



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Botetourt County Telecommunications Survey
– All Residents and Local Businesses Encouraged to Participate -**

Botetourt County, VA – December 4, 2017 – Botetourt County wants to better understand the state of mobile phone and internet access across the county.

County officials in partnership with the Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce, have teamed up with the Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority to survey Botetourt County residents and local business owners about their telecommunications needs and available service options.

All residents and local businesses are encouraged to participate.

“We’ve heard concerns about a lack of broadband service and mobile phone coverage in certain parts of the county. With wide participation in these surveys, we hope to better determine the true size and criticality of the problem and to use this information to consider and evaluate solutions that can provide immediate value for our citizens,” Kenneth McFadyen, Director of Economic Development for Botetourt County said.

Business owners and residents across the county have been sent letters requesting their participation. The surveys are now live.

Interested parties may take the appropriate survey:

- Online from any internet-connected phone, tablet, or computer
 - Business Owners may go to: <http://bit.ly/2AUTphS>
 - Residents may go to: <http://bit.ly/2AM506V>
- Via telephone with the assistance of a live operator between the hours of 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday, by calling 540-404-8152
- At any one of the four Botetourt County Libraries:
 - Blue Ridge Library: 28 Avery Row, Roanoke, VA 24012
 - Buchanan Library: 19795 Main Street, Buchanan, VA 24066
 - Eagle Rock Library: 55 Eagles Nest Drive, Eagle Rock, VA 24085
 - Fincastle Library: 11 Academy Street, Fincastle, VA 24090

All surveys must be completed by midnight Friday, December 22nd.

Results of the study will be made public in Spring 2018.

Botetourt County Department of Economic Development

The Department of Economic Development serves as the central point of contact for business attraction and retention in Botetourt County. This department works with County Administration, the Department of Community Development, the Department of General Services, major utilities, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the Roanoke Regional Partnership in order to ensure that starting, locating, and sustaining a business in Botetourt County is as smooth of a process as possible. The Department maintains a list of helpful economic development resources which may be accessed at www.botetourtva.gov/econdevelopment.

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