



**RESOLUTION TITLE: GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT APPLICATION TO NORTH  
CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DIVISION OF BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY GREAT  
GRANT AND CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS TO EXPAND  
BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE TO UNSERVED AREAS OF  
GASTON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, High-Speed internet is critical for the residents and businesses in Gaston County to learn, work, and achieve in the classroom, expand businesses, attract new industry, improve the health, safety and well-being for all in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Information Technology ("NCDIT") Division of Broadband and Digital Equity Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology ("GREAT") Grant program provides funding for capital investments to facilitate the deployment of broadband service to unserved areas of North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, three areas of northern Gaston County, consisting of 178 specific location addresses have been identified as unserved areas of the County and chosen as the best candidates to be awarded the Great Grant application process; and,

WHEREAS, Charter Communications has expressed a desire to partner with the County and submit an application for GREAT grant funding on behalf of the community to connect unserved portions of the County, to take advantage of \$350 million in the GREAT grant program funded by State of North Carolina ARPA funds; and,

WHEREAS, the County is willing to support Charter Communications as they submit a competitive grant application by May 4, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal seeks to expand broadband and high-speed fiber connections to 178 unserved County addresses with the capability of download/upload speeds of 100/100 Mbps by December 2026; and,

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	AFraley	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	TPhilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2022-107	04/26/2022	TP	TK	A	AB	A	AB	A	A	A	U

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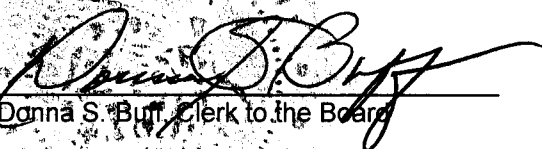
GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT APPLICATION TO NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION OF BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY GREAT GRANT  
AND CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS TO EXPAND BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE TO UNSERVED  
AREAS OF GASTON COUNTY  
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WHEREAS, upon application approval from NCDIT, the County through its allotment of ARPA funds, in an amount not to exceed \$65,500, will join Charter Communications in sharing the required matching funds, to support and leverage the amount awarded through the GREAT Grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby declares support for the County's and Charter Communication's application for the NCDIT's GREAT Grant application.

  
Chad Brown, Chairman

ATTEST

  
Donna S. Burr, Clerk to the Board

# NC GREAT - Gaston County

Provided by Charter Communications





# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## County Manager

## Board Action

File #: 22-170

Commissioners Brown and Fraley - County Manager - Resolution in Support of a Charter Communications Application to North Carolina Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Grant Program and Charter Communications Desire to Expand Broadband Infrastructure to Unserved Areas of Gaston County

### STAFF CONTACT

Matthew Rhoten, Deputy County Manager

### BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

### BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

### BACKGROUND

Access to broadband and high-speed internet are critical infrastructure investments that will drive the growth of communities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is a critical need for both residents and businesses in our community to assist with students' ability to learn at school and home, to expand job opportunities and attract new businesses to Gaston County, and to improve the health, safety and general welfare of the community. The North Carolina Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity recently announced \$350 million in grant funding for Tier 1 and 2 counties called the Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT).

Charter Communications has indicated a desire to submit a GREAT grant application by May 4, 2022. If approved, the grant will allow 178 additional resident and business addresses access to the Spectrum Fiber lines in three areas that are currently unserved by high-speed broadband service. To improve the competitiveness of their application, Charter has requested to partner with Gaston County in an effort to leverage up to 85% of the total project cost. As required by the grant guidelines, both Charter Communications and Gaston County will share in contributing the required matching funds if selected for a grant award. Approval of this Board Action and attached Resolution affirms the County's support of the Charter Communication application to the GREAT Grant program and a contribution toward the required local matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$65,500 using eligible ARPA funds for its portion of the local match.

### POLICY IMPACT

N/A

### ATTACHMENTS

Resolution and Project Map

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