

# \*Holmes

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 apathy,” Mabry said. “The citizens feel that we’re not going to get anything here. They’ve seen jobs move out of town and feel like we’re bleeding.”

The county’s greatest opportunity lies in its 330-acre industrial park, close to an interstate, a state highway, an airport and rail lines.

“The county has been in possession of the property well over 20 years with little to no development,” Williams said. “Whenever there’s development nearby, it’s happening somewhere else.”

The county contributed some money on top of the program grant to develop a master plan for the site, assessing its infrastructure needs and other measures necessary to make it “shovel ready,” and that plan has already persuaded state legislators to allocate \$1 million to the project.

“This is the first time we’ve ever had a master plan for the site,” Williams said. “It’s something that shows the thought and the work that we’ve put into it and that we are willing to direct to it.”

The park is going to need about \$15 million more — the water treatment plant needs maintenance that has been deferred for years, the water storage tank needs extensive rehabilitation and the city’s wastewater treatment plant will be insufficient to support much growth.

“Our goal is to have this site looking good, get everything certified and prepared to the point where it’s a place the governor would want to recommend to industry looking to locate in Mississippi,” Williams said.

The site is best suited for advanced manufacturing and logistics, and the county’s workforce has timber experience, making the area well-suited for wood product manufacturing. Nissan automotive has a strong presence regionally, too.

Mabry and Williams have been vocal about the RLEM program and the learning opportunities it entails, bringing home stories from other participating counties and recipes for growth.

“I got excited because I could see how communities brought themselves out of poverty,” Mabry said “And even though I knew we might not be able to produce the same results, we could learn from them and bring some of the ideas home.”

“When we came back and had a meeting with the mayors, the local citizens, the business owners and all those people we brought together, when they got excited, that just made me more excited for the possibilities of what we could do.”

Williams sees the potential for young people, like her 13-year-old, to stay in Holmes County in adulthood.

“I often see my generation leave home because they don’t see, they don’t see hope, they don’t see things for their children to do,” she said. “Our kids deserve great education, great places to play, to feel safe in their environment. And what excites me the most is that we actually have something that can actually change the future for our children,” so they aren’t leaving for Texas or Atlanta.

The engineering plan maps out a seven-year timeline to prepare the site, and a range of targets for fundraising, including the Appalachian Regional Commission and Delta Regional Authority, the state Legislature, congressional earmarks and USDA Rural Development programs. The biggest challenge, the report says, will be coming up with a local match for some of these funding opportunities.

Mabry knows that Holmes County residents form a workforce that’s ready to make the most of the opportunity to build industry at home.

“They already drive almost an hour each way to go to work, so you know they’re dedicated,” she said. “If we could make Holmes County a place to live and work, we’re going to change some things.”

From other RLEM counties, the pair learned to use what their county has and capitalize on it. Participants went on three site visits over the course of 22 months in the program.

“We have so much history here, but nobody will want to come and see it if they’re just going to be looking at markers,” Mabry said. “We need things for them to do, restaurants and stores. Those are things that grow once you have people in town during the workday, and that makes the industrial park our key to all of this — growing out of poverty and becoming the county where people want to live

## FEMA awards \$4.7 million for Mississippi recovery

MISSISSIPPI - FEMA is sending millions of dollars to Mississippi communities to help cover recovery costs from recent severe storms and winter weather.

FEMA has approved more than 4.7 million dollars from 11 recovery projects across Mississippi following the January 2026 winter storm and severe storms in March 2025.

Among the projects receiving funding, the Village of Glendora will get more than 160,000 dollars for debris removal efforts, while

# Fox Corporation to Acquire Roku, Inc.

NEW YORK, N.Y. & SAN JOSE, Calif. — June 15, 2026 — Fox Corporation (Nasdaq: FOXA, FOX) (“FOX” or the “Company”) and Roku, Inc. (Nasdaq: ROKU) (“Roku”) today announced they have entered into a definitive agreement under which FOX will acquire Roku for \$160.00 per share in a combination of cash and FOX Class A common stock, valuing Roku at approximately \$22 billion in enterprise value.

The transaction combines FOX’s leading sports, news, and entertainment content and the Tubi service with Roku’s leading connected TV platform, The Roku Channel, first-party data and direct relationship with more than 100 million global streaming households. Together, FOX and Roku will create a scaled next-generation media and technology company positioned at the intersection of two of the most important forces reshaping video consumption: the enduring primacy of live sports and news, and the continued rise of streaming.

FOX and Roku are committed to continuing to operate Roku as an open, partner-friendly platform and to the continued ubiquitous distribution of FOX content. On a pro forma basis, the combined company will become the third-largest player in U.S. television by share of viewing, with an attractive mix of FOX’s sports, news, and entertainment content, alongside streaming services Tubi and The Roku Channel. That distribution and engagement scale spans every major viewing environment — broadcast, cable, local, and streaming — creating broad and diversified reach that

the city of Winona is set to receive nearly 160,000 dollars for emergency protective measures.

The federal funding is part of FEMA’s Public Assistance Program which reimburses state and local governments for disaster response and recovery costs.

Other communities across North Mississippi, including New Albany, Benton County, and Corinth, will also receive support for cleanup, utility repairs and infrastructure recovery.

benefits viewers, partners, and advertisers.

Lachlan K. Murdoch, Executive Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Fox Corporation, said:

“This is a defining moment for FOX, and a natural extension of the deliberate and focused strategy we have been executing for nearly a decade. In 2019, we reoriented the company around live news and sports. In 2020, we acquired Tubi, and under our stewardship it has become one of the most successful businesses in streaming. Today, we take the next step: bringing together the most valuable live content portfolio in video consumption with the preeminent streaming platform through which America watches it. This combination will transform the scope of our company into high-growth verticals and yield a step change in our overall growth profile. And we are executing this acquisition from a position of financial strength — maintaining our investment grade balance sheet while providing our shareholders with an uninterrupted return of capital program in the form of share buybacks and dividends. Roku pioneered streaming TV and scaled it into a leading CTV platform. Together, we intend to lead its next chapter.”

Anthony Wood, Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Roku, said:

“Over the past two decades, we’ve built Roku into the leading TV streaming platform, reaching more than 100 million households globally and reshaping how people discover and enjoy entertainment. I’m incredibly proud of what our team has built, and the combination with FOX is an extraordinary opportunity to accelerate our vision, scale faster, and innovate more aggressively for viewers, partners, and advertisers. That’s why our Board of Directors unanimously determined after concluding its strategic review process that this transaction offers a significant premium to Roku shareholders while also providing them with the opportunity to participate in the compelling future upside of the combined company. I couldn’t be more excited about what we’ll accomplish together.”

Key strategic benefits of the combination include:

- Increases scale and reach: The transaction pairs

the leader in live news and sports with the leading connected TV platform. Roku’s platform has leading scale in the attractive, high-growth connected TV vertical, reaching over 100 million global streaming households, including more than half of all U.S. broadband households. FOX is #1 in live news and sports, with a portfolio including the NFL, MLB, NASCAR, Big Ten, FIFA World Cup, FOX News, and FOX Business that represents some of the most valuable appointment-viewing content in television. Together, FOX and Roku will encompass premium live content, broad distribution, and significant audience reach across linear and streaming.

- Expands position in high-growth verticals: The acquisition of Roku positions FOX across the full video ecosystem and provides a wider entry into the high-growth segment of connected TV, particularly advertising and streaming subscriptions.

- Creates a more powerful streaming platform: Brings together FOX’s premium content and advertising capabilities with Roku’s consumer interface, home screen, platform technology and direct viewer relationships to enhance content discovery, deepen engagement and create a more compelling streaming experience for consumers and content partners.

- Enhances long-term growth profile: Advances FOX’s business mix toward high-growth streaming and connected TV verticals and maintains a balanced mix across advertising and distribution businesses, while strengthening the combined company’s long-term growth and financial profile and maintaining FOX’s disciplined capital allocation approach.

Transaction Details

FOX is acquiring Roku in a cash-and-stock transaction valued at \$160.00 per ROKU share. FOX will pay \$96.00 in cash and 0.9693 shares of FOX Class A common stock for each Roku Class A and Class B share outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the merger. The stock consideration represents \$64.00 per ROKU share based on a reference price of \$66.03 per share, the 10-day volume-weighted average price of FOX Class A common stock as of June 10, 2026.

Upon closing, existing FOX shareholders are expected to own approximately 73% of the combined company and Roku shareholders approximately 27%. The transaction has been unanimously approved by the Boards of Directors of both companies. The transaction is expected to strengthen FOX’s long-term growth profile, accelerate its digital strategy, be accretive to free cash flow per share by the second full year after closing, and achieve approximately \$400 million of run-rate cost synergies with additional revenue upside.

FOX expects to fund the cash portion of the transaction consideration with a combination of new debt and cash on hand. FOX has obtained \$12.0 billion of fully committed bridge financing from Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. At closing, the company expects pro forma net leverage to be approximately 2.8x, inclusive of 50% credit for run-rate cost synergies. Additional detail on financing terms will be included in the companies’ required filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Roku Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Anthony Wood will have an ongoing role at the combined company and will join the FOX Board of Directors following the close of the transaction.

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including approvals by FOX and Roku shareholders, receipt of U.S. and certain non-U.S. regulatory approvals and other customary conditions. In connection with execution of the acquisition agreement, Anthony Wood and certain associated trusts and related entities that together hold at least a majority of the voting power of the Roku stock entered into a voting and support agreement agreeing to vote in favor of the transaction. LGC Holdco LLC also entered into a voting and support agreement with respect to the issuance of FOX shares in the transaction. The transaction is expected to close in the first half of calendar year 2027.

In connection with the transaction, the companies expect to file a registration statement on Form S-4 containing a joint proxy statement/prospectus with the Securities and Exchange Commission.