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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 4/26/10)

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  
Greater Fawcett Community Association  
Matthew Henson Neighborhood Association  
Mayfield Improvement Association  
Morgan Park Improvement Association  
Mt. Winans Neighborhood Improvement Assn.  
New Northwood Community Association  
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 to the campaign!***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Return via fax to 410-659-5008

or e-mail [Matthew@ProgressiveMaryland.org](mailto:Matthew@ProgressiveMaryland.org)

or fill out the online form at [www.WherelsBmoreFiOS.org](http://www.WherelsBmoreFiOS.org)

**Urge the Mayor and City Council to  
support the Council Resolution!**

*Mayor@BaltimoreCity.gov or 410-396-3835*

*City Council: Call 410-396-4804 or  
visit [www.BaltimoreCityCouncil.com](http://www.BaltimoreCityCouncil.com)*



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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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# ***www.WhereIsBmoreFiOS.org***