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Where Is Bmore FiOS?

Verizon is wiring every major jurisdiction in Maryland for fiber optic technology but one: Baltimore City. If you agree with us that this kind of redlining threatens to create an unacceptable digital divide, then join our campaign.

Coalition Members (as of 3/1/10)

Progressive Maryland
NAACP Baltimore Branch
AFL-CIO Metro Baltimore Council
Communications Workers of America
CASA de Maryland
Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance
Community Law Center
Abell Improvement Association
Charles Village Civic Association
Darley Park Community Association

Enon Baptist Church
Friendship Baptist Church
Morgan Park Improvement Association
Mt. Winans Neighborhood Improv. Assn.
New Unity Church Ministries
Reservoir Hill Improvement Council
Save Another Youth, Inc.
Trinity Baptist Church
Upton Planning Committee
York Road Partnership

___ YES, we want to add our voice

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Return via fax to 410-659-5008
or e-mail Matthew@ProgressiveMaryland.org
or fill out the online form at www.WherelsBmoreFiOS.org



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Where Is Bmore FiOS?

FiOS facts for Baltimore

Background Basics

Fiber Optics is the latest generation of high-speed data transmission technology, offering speeds five times faster than DSL and cable. Verizon is the only company offering this new technology in Maryland under the brand name FiOS. Installing FiOS involves a significant investment of resources to set up the fiber optic communication system in a given geographic area.

The Digital Divide in Maryland

In the state of Maryland, Verizon currently offers FiOS service in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Charles, Harford, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Thus, the only major jurisdiction in the state that is not yet wired for FiOS is Baltimore City. Verizon recently told members of the City Council that they have no plans to apply for a franchise agreement with the Baltimore City Office of Cable and Communications.

The DC Experience

Verizon also delayed wiring the District of Columbia for FiOS. What changed their mind? A grassroots campaign bringing together dozens of community partners – religious, labor, civil rights, and neighborhood activists determined to not let their communities fall victim to the digital divide.

What Requirements Must Be Included in the Franchise Agreement?

- Equal treatment of all neighborhoods – everyone gets wired or nobody gets wired
- Stop neglecting maintenance of the existing copper-wire system – we should not have to give up decent phone service to get FiOS
- Local hiring
- Living wages incl. health insurance
- Minority hiring
- Job training
- Labor standards enforced both for Verizon and all its contractors and subcontractors

For more information about the Where Is Bmore FiOS campaign, contact:

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