

May 23, 2018

We are here today to talk about the Duanesburg Broadband Initiative.

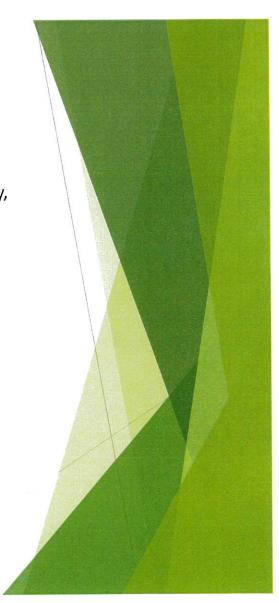
The Town of Duanesburg is a great community. It's a little gem.

We have a rural lifestyle with decent schools in easy commuting distance to Schenectady, Albany and Troy.

In order to continue to attract young families and professionals, maintain our property values, assure a good 21^{st} century education for our kids and healthcare for us all, we need broadband to every home in Town.

In his 2016 State of the State address Governor Cuomo promised broadband for all New Yorkers by the end of 2018.

An admirable goal.



Current Status

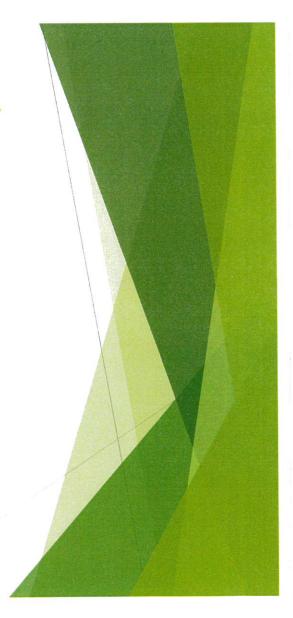
As of May 2018 the Town of Duanesburg has approximately 2000 residences. Over ¼ of them, approximately 600, have no access to a high speed internet connection.



Governor Cuomo promised broadband for all New Yorkers by the end of 2018

Broadband Program Office (BPO)





Broadband for all was to be accomplished through Broadband Program Office matching grants in 3 Phases.

In January 2018 the Governor announced the last of New York's \$500 million Phase 3 awards and JOB DONE.

The job is not done.



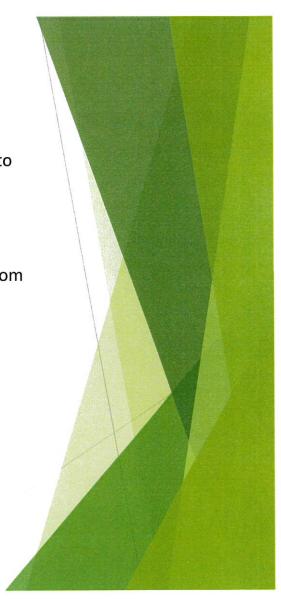
What the State has Delivered

- ▶ Under BPO Phases 2 and 3 matching grants have been awarded for 371 locations in the Town of Duanesburg
- ▶ BPO grant recipients now can choose whether or not to extend lines to residences within the grant award areas
- Some residences are to be served by HughesNet which is not actually broadband



It is our understanding, that companies awarded under phase 2 and 3 are not required to provide service to every residence in the award areas. They can pick and choose.

HughesNet has speed limitations/throttling and monthly data caps, 30 gigabytes per month or less, well below what is needed by the average family of four. The average family of four uses 250 gigabytes per month. Those who do a lot of gaming or work from home for high tech companies use more like 500 gigabytes per month.



Duanesburg Phase 2 & 3 Award Breakdown

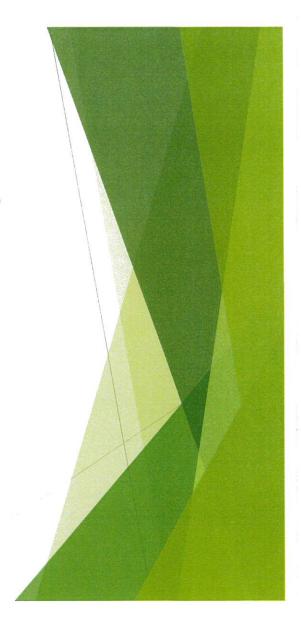
DUANESBURG (TOWN)

State Grant	Total Investment	Locations Addressed	Awardee(s)
\$1,760,192	\$2,665,918	264	Verizon Communications
\$300,683	\$375,854	43	Pattersonville Telephone Company
\$12,915	\$24,029	63	Hughes Network Systems, LLC
\$3,246	\$4,078	1	Hudson Valley Wireless
\$2,077,036	\$3,069,879	371	Total

https://broadbandmap.ny.gov/all-phases-municipality?field_counties_tid=166

This chart from the BPO website shows total locations addressed in Duanesburg. Under the best of circumstances:

Out of 594 unserved homes in Duanesburg, if all homes received service from the BPO initiative - which is unlikely - and if you think HughesNet is broadband, that still leaves 223 homes unserved in Duanesburg.



Governor Cuomo promised broadband for all New Yorkers by the end of 2018

The Charter/Time Warner merger order required Charter to serve an additional 145,000 locations in their franchise footprint statewide.

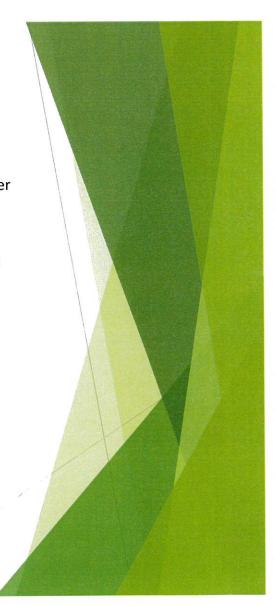
We don't know whether any locations in Duanesburg will benefit from this requirement.



The Governor's promise assumed buildout by Charter Communications/Spectrum to 145,000 additional locations statewide in its Franchise footprint under the NY Public Service Commission order allowing the merger with Time Warner.

Charter recently argued that the order allowing their merger assumed they can build out densely populated areas as well as rural areas. There is no guarantee that any residences within the town of Duanesburg will receive line extension under the merger order. Charter's buildout plans are a black box.

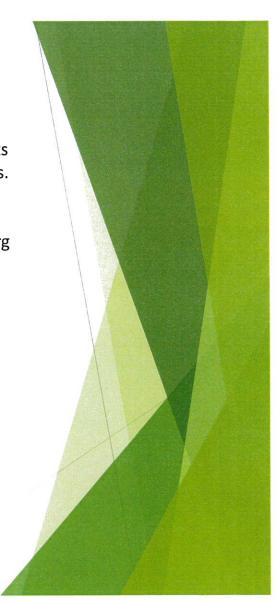
Further, Charter has been granted an extension for buildout to May 2020 due to delays in obtaining pole attachments. The year 2020 is not 2018.

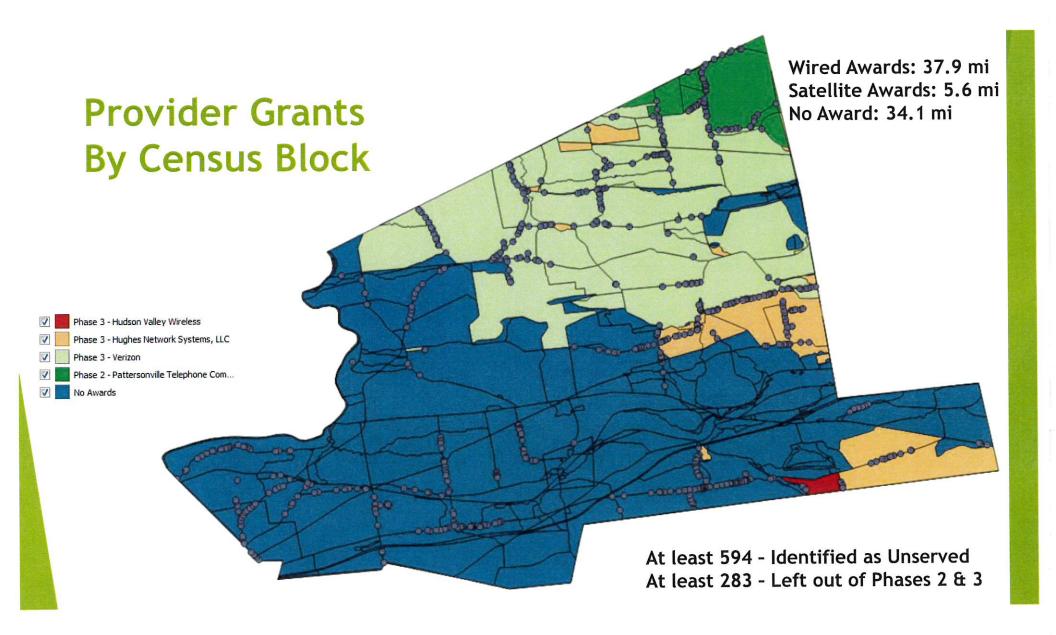


Steps Duanesburg has taken

- Public Meetings were held beginning in 2016 to collect and share information
- Coordinated letter writing campaigns to elected officials
- Actively participated in ongoing Charter franchise negotiations in an unsuccessful attempt to gain Spectrum line extension
- Formed a Broadband Committee
- Collected data on unserved homes including the Spring 2018 Survey
- Created an Online Map showing unserved residences and Broadband Program
 Office grants to be shared with the community
- ▶ Developing a strategy for connecting all homes in the Town of Duanesburg
- Seeking funding and funding mechanisms because Broadband Program Office funds are depleted

The town has been proactive and did not accept the advice of the broadband consultants who recommended signing a 15-yr franchise agreement that provided no line extensions. The town had been using a portion of Charter franchise fees to fund Schoharie Public Access TV (Schopeg). The remainder went into the general fund. The Town Board withdrew funding for Schopeg and is now using all franchise fees to fund this Duanesburg Broadband Initiative.





This is a map of the town developed by members of the Broadband Committee using results compiled from a Town-wide survey done in March 2018. The purple markers show unserved residences. We do not necessarily show ALL UNSERVED in the town because the map was created with data obtained from voluntary responses by Town residents. It does provide an accurate picture. We believe the data is good and, if anything, the number of unserved is larger.

Phase 2 and 3 award information is from Broadband Program Office public information.

Charter's franchise covers the entire town. We cannot provide a number of <u>served</u> residents because Charter will not publically share or disclose that information.

The blue areas were not eligible for BPO funding. Because Charter reported those census blocks served in FCC filings, the BPO considered those census blocks to have a commitment from Charter so they were excluded from edibility.

The light green areas were awarded to Verizon – we don't know how many will actually receive service.

The dark green area was awarded to Pattersonville T Company under Phase 2 The peach areas were awarded to HughsNet which is not broadband. The red area is one residence.



To go to the Duanesburg Broadband Committee Shared Google Map of unserved residences Click Here

To go to the Broadband Program Office (BPO) map showing broadband providers and BPO Phase 1 thru 3 awards by address

Click Here

(To search for an address select the "Search for Broadband" button - at the top center of the page - and click on "Find Broadband Availability for an Address")



We are not done

- ► Help us get grant funding for line extension throughout the Town and, or
- ► Have the County establish a mutual benefit district to pay for the Cost in Aid of Construction now and in the future

How much money do we need?

- We are not exactly sure until we get an estimate from Charter (or other provider) for a Cost in Aid of Construction
- We estimate there are 39.7 aerial miles of cable needed to serve the area of town with no BPO award for wired service
- ▶ At \$30,000 to \$50,000 per cable mile we will need between \$1.19 million and \$1.98 million



Additional Requests of our Elected Officials

- Using our research, the Town Assessor should account for lack of broadband in the assessed value of homes in Duanesburg
- ► Help us get cost estimates from Spectrum, Midtel, Verizon or others to complete line extension in the Town
- Pass State laws creating mutual benefit districts for broadband under Town Law or Real Property Tax Law
- ▶ Help the Town get access to County rights-of-way to allow underground line burial
- Promote NY Public Service Commission regulations to make pole attachment easier, cheaper or FREE
- Remove capped Satellite from acceptable forms of service (Hughes Net)