



West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council Launches Internet Speed Test

Speed Test Portal Created to Improve Broadband Service Throughout West Virginia

FOR RELEASE: Oct. 25, 2017

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council (Broadband Council) seeks public participation in a new initiative as part of its mission to provide affordable and accessible broadband service throughout the state.

The Broadband Council has created a Speed Test Portal which allows state residents to accurately measure their internet speed. The speed test will provide the data needed to generate a statewide broadband coverage map which will accurately identify the presence and level of broadband service in the state.

“In order to diversify the Mountain State’s economy, affordable and accessible broadband service must be available to all West Virginians,” Secretary of Commerce Woody Thrasher said. “This is a crucial next step that will allow for continued economic growth and advancement in rural areas of the Mountain State.”

“This speed test is safe and secure and available to residents who have internet service at their home, business or at a public facility. The more public input we receive, the more accurately we can assess the availability of broadband service throughout the state. With this information, the Broadband Council will work with local governments to help bring affordable broadband service to underserved and unserved areas of the state,” said Council Chairman Robert Hinton. “Internet users can access this speed test at the Broadband Council website and it only takes a few minutes to complete the test.”

The speed test is located at <https://broadband.wv.gov>. The speed test is independently administered through an internet speed testing and analysis company.

The Broadband Council was created in 2016 to provide for and oversee the development of plans, processes and procedures for extending broadband access throughout West Virginia. In 2017, the West Virginia Legislature passed House Bill 3093, and Governor Justice signed into law which set forth additional duties and responsibilities for the Council to advance its purpose.

H. Wood Thrasher, *Cabinet Secretary* Robert Hinton, *Chairman*

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