



Baltimore Offices
9 W. Mulberry Street, 4th Fl.
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
410.685.7004 phone
410.659.5008 fax

State Headquarters
8720 Georgia Avenue
Suite 500
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

301.495.7004 phone
301.495.9463 fax
ProgressiveMaryland.org
Contact@ProgressiveMaryland.org

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 4/1/10)

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
Afterfive Consulting
Capitol Mac
Charles Village Civic Association
Darley Park Community Association

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

City Council Hearing

Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

City Hall, 100 N. Holliday St.

Come out and show your support!

YES, we will join the campaign and be there on April 28th!

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:

Matthew Weinstein

Baltimore Region Director, Progressive Maryland

9 W. Mulberry St., Baltimore, MD 21201 410-685-7004 x19 410-659-5008 fax

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