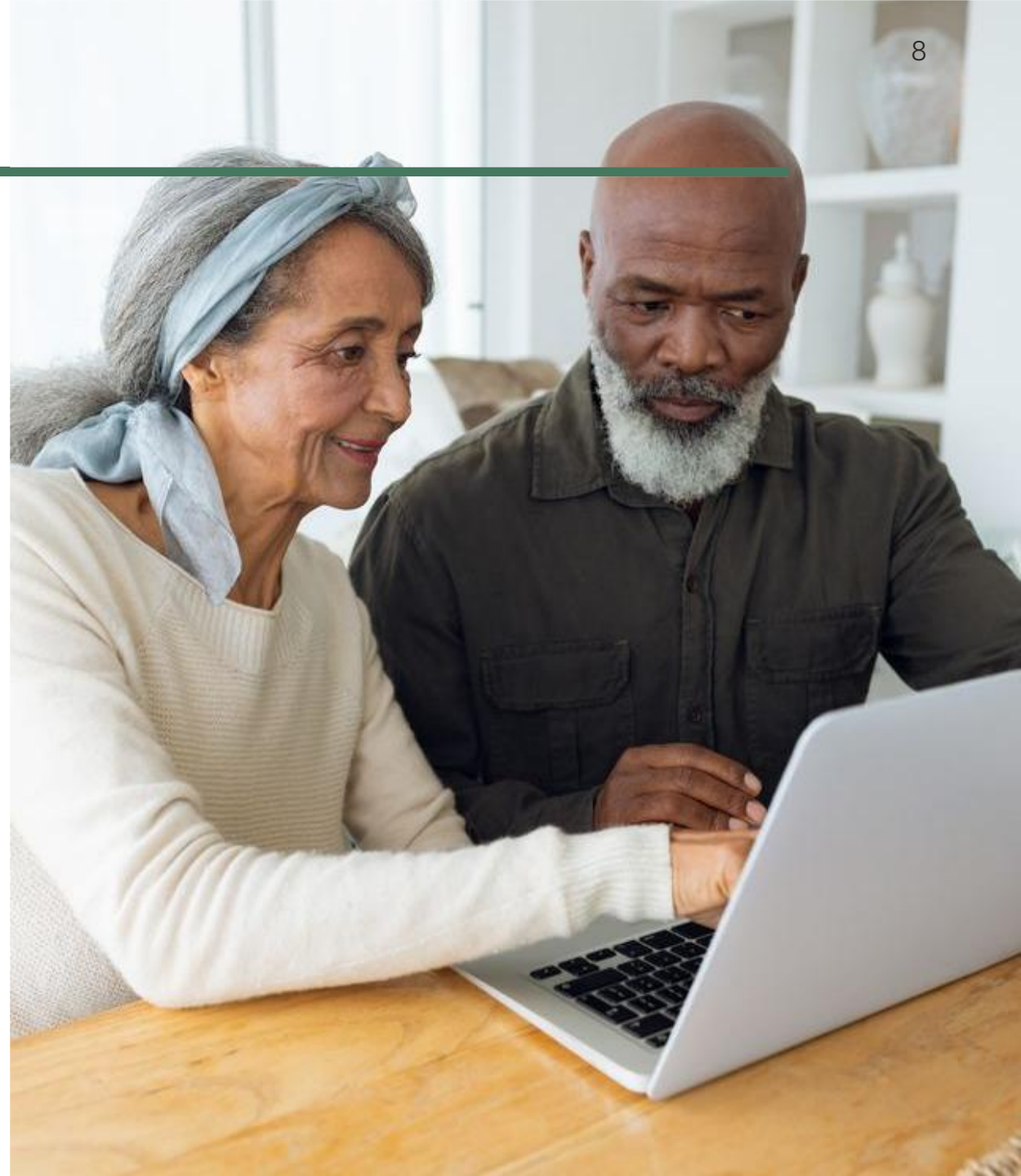
Project Timeline

Activity	Timing
Project initiation and stakeholder engagement	August
Community outreach and infrastructure inventory	September - October
Network design and model evaluation	November - December
Cost modeling and financial planning	January - February
Funding strategy and final reporting	March

We Want to Hear From You

Your perspective is essential. We are setting up several ways for you to participate in this process.

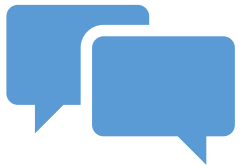
We want to hear from you about whether you have the connectivity you want and what barriers you face in meaningfully using the internet.



Ways to Participate

Public Survey

Focus Groups and Interviews



Public Meetings and Town Halls

MONTGOMERY COUNTY NY
Made of Something Stronger

Stay Informed

https://montgomerycountyworks.com/planning-services/

Get In Touch

- Montgomery County Contact: akuttesch@co.montgomery.ny.us
- Vernonburg Group Contact: nicholus@vernonburggroup.com

Open Discussion

We welcome your questions about the project, as well as your suggestions and feedback.

We'd like to hear your perspective.

1) What challenges or barriers do you or your community face in getting or using the internet?

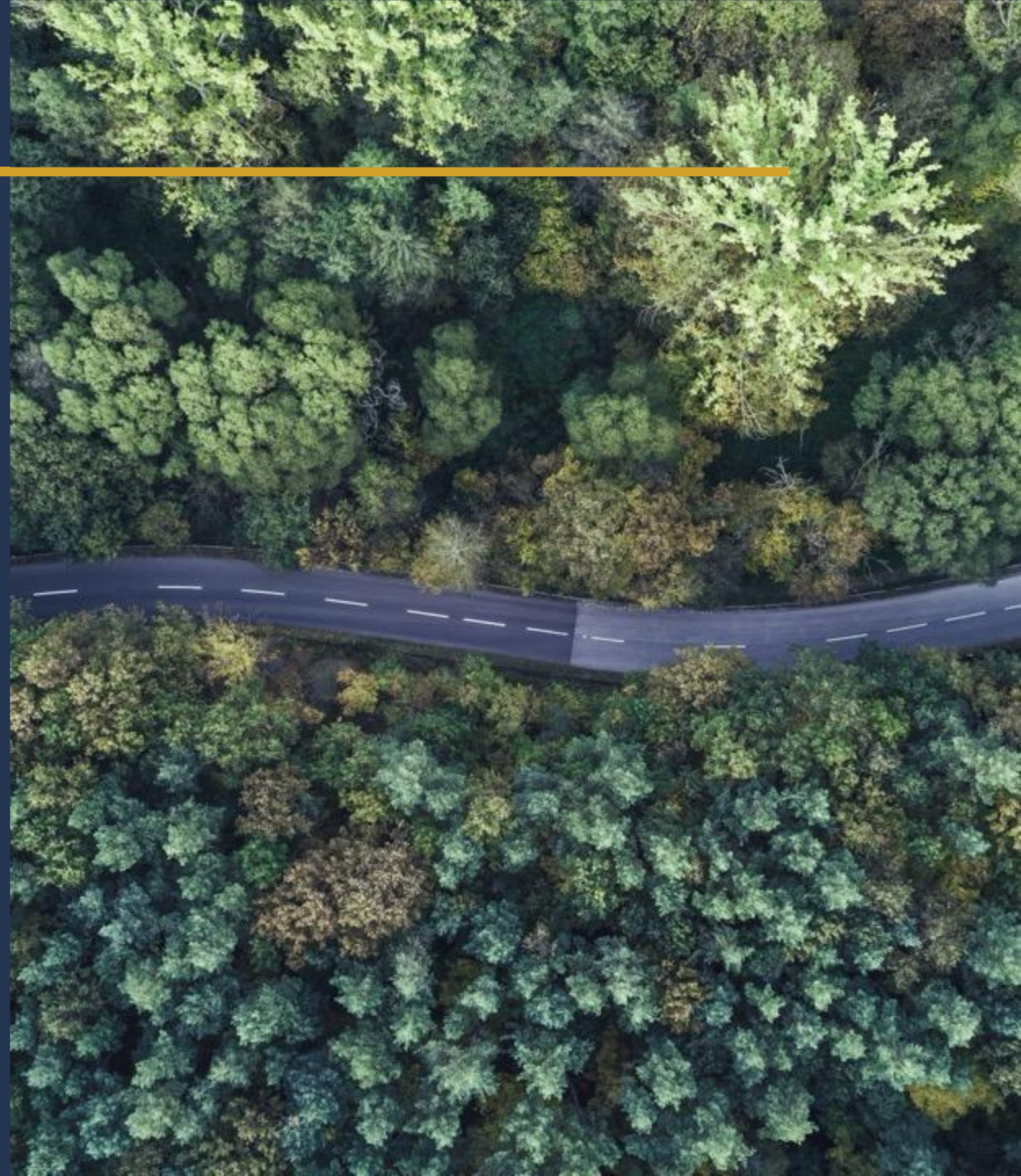
2) In what ways has internet access helped you—at home, at work, or in daily life?

3) As the County works to expand internet access, what should we keep in mind to make sure it meets community needs?

4) What questions or concerns do you have about this effort?

5) How would you like to stay updated or be involved going forward?

6) Is there anything else you'd like to share?



Thank You

Survey: