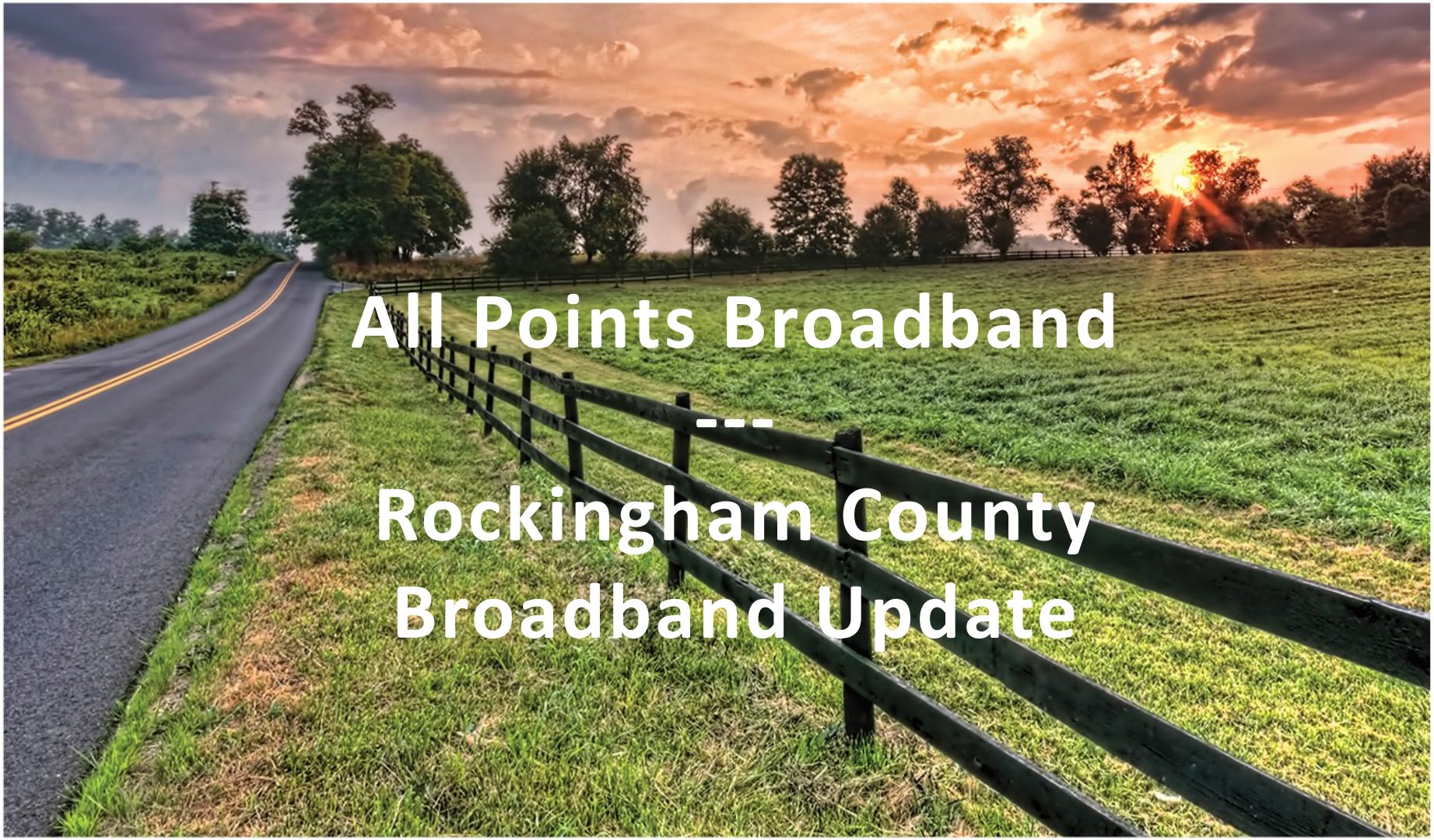

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Rockingham County Broadband Update

May 28, 2025

Regional Project Overall Status

- DHCD has approved BEAD / risk mitigation plan presented in September with timeline extension to June 2026

- Approved risk mitigation plan reduces poles requiring attachment to less than 20,000 across regional project
  - Approximately 3,900 poles in Rockingham County
  - Ongoing collaboration with Dominion and SVEC on make-ready process

- Dominion middle mile construction on schedule and will provide connectivity between Augusta and Rockingham

- Strong support & collaboration with multiple VDOT residencies to maximize APB's $40M VDOT bond capacity

- On schedule for construction activities in Rockingham
  - Initial network activation expected in Q3 2025

- BEAD progressing on schedule in Virginia until further notice

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Collaboration With VDOT

- Shifting last-mile fiber from aerial to underground requires significant coordination with and approval by VDOT residency

- Strong support & collaboration with multiple VDOT residencies
  - APB maintains $40M state-wide bond capacity

- Last-mile fiber construction kick off meeting 5/27
  - All of ROCK-7 permits submitted and construction drawings finalized
  - Countywide aerial permit approved
  - Initial 14 miles of land use permits approved
  - Last-mile fiber construction beginning this week

- Right of way restoration to be completed in batches or by permitted area; individual homeowner issues or concerns should go to APB

- APB starting with 6 crews; requesting to ramp up to ~18 crews
  - Increasing crew count will require VDOT approval based on performance

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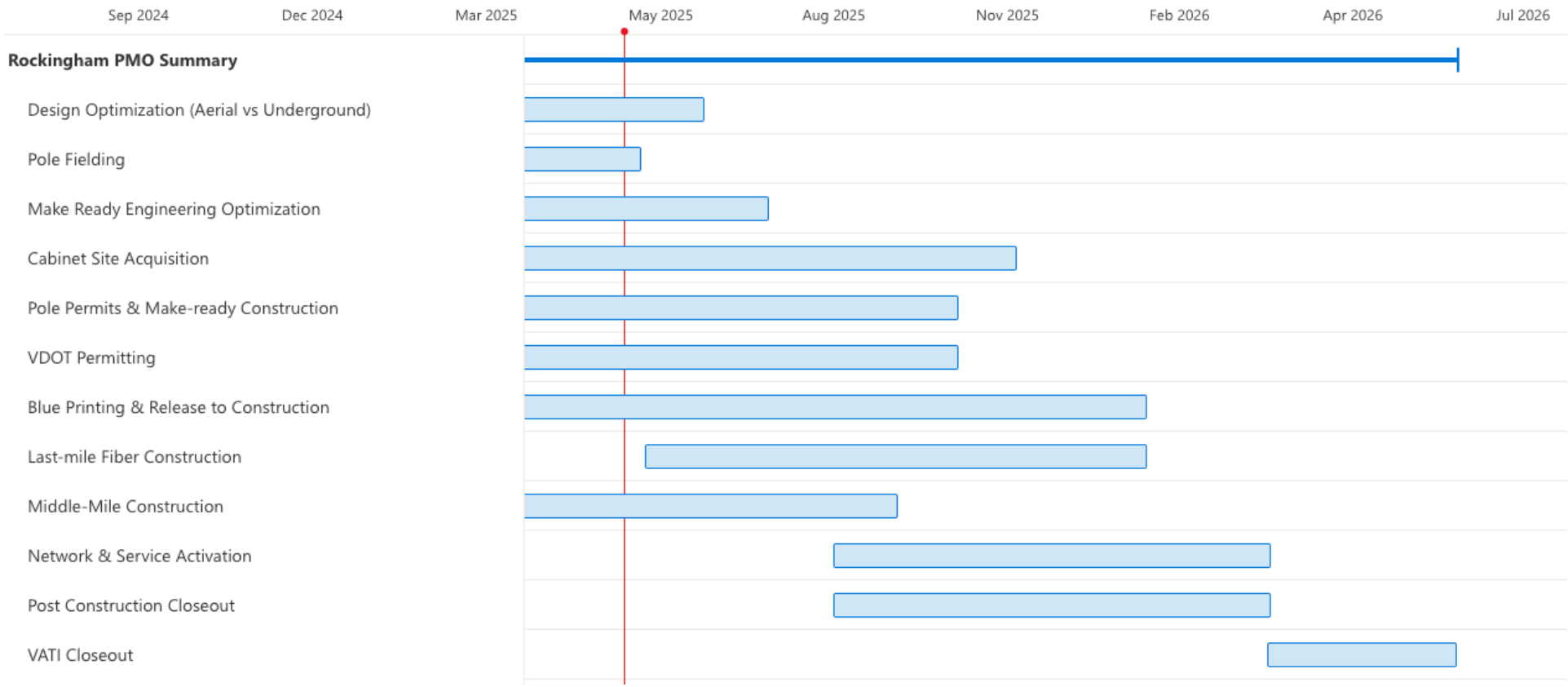
Project Schedule Summary



- ROCK-7 Cabinet under construction; last-mile fiber construction pending approval
- Dominion middle-mile fiber: 7 miles constructed, 67 miles under construction, 14 miles in permitting, 45 miles in final design
- Marketing communications expected late July for ROCK-7, indicating service expected to be available within 60 days.
- Overall schedule caveats: final make-ready construction, excessive hard rock, crew ramp approval by VDOT

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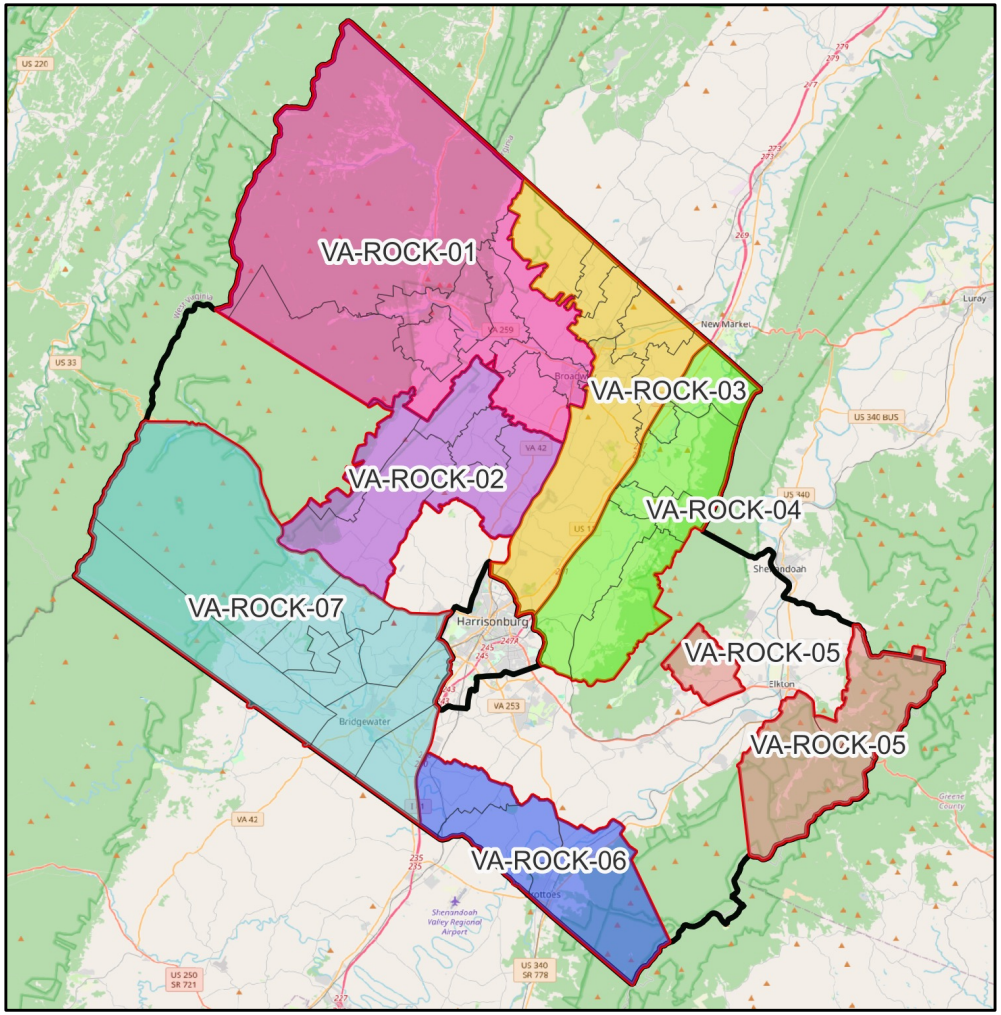
Fiber Service Area (FSA) Layout



- Service activation beginning in September 2025 with service available to locations on a rolling basis through March 2026 by Fiber Service Area / Fiber Distribution Area
- Preregister at APBfiber.com for notifications in advance of service

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FDA Cabinet to Customer Location

- Green FSA cabinet connects to customer interconnection points, referred to as terminals or MST, that can serve up to 8 locations
- Last-mile network ends at the MST
- Service locations and estimated drop path are predetermined but not finalized until customer subscribes to service.

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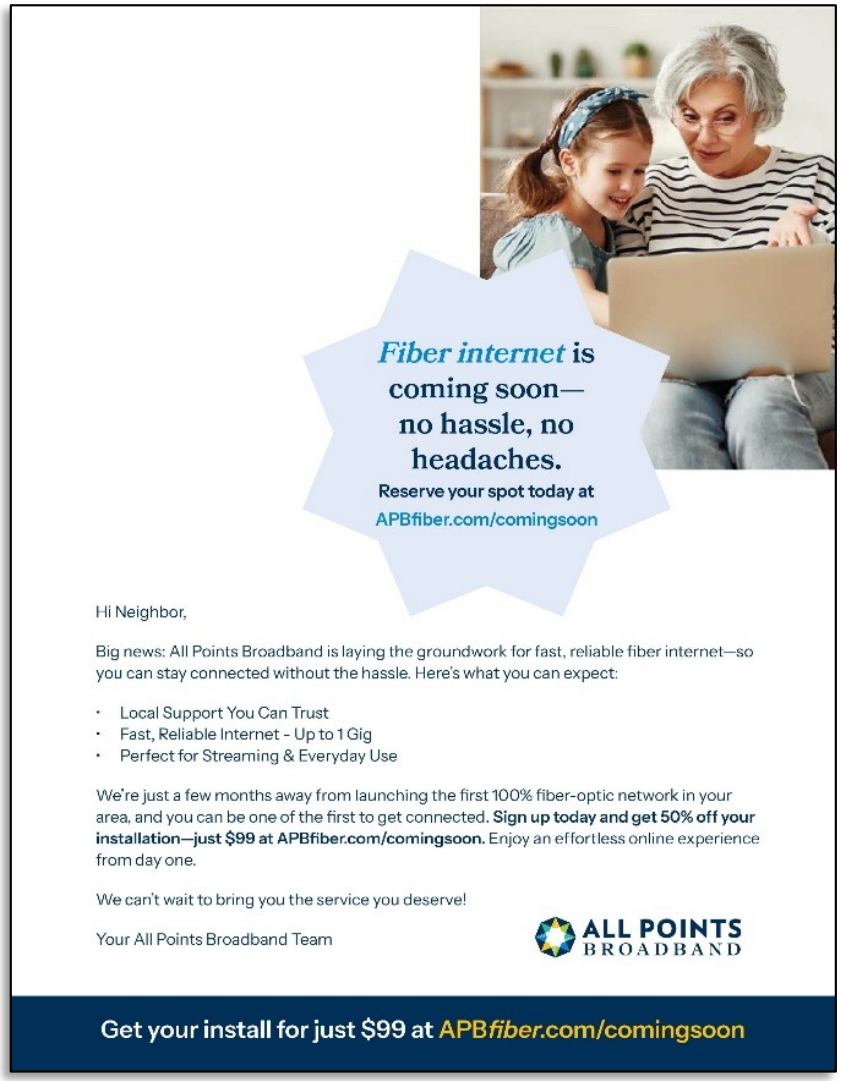
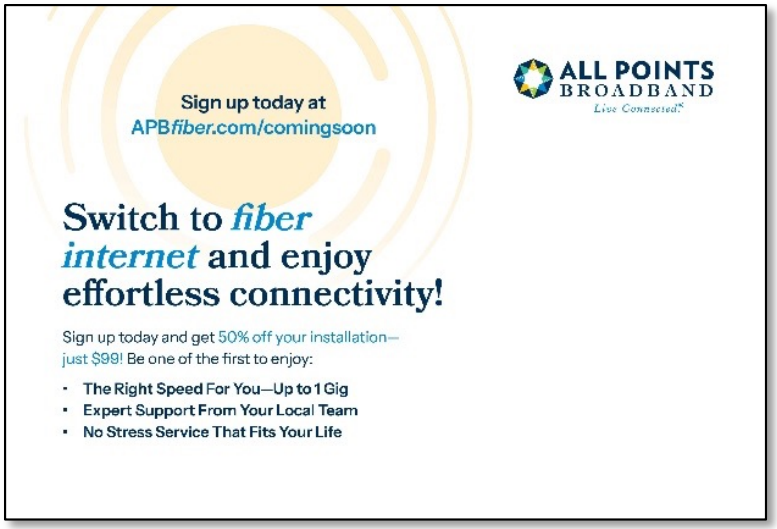
Pre-Launch Marketing Example





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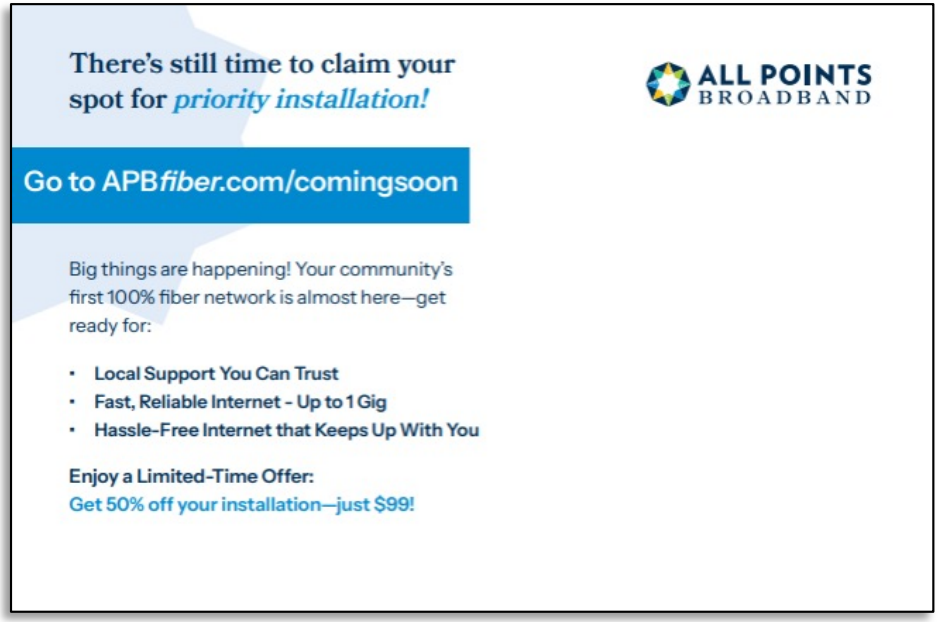
Pre-Launch Marketing Example



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Overview of Virginia's Implementation of BEAD (Infrastructure Act)

- Virginia has been allocated $1.48 billion in federal BEAD funds to serve ~130,000 BEAD-eligible locations
- Virginia's BEAD program applications were due March 1st
- Application results are expected to be made public in late June or July
- BEAD-eligible list as of Mar 1st application deadline cannot be expanded; however, DHCD will continue efforts to close digital divide, so accurate mapping data remains critical

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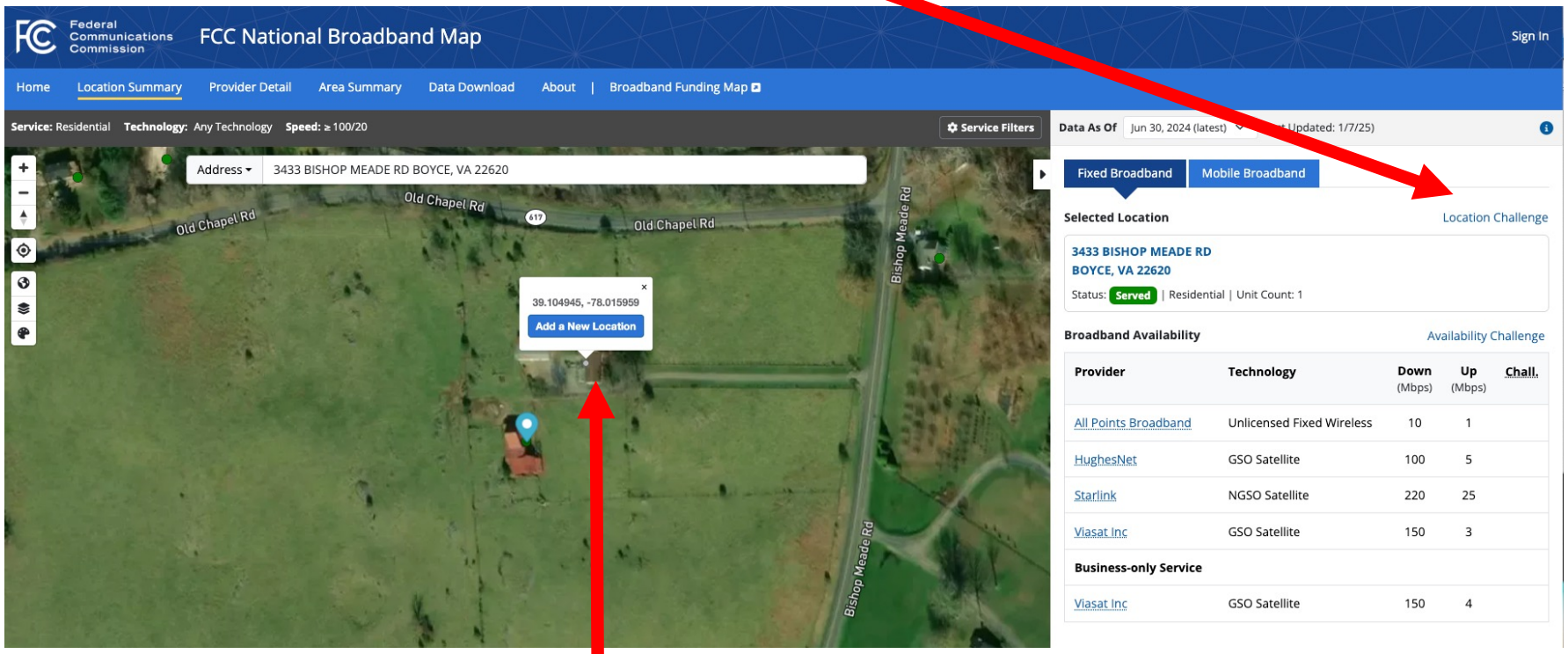
Adding or Modifying Locations through the National Broadband Map (https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/)

Modify: Click on map icon for your location to begin "Location Challenge" process



Add: Navigate to your location and click on screen above building to begin "Add a New Location" process

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Thank You