

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
3RD DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

**COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE**
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET



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May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Peninsula Digital Infrastructure Expansion Initiative in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Newport News, located at 2400 Washington Avenue, Newport News, VA, 23607. The funding would be used to install high-capacity fiber infrastructure across the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel (MMBT) and the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (HRBT) to directly link the cities and underserved neighborhoods of Newport News and Hampton to the Southside fiber network and transatlantic subsea cables. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will close a critical infrastructure gap in the regional broadband ring, providing redundancy, reliability, and expanded access for neighborhoods, businesses, and anchor institutions. By connecting to the open-access Southside Network Authority ring, this project supports economic development and resilience for critical institutions, businesses, and residents on the Peninsula.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bobby Scott".

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress