

# Federal funds get water flowing in Carroll

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Even as Virginia's senators announced the \$1 million grant to help build the regional water system last week, 9th District Rep. Rick Boucher made preparations to visit Carroll County for another infrastructure announcement.

Both Carroll and federal officials invited people to the new announcement today, Monday, at the board of supervisors meeting room at the governmental center at 1 p.m.

According to officials with the offices of Boucher and senators Jim Webb and Mark Warner, the announcement will relate to a grant for Carroll's part of the regional water project as part of the federal stimulus package.

There will be a second part to Monday's announcement, according to the federal officials — Rural Development funding for Lambsburg.

Carroll County continues to work on water and sewer issues at Exit 1 to serve the Love's truck stop planned to open there early next year.

County officials have discussed working with Mount Airy, N.C., to get a water supply to Lambsburg.

Boucher had previously announced a grant of \$1.2 million and a low-interest loan of \$5 million for the new regional water system as part of the stimulus funds for Carroll County, along with funds for water projects in Hillsville and Fries.

This was in addition to a \$1.9 million federal loan for sewer service to Exit 19.

The coming water and sewer services are components needed to bring business to the Wildwood Commerce Park, 1,400 acres at Interstate 77 that have been graded and primed for commercial and industrial development by Don Branscome and Mike Turman.

In a press release issued by the senators' offices Thursday, Webb and Warner announced an additional grant of \$1.06 million for the regional water project with Wythe County and Wytheville through the federal stimulus funding.

The senators said the stimulus funds will be a boon to Carroll citizens through new water infrastructure.

"This project funding is welcome news for residents in Carroll County to ensure access to safe, dependable drinking water while also saving and creating jobs in the community," said Senator Webb.

"We made significant progress in extending clean drinking water to thousands of Virginians in Southwest while I was governor," said Senator Warner. "I am pleased that we can continue this effort in Carroll County, creating jobs and improving the rural infrastructure even as we provide clean drinking water to hundreds of families."

This funding will be used to extend the water transmission lines to the new regional water treatment plant in Austinville, according to the press release. The system that takes water from the New River will do away with the need many homes and businesses have for wells.

Carroll's water system will serve 317 residential homes and five businesses.

When the entire regional water system is complete, it will serve 2,139 homes and 197 businesses.

The new grant of \$1 million will allow construction on the regional water lines to begin this summer, according to federal officials.

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