

USDA to Host Broadband e-Connectivity Pilot Program Planning Workshop



e-Connectivity Pilot Program

- The program will provide financial assistance to allow broadband service to be available to rural communities that currently do not have service. The e-Connectivity Pilot plans to expedite loans and grants for the costs of construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in eligible rural areas.
- This informational workshop is being offered to educate applicants on how to properly plan a project with the greatest potential for receiving financial assistance from the federal government.

Who should attend?

- Internet Service Providers
- Economic Development Authorities
- County Commissions
- Regional Planning and Development Councils
- Those interested in submitting public comment while the pilot program is still in the planning stage
- Anyone interested in improving access to e-Connectivity in their community

Date and Location of the Workshop

Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. West Virginia High Technology Foundation - Robert H. Mollohan Research Center Auditorium 1000 Galliher Drive, Fairmont, WV 26554.

Please RSVP to <u>Steve.Collins@wv.usda.gov</u> or call (304) 284-4885 by August 17, 2018

The USDA is pleased to partner with the West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council for this event.



Directions to the Robert H. Mollohan Research Center 1000 Galliher Drive, Fairmont WV

From the East: Take I-68 to I-79 South, then follow the directions below.

From the North:

- Take I-79 South to Exit 132 South Fairmont
- Make a left turn at the stoplight onto Rte. 250 South
- Turn right onto NASA Boulevard at the next light (in front of Dan Cava Toyota)
- Turn right onto Galliher Drive and take immediate right to driveway leading to parking garage (bear left at the "Y")
- Visitor parking is available on ground floor level P1, P2 & P3. It is recommended that large SUV's & trucks park on P1.
- Take elevator located in the middle section of garage to the Plaza level (*P) main entrance
- Exit through the parking garage to the right at the opposite side (West end)

From the West: Take Rte. 50 West to I-79 North, then follow the directions below.

From the South:

- Take I-79 North to Exit 132 South Fairmont
- Make a left turn at the stoplight onto Rte. 250 North
- Turn left onto NASA Boulevard at the next light (in front of Dan Cava Toyota)
- Turn right onto Galliher Drive and take immediate right to driveway leading to parking garage (bear left at the "Y")
- Visitor parking is available on ground floor level P1, P2 & P3. It is recommended that large SUV's & trucks park on P1.
- Take elevator located in the middle section of garage to the Plaza level (*P) main entrance
- Exit through the parking garage to the right at the opposite side (West end)

