

SMYTH COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRESS RELEASE

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INTERNET CONNECTIONS WILL ARRIVE IN PARTS OF SUGAR GROVE AND RICH VALLEY, VIRGINIA

SmythNet Towers will bring internet to 500 homes

Smyth County, Virginia — Internet speeds of up to 25/3 mbps will soon be available with the expansion of SmytNet services and the new construction and installation of three additional towers across parts of Sugar Grove, Little Brushy Mountain, Rich Valley and Nebo in Smyth County, Virginia. Smyth County Economic Development Authority (EDA) has authorized a grant to the company for the cost of this expansion. Mr. Michael Perdue, owner of SmythNet, understood the need for services in the area and requested assistance from the County.

“The Smyth County Economic Development Authority realizes the importance of access to broadband internet service for businesses, individuals and families,” **said EDA Chairman, John McLean**. “The internet has become integral to almost all activities and is a key component to economic growth. During the current coronavirus pandemic, the importance of internet access is magnified as so many must work and study from home. We are pleased to provide funding to SmythNet to expand its wireless broadband service to additional remote areas of the county. This step is part of a continuing effort by the EDA to support broadband expansion for underserved communities.”

“We want to thank the Economic Development Authority and Kendra Hayden whose coordination and hard work made this grant possible to expand and provide wireless Broadband Internet services to underserved and unserved areas within Smyth County,” **said Perdue**. We would also like to thank the many friends and citizens that have worked with this company to provide tower locations and support for this county. Our most recent expansion to South Fork introduced new service to the area and we will bring Sugar Grove, Nebo and other locations online as quickly as possible ensuring more citizens will have internet connection for business, educational opportunities and more. We look forward to providing Internet services for our new customers and extend a thank you to all our current customers, we appreciate all of you.”

For any questions related to Broadband expansion in Smyth County, contact Kendra Hayden, Economic Development Assistant by phone at 276-783-3298 or by email at khayden@smythcounty.org

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