



# Broadband and Wi-Fi...

## What's Going on in Blacksburg

Virginia Institute of Government and  
Virginia Tech  
"Last Mile" Series

Sept. 23, 2004

[www.blacksburg.gov/technology](http://www.blacksburg.gov/technology)



# Town of Blacksburg

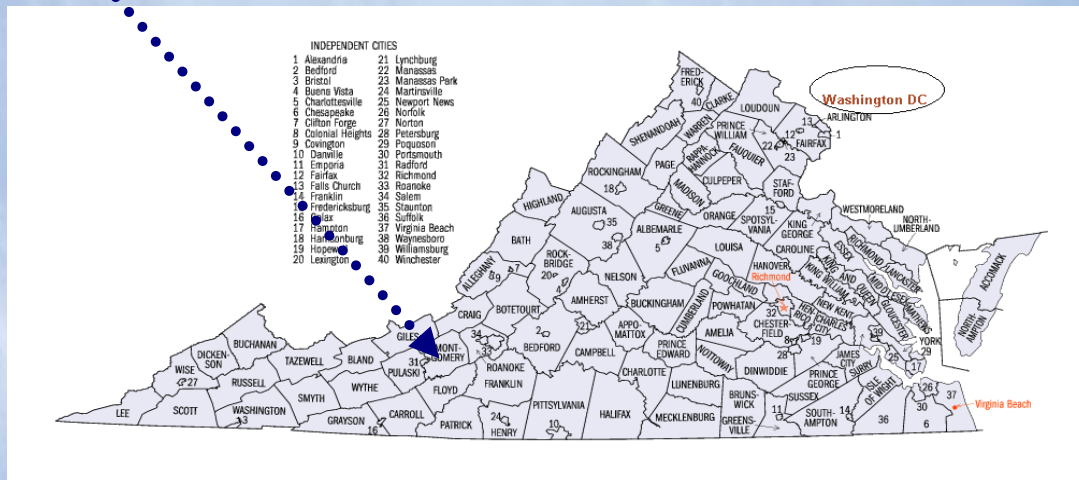
- Who is this guy?
  - Steve Jones, Director of Technology
    - 540-558-0726
    - [sjones@blacksburg.gov](mailto:sjones@blacksburg.gov)
- What is Blacksburg
  - 15<sup>th</sup> largest municipality in Virginia
  - Home of Virginia Tech University
  - 41,000 residents (26,000 VT Students)



# Town of Blacksburg

- Where is Blacksburg?
  - New River Valley – 42 miles from Roanoke

Town of  
Blacksburg





# Broadband and Wi-Fi

## Today's Presentation

- What are we doing regarding Broadband
- How are use Wi-Fi
- What are we planning with Wireless
- Questions





# Blacksburg Broadband

## What are we doing?

- Extensive Partnering
  - Virginia Tech
  - Other Government Entities
  - Private sector
- Planning District Commission (PDC) initiative  
<http://www.nrvpdc.org/NRVTelecomPlan/NRVTelecomPlan.html>
- Evangelism to elected officials AND staff
- Local Meet Point – MSAP
  - Multimedia Services Access Point  
<http://www.bev.net/services/msap.php>
- Conduit projects of opportunity...



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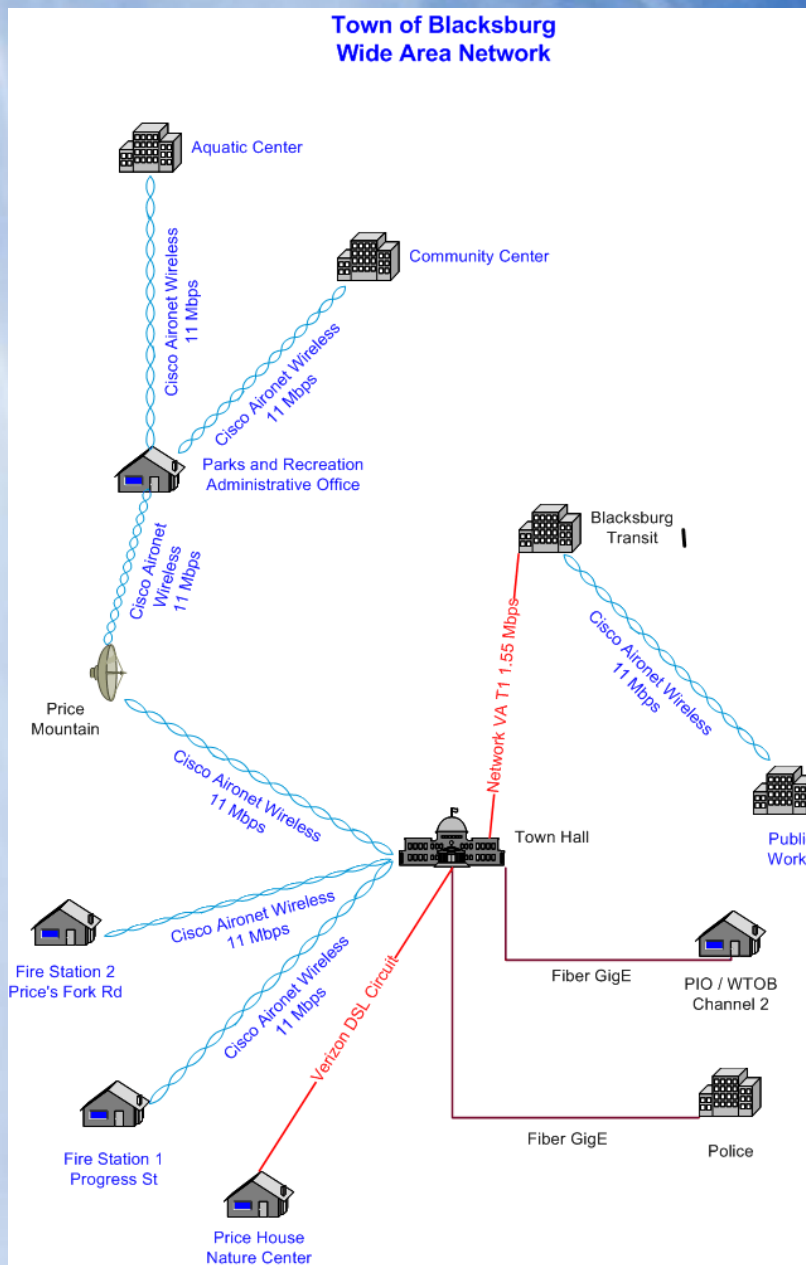
# Blacksburg Wi-Fi

- Four year old Wi-Fi network Backbone
  - 802.11b
  - Connecting eight sites (100+ employees)
  - Project ROI – less than 2 years
- Replacing with fiber and 802.11a
  - We need more bandwidth!



# Wi-Fi

## TOB Wireless Network







# Blacksburg Wi-Fi

- Instrumented City
  - 900 MHz to synchronize traffic signals
  - Route Data Modeling
- In-building Wireless – 802.11a,b, g
- Home wireless for elected officials, staff
- Purchase of Wi-Fi enabled laptops, PDA's



# Blacksburg Wireless

- **Wireless Data Infrastructure RFP**
  - Cable Modem speed wireless for:
    - Citizens – increase competition
    - Public Safety – Police, Fire, Rescue
      - Mobile product – data in the field
    - Government services – bus, inspections, AVL
    - Economic development
    - Near 100% coverage of Town
    - Replicate through New River Valley
  - Should be in place in next 12 months



# Questions?

With the right planning and creativity  
Broadband and Wireless should not cost...

