

Getting the Campaign Word Out

We've been asked by the leaders of the Federal Hill organization to present at their community meeting on September 16. We welcome invitations from other organizations with good size meetings. Please spread the word. New backers can [join at this link](#).

Other frequently asked questions about "Speed and Performance"

What speed do I have? Go to "[Test Your Broadband Speed](#)" at the Maryland Broadband Map and click on "Begin your Test". Your speed will be measured both in bringing data down and in sending data up to the Internet. Speed is measured as Mbps or how many millions of bits that travel (down or up) per second. It would be smart to check see if your performance matches the speed for which you are paying.

What speed do I need? What you need varies by application, by how many applications are running and by the number of users or family members at the location. The information below is from the New America Open Technology Institute and the CTC Technology and Energy and provides reasonable estimates ([The Art of the Possible: An Overview of Public Broadband Options](#)) The table below shows the speeds in Mbps to achieve OK, good and best performance

	OK	Good	Best
Download MP3 music	0.8	1-10	>20
500 MB software	10	20-100	1000
HD Movie download	20	50-100	1000
Video call	0.8	1	>10
Stream HD Video	1	10	>20
Online higher education course	10	20	>50
Video Conference with several users	10	20	>50
Telehealth		50-100	1000

What can DSL, cable and fiber achieve? Below are speeds achieved by DSL and cable in Baltimore and in a city with fiber. Note the big differences particularly in upload speeds.

	Upload	Download
Verizon DSL	0.384 -0.77 Mbps	0.5 – 7 Mbps
Comcast Cable	Not quoted but likely 2-20Mbps	6 – 105 Mbps
Fiber (E.g. Chattanooga)	100-1000 Mbps	100-1000 Mbps

The speed influences how long a task takes. Downloading a HD Movie takes 12-15 hours with DSL, 7-34 minutes with cable and 40 seconds with gigabit fiber. Anyone uploading large amounts of data like photos would notice even greater differences.

We need fiber both to support the needs now and the larger expected needs in the future but we also need a neutral fiber network to allow competition to result in price pressure. Stop paying more for less - spread the word about our campaign.

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For **More Background** and Answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**

If you prefer to join by mail, you can do so by writing a check for \$10 made out to the Baltimore Broadband Campaign and sending the check along with your name, address, email, phone number to: RPCL Office, 5115B Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210

If any trouble enrolling, ask for help at BaltimoreBroadband@gmail.com