

# **North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium**

**Work Plan: Year 2**

**3rd Quarter Report  
to the  
CASF**

**January 1, 2016 - March 31, 2016**

**Submitted April 5, 2016**

## I. INTRODUCTION

The vision of the **NBNCBC** is to have the persistent digital divide in Marin, Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma counties eliminated.

The mission of the **NBNCBC** is to:

- 1) Develop a strategic broadband plan for each county based on “last mile” community needs, and integrate the county plans into a regional plan.
- 2) Determine current actual broadband access and adoption rates throughout the region.
- 3) Assess and aggregate unmet demand throughout the region, based on a county’s ground-truth data.
- 4) Identify potential funding sources to improve broadband deployment and adoption rates throughout the region.
- 5) Encourage broadband service providers to use identified funding sources to improve broadband deployment and adoption rates throughout the region.
- 6) Work with broadband service providers to develop a long-term strategic plan for keeping broadband deployment and adoption standard, or above, throughout the region.

The overarching goals for the Year 2 Work Plan are:

- to complete the development of community-based “last mile” plans for communities in each county starting with the unserved and underserved communities;
- compile these community plans into a comprehensive countywide broadband plan for each county;
- integrate these county plans into an overall North Bay-North Coast Regional Broadband Plan;
- set the stage to pursue implementation of projects to meet the priority demands in each county and the region; identify potential deployment funding sources;
- work with service providers to make use of funding sources to deploy broadband; and,
- develop and implement meaningful adoption programs.

There are four measurable deliverables in the Year 2 Work Plan.

**Deliverable #1** Produce an annual progress report covering: 1) community involvement in the consortium’s activities (*Activity 1*); 2) plans of the major service entities (*Activity 2.2*); and 3) progress of interactions with telecommunications providers (*Activity 2.3*).

**Deliverable #2** Produce a progress report that includes: 1) a detailed design for a countywide infrastructure plan for each county (*Activity 3.1*); 2) a synopsis of each “last mile” project plan developed for communities in each county (*Activity 3.2*); 3) status of securing funding for these projects (*Activity 3.3*); 4) status of projects that have been launched (*Activity 3.4*); and, 5) a conceptual design plan for the Regional infrastructure and securing funding (*Activities 4.1*).

**Deliverable #3** Produce a report on the progress of an implementation of adoption programs in each county (*Activity 5*).

**Deliverable #4** Produce a report on the overall performance of the consortium (*Activity 6*).

## II. SUMMARY OF THE 3rd QUARTER

There are six major activities in carrying out this two-year effort. Within each activity, there are several tasks to be executed.

During this third quarter the primary work of each of the counties has been focused on **Activities 3.2 thru 3.4** and **NBNCBC**, as the consortium, has been focused on **Activity 4.1**. At the same time, the counties continue to: 1) be involved the community leadership and maintain community commitment, **Activity 1**; and, 2) consult and involve major community services entities, **Activity 2.2** and 3) work with telecommunications providers, **Activity 2.3**. Counties continue work with community groups involved in carrying out adoption programs, **Activity 5.1**.

**NBNCBC** measures its performance against these tasks and deliverables in the **Year 2 Work Plan** on a quarterly basis using the Chart 2.2.

**Chart 2.2 FY Year 2 Performance Measures: Outcome Metrics**

DELIVERABLES	Projected Completion Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr % Achieved	2Qtr % Achieved	3Qtr % Achieved	4Qth % Achieved
<b>Deliverable #1.</b> Annual Report on <i>Activity 1, Activity 2.1, Activity 2.2, and Activity 2.3</i>	6-30-16	100%	100%	100%	
<b>Deliverable #2.</b> A Progress Report on <i>Activity 3.1, Activity 3.2, Activity 3.3, Activity 3.4, and Activity 4.1.</i>	6-30-16	25%	75%	85%	
<b>Deliverable #3.</b> Report on Implementation of adoption programs <i>Activity 5</i>	6-30-16	25%	75%	85%	
<b>Deliverable #4.</b> Overall evaluation of the consortium's performance. <i>Activity 6</i>	6-30-16	0%	0%	0%	

It should be noted that Marin County has taken the **NBNCBC Year 2 Work Plan and Deliverables** as a guide and developed its own specific county- based Year 2 Work Plan to reflect its needs and priorities, but remain consistent with the overall **NBNCBC Year 2 Work Plan**. The other three counties are following the **NBNCBC Year 2 Work Plan**.

The following provides details on the tasks and outcomes achieved by NBNCBC, as a whole, and by each county this quarter.

## 1. Activity #1: ENSURE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT---Deliverable #1

### 1.1. Engage Community Leadership

- 1.1.1. Involve County Supervisors;
- 1.1.2. Involve cities, towns, census designated places, and tribal communities;
- 1.1.3. Involve school, library, health care, public safety and government agency leaders;
- 1.1.4. Involve countywide advisory groups;
- 1.1.5. Involve community and business groups; and,
- 1.1.6. Inform the community media (newspaper, radio, TV etc).

### 1.2. Maintain Community Commitment throughout the Life of the Project

- 1.2.1. Conduct annual briefings of the county supervisors;
- 1.2.2. Hold quarterly meetings of the Oversight Committee;
- 1.2.3. Meet regularly with countywide advisory groups;
- 1.2.4. Meet “in-person and hold “open” conference calls with interested groups in each of the counties to discuss and seek input on specific issues and opportunities;
- 1.2.5. Maintain a web site (Being maintained on the BAMC web site);
- 1.2.6. Publish an electronic newsletter semi-annually;
- 1.2.7. Issue special reports, as appropriate;
- 1.2.8. Issue proactive news releases, as appropriate; and,
- 1.2.9. Form ad hoc task forces, as needed.

**NBNCBC Consortium.** For the most part, **NBNCBC** works through the county teams to engage community leadership and maintain community commitment to broadband needs in their counties. The county reports below provide updates to those activities.

Through the County Managers **NBNCBC** keeps the region’s Congressman, State Senators and State Representatives informed of the consortium’s activities. Representatives of these officials are invited to attend the quarterly meetings of the **NBNCBC** Oversight Committee.

The second quarterly meeting of the **NBNCBC** Oversight Committee was held on Monday January 25, 2016, via conference call. In addition to the members of the Oversight Committee and the Management Team in attendance, Alice Glasner and John Baker, CPUC representatives and liaisons to the **NBNCBC**, were present. Scott Rasmussen and Jenny Callaway from Congressman Huffman’s Office were not able to attend. The agenda and notes of the meeting are posted on the BAMC web site.

In the meeting the Oversight Committee requested the Management Team to provide information concerning our support for state and federal legislation. On February 17, 2016 we provided the Oversight Committee with document that summarized two active bills—one at the State level—AB 1758, ***Internet For All Now Act of 2016 California Advanced Services Fund*** and one at the Federal level H.R. 4160, ***Rural Broadband Infrastructure Investment Act***, introduced by Congressman Jared Huffman. We also provided a draft letter of support of H.R. 4160 for the Oversight Committee to send to Congressman Huffman.

On February 9, 2016 we distributed the first semi-annual newsletter about the work of **NBNCBC**.

**Marin County.** The Marin Broadband Task Force (MBTF) has continued to work with community groups in the field, and with various agencies of the County of Marin to

develop telecommunications infrastructure for the under- and un- served communities of rural West Marin.

In the immediate past quarter, there was no additional outreach to the Marin community in general for publicity purposes. Our project focus remains infrastructure development.

**Mendocino County.** NBNCBC activities in Mendocino County are done directly through the Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County, which holds [bi-monthly public meetings](#) to maintain public engagement.

- Two such public outreach meetings were held in Q3 ([January 8](#), [March 4](#)), with average attendance of 19 individuals which included supervisors, city council members, staff from elected field offices, school districts, health clinics, media, providers, business interests, tribal representation, and the general public.
- The Alliance maintains a website where all meeting agendas and notes, correspondence with government agencies, reports, data, links and other information are posted regularly.
- The Alliance maintains an email list of 400 addresses to which the agenda and meetings notes are distributed, along with other significant news.
- In addition, the Alliance Chair submitted three detailed, monthly broadband reports to both the Alliance Executive Committee and county CEO (available upon request), and also informally provides a weekly email update to the county CEO and NBNCBC Oversight Committee supervisor.
- On January 1/12/16 the County Board of Supervisors endorsed the Alliance's ["Broadband Outage Report"](#) which gave detailed results from the survey conducted soon after the September 2015 outage, which impacted the entire county (more on that below).

**Napa County.** No major activity this quarter.

**Sonoma County.** Access Broadband Sonoma (ASB) meets with its Oversight Contact on a regular basis to review current progress and has had full monthly meetings with appointed members and guests during this quarter. ASB management has engaged with Joy Road Connect Committee in meeting presentations with potential providers. All ASB meetings comply with Brown Act, are open and available for participation via teleconference. Sonic.com and Comcast representatives generally attend each meeting. Other incumbent providers are cordially invited to participate, but generally are not attending each meeting. ASB Co-Chair Nicholls meets regularly with Assemblyman Wood and Senator McGuire as well as Consortium Management and Oversight Committee on pending broadband legislation. Co-Chair Sharpe has focused on county departmental communication and programs including but not limited to a proposed 'dig once policy' and individual private mobile wireless tower permitting projects.

## 2. Activity #2: ASSESS, DOCUMENT AND MONITOR THE UNMET BROADBAND NEEDS THROUGHOUT EACH COUNTY

### 2.1. Assess the Broadband Demands and Needs of all the Communities throughout each County

- 2.1.1. Encourage citizens in unserved and underserved communities, as reported by CPUC reports, to submit ground truth tests, using the CPUC processes; and,

- 2.1.2. Engage the CPUC to correct CPUC Databases and maps based on these public ground truth test results.

## 2.2. Consult and Involve Major Service Entities in each County—

### Deliverable #1

- 2.2.1. Continue to work with the County Office of Education (COE) to understand its progress in providing the school districts and schools access to broadband connections back to the COE;
- 2.2.2. Continue to work with the County Library (LIBRARY) to understand its progress in providing the branch libraries access to broadband connections back to the County Library and through the Library to other libraries in the region and statewide;
- 2.2.3. Continue to work with the major County Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), under California's Statewide Interoperability plan, to understand its progress.
- 2.2.4. Continue to work with all the health care facilities in the county to understand their progress in implementing their long range broadband plans;
- 2.2.5. Continue to work with the County and municipal government IT organizations to understand the progress they are making in meeting their broadband needs and plans;
- 2.2.6. Continue to work with incorporated city councils, community services districts and other government entities to ensure their broadband needs are being incorporated in community and county plans; and,
- 2.2.7. Produce a written document that reports the progress of these special services entities in achieving their broadband needs and plans.

This activity is implemented by each of the county teams. The following highlights their actions this past quarter.

**Marin County.** The Marin Broadband Task Force (MBTF) uses assessments of the broadband under- and un- served communities of Marin County, produced in mapping and data reporting derived from the published Broadband Availability surveys and data of CPUC.

This data and mapping, presented to community organizations and service providers and network developers in the field, is the foundation information used to plan and frame new CASF-Infrastructure account applications to be submitted.

These applications will be submitted for the remaining six (6) communities in West Marin for which applications will be developed. As referenced in our previous quarterly report, the first such application generated for a community in Marin County was submitted in November of 2015 by Inyo Networks, Inc. It was for the Nicasio Broadband Project. The Project is for the largest grouping of fully unserved housing units in Marin County. The Proposed Funded Service Area (PFSA) includes all Nicasio Census Designated Places (Nicasio CDP), and an array of lower density unserved Census blocks, homes, and ranches.

**Mendocino County.** As reported above, the Broadband Alliance's telecommunications Outage Report was endorsed by the Mendocino Board of Supervisors on 1/12/16, and submitted to various elected offices, including Assembly Member Jim Wood as part of his hearing on the Digital Divide and Senator Mike McGuire, and also posted on the Broadband Alliance website.

- A consultant was hired to break down the most recent Mendocino County Round 11 Broadband data from the CPUC by provider, incorporated area, census designated places and zip codes, to enable better understanding of the current state of availability. This data set was then [posted](#) on the Alliance website.
- CalSpeed for iOS was promoted this quarter with a detailed article on page 9 in the [Volume 3 NBNCBC newsletter](#), and in Mendocino County via the email list, meetings, and social media. This outreach significantly increased the CalSpeed results on the broadband map.
- The complete loss of dial-up Internet access in the northern part of the county (affecting the communities of Branscomb, Laytonville, Leggett, and Covelo) was researched and documented.
- The Alliance is working with the non-profit Mendocino Coast Broadband Alliance to develop “action plans” for coastal areas that currently lack adequate broadband.
- The Alliance has provided spreadsheets to the Round Valley Public Library to help them document their need for more capacity, and offered to help approach the county with their request.
- The Alliance GIS county mapping project: This project was originally started for the purpose of making asset information available to providers to make deployment of broadband easier (using recommendations from the recent NTIA workshop). A base map (with a population density layer) was created and posted on the county website. The plan was to add various layers (anchor institutions, cell tower sites, zoning designations, broadband designations, etc). Unfortunately, the map was removed from public view due to security concerns. Work is continuing with county GIS staff for ideas on how to continue this project while still addressing any security concerns.

**Napa County.** Late last year the Napa County Library became a member of CENIC. As a result 1 Gbps connections are being installed in two of the County’s libraries enabling them to better serve their patrons. The additional two locations will be activated shortly, one when network construction is completed and another when it reopens from extensive remodeling in June, 2016.

**Sonoma County.** ASB has updated its website to include CalSpeed app information for iPhone, Android and Desktop use by anchor institutions and residents for improved mapping of county’s broadband resources. The formation of a Sonoma Mendocino Economic Development District will include broadband as part of its economic issues survey and to be included as a part of its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs).

## 2.3. Involve and Work with Telecommunications Providers---

### Deliverable #1

- 2.3.1. Continue working with current major and local telecommunications providers, wireless ISPs, and cellular providers in the county to learn of changes to their offerings and progress against their plans to deploy broadband to the communities throughout each of the four counties;
- 2.3.2. Ensure all the providers have information on the CPUC reporting requirements and procedures and encourage them to accurately report their data to the CPUC; and
- 2.3.3. Produce a report that documents the results of these interactions with the providers.

**Marin County.** As reported above, under Section 2.2 MBTF remains engaged with the service providers that have requested to work with the Task Force to raise private capital and apply for CASF grant funding in order to bring broadband network infrastructure to underserved communities.

The single greatest challenge during the quarter has been the need for our strategic developmental partner for West Marin, Inyo Networks, Inc., to see movement in the review cycle for the Nicasio Broadband application now on file. Additionally, the partner informs us that it sees further difficulty in working to plan new CASF applications for the remaining communities in West Marin absent the passage of legislation that will reauthorize the CASF Program.

These are external factors which now define the ability of Marin County, its Broadband Task Force, and likely other groups around California, to move ahead.

**Mendocino County.** Mendocino has a good working relationship with most of the local providers, and stays in regular contact. The Alliance monitors current offerings, and engages with the providers to help promote deployment. The Alliance policy is to “work with anyone that is willing to work with us.” There have been some recent upgrades announced (which the Alliance shares with the public through social media and email/meetings):

- AT&T has announced they will be providing their central offices with software upgrades which will connect all their fiber into rings, creating protection from a single- point of failure outage. The Alliance promoted the Board of Supervisor meeting to the public, where this announcement was made.
- AT&T introduced a new service nationwide called Emergency Services Internet Protocol Networks, or ESInet, being deployed in AT&T central offices and data centers over the next 18 months. The Alliance is working with the regional AT&T liaison to find out more details about how this service will be implemented and how it will affect the county Office of Emergency services.
- Recognition and thanks to US Cellular is due for responding to a request from the Chair of the Alliance for an investigation of loss of cell signal in a remote area of the west county (Branscomb). US Cellular sent engineers out and spent time and money to get service restored for a remote area. Although few people live there, there is a UC field station and this cell signal is an important safety link for researchers in the field during the spring/summer/fall season.
- The Covelo/Round Valley area needs better cellular service. The Alliance requested US Cellular to consider upgrading services. A US Cellular engineer responded quickly asking the Alliance to partner to help secure public support for a new cell site. The Alliance provided Frontier (who just acquired Verizon land line territories in Mendocino) with a spreadsheet of information on the current broadband speeds of Anchor Institutions in the towns of Laytonville and Covelo. Most are served by DSL speeds ranging from about 3-6 Mbps (some a lot slower) and have said that they would greatly welcome faster speeds.
- Network upgrades by Central Valley Cable and Seakay were promoted through social media.
- The Alliance is working with the non-profit provider [SeaKay](#) on potential projects for 3 coastal areas: Westport, Albion and Road 409. The Alliance was able to schedule a conference call with the Executive Director of Jefferson Public Radio, which has a translator tower in the Road 409 area, for a potential collaborative partnership. The Alliance is also

communicating with contacts at PG&E on SeaKay's behalf for a potential hybrid fiber-wireless project in the Albion area.

**Napa County.** After nearly a year of discussion Napa has received a proposal from Valley Internet for them to provide county 20 Mbps download broadband service into the three Migrant Farm Centers; that will give adequate broadband services to the migrant workers who reside at the centers and more importantly enable the County Library to offer a quality adoption program to these migrant workers. As a result, the Napa Team has drafted a project plan for internal County approval and subsequent submission to the CASF to use the county's unspent CASF grant funds to implement this three-year project.

**Sonoma County.** Co-Chair Sharpe met with Sonic's Senior Fiber Specialist to review the regional rural broadband program. Sharpe also met with Comcast's Governmental Affairs Manager to review current Comcast infrastructure and adoption program projects. Senator McGuire has invited Co-Chairs Nicholls and Sharpe to participate in a multi-county strategic emergency services response issues meeting in Ukiah. The meeting is designed for ATT to communicate directly to county leads on specific infrastructure improvements designed to provide diversity and redundancy in Northern CA.

### **3. Activity #3: INCORPORATE THESE BROADBAND NEEDS INTO COUNTYWIDE AND COMMUNITY-BASED PLANS**

#### **3.1. Develop a Countywide Infrastructure Plan based on the Assessed Needs-- Deliverable #2**

- 3.1.1. Secure the endorsement of the county and community leaders to the conceptual design developed in the last quarter of Year 1.
- 3.1.2. Work with committed providers to create a detailed design;
- 3.1.3. Assess the gaps in the current infrastructure;
- 3.1.4. Develop cost estimates to implement this detailed design;
- 3.1.5. Review the detailed design and cost estimates with county and community leaders and participating telecommunications providers;
- 3.1.6. Modify the detailed design and costs; and,
- 3.1.7. Produce and share the detailed design for the county.

**Marin County.** In the third quarter, MBTF's strategic development partner continued to examine possible routes for backhaul / middle mile optical facilities from Nicasio to the underserved communities of West Marin.

The Nicasio Broadband proposed network is configured to create the central node which will be used to tie backhaul / middle mile optical cable routes supporting new broadband networks to be deployed along the West Marin coast back to the metro fiber ring connecting Nicasio to regional Internet exchange points (IXPs) in the San Francisco Bay Area.

MBTF has previously reported this planning in other quarters. Similarly, we referenced in this planning our application for CASF-Consortia Account funding for an additional two (2) years. Inyo Networks, Inc. referenced the same issue in its Nicasio Broadband application to CASF (November 2015).

In this manner, Marin County and its community, provider, and strategic partner (Inyo Networks, Inc.) remain intent on developing, and continuing to present to CPUC-CASF a comprehensive and integrated plan for multiple access / last mile networks in West Marin, and the necessary backhaul / middle mile networks required.

**Mendocino County**. The Alliance is continuing to work with providers on ideas for potential “last-mile” plans. The challenge makes this work a roller-coaster ride for communities, who get their hopes up, only to find the providers can’t make a project pencil out. However, as evidenced above (activity 2.3) there are some successes, and work continues with new ideas.

The county is also engaged in efforts to help deployment. Last year a [streamlined permitting process](#) for inland broadband projects was approved, with the Alliance’s support. The Alliance is continuing to work with the county on a similar streamlined process for the coastal area.

The Alliance developed a fiber-based conceptual design map for Mendocino County in 2015, and brought to various groups for endorsement; however, several prominent ISPs expressed concern that it was not realistic because it was 1) too expensive, and 2) not necessary because a microwave backhaul network was feasible. And indeed, the county and WISPs are now putting infrastructure in place with cross-county microwave links. The large amount of fiber currently in the ground (although not all used), and owned by AT&T also made potential funding for any new fiber backbone problematic as many granting agencies would consider it an “over-build” and AT&T does not lease dark fiber. For that reason, the Alliance needs to go back and re-design the backbone with more feedback from the county IT and ISPs to a format in which most agencies would endorse it. This is part of the NBNCBC grant extension work plan for year 3.

The idea of “Fixed Wireless” providing a more realistic solution for the rural areas of the county is growing. The Alliance hosted a presentation by the non-profit De Novo Group on March 4th entitled, “Why Fixed Wireless is the Hope for Rural Sustainable Broadband.” De Novo was able to purchase backhaul from Level 3, one of the largest long haul providers in the country, and offered to act as a “broker” for other WISPs for Level 3 fiber. Presentation notes were made available to the public and [posted](#) on the Alliance website.

**Napa County**. Early in the life of this consortium the Napa Team decided not to develop a countywide infrastructure plan fearing it would raise expectations that could not be realized given the limited availability of grant funding sources. Instead the Napa Team has focused on identifying the pockets of unmet needs throughout the county. Utilizing the most recently published CPUC Data—2015 Data Availability—the Napa Team is in the process of developing a report for distribution to the county and community leaders throughout the county.

According to the CPUC data there are 48,876 households in Napa County. Of that total, the CPUC data indicate 45,079 households are served, or 92.24 percent and 3,797 are either unserved or underserved, or 7.76 percent. Upon a more detailed examination 28,166 of the household are located in the incorporated city of Napa and all but 161 are served. At the same time of the remaining 20,710 households in the other four (4) incorporated cities, the six (6) census designated places and 13 rural zip code areas (including two that surround Napa) 17,074 are designated as served, or 82.44 percent and 3,636 households are unserved or underserved, or 17.56 percent.

If this preliminary analysis holds up there will be a need to work with the providers to extend their reach into these unserved and underserved areas.

**Sonoma County.** Access Broadband Sonoma (ASB) has presented conceptual maps to county CAO, Oversight Committee Member, ISD Manager and other key county employees. We have reviewed our conceptual maps with major wireline and one fixed wireless provider. Costs have not been estimated during this quarter. Sonoma County continues to be in negotiation with a potential provider for the WilTel asset. Sonoma Marin Area Transit (SMART)/Sonic.net is providing 6 strands of fiber to cities and county from their network.

### 3.2. Assist Communities to Develop and Launch Projects— Deliverable #2

- 3.2.1. Continue to assist interested communities to develop a community “last mile” project based on the broadband needs of that specific community; and,
- 3.2.2. Identify a committed provider to undertake the project plan for each community.

**Marin County.** Please see our report in Sections 2.2 and 2.3, above.

**Mendocino County.** See Section 3.1.

**Napa County.** Based on the results of our analysis (See 3.1) the Napa Team will work with the local areas and providers to push for broadband services into unserved and underserved areas.

**Sonoma County.** Access Broadband Sonoma (ASB) continues to communicate with isolated communities regarding last mile projects. Detailed feasibility studies for priority areas have been shared with a potential provider for their analysis and evaluation. we’ve met with potential providers to determine how their deployment expansion matches ASB priorities to insure no duplication of effort.

### 3.3. Develop Time-Action Plan for Implementation

- 3.3.1. Work with committed providers that are ready and able to deploy the needed broadband infrastructure and services to that community;
- 3.3.2. Work with committed providers to pursue securing state, federal, and private funds to launch projects; and,
- 3.3.3. Assist these providers in launching projects in meeting government agency requirements.

**Marin County.** Please see our report in Sections 2.2 and 2.3, above.

**Mendocino County.** The Alliance is committed to working with community to assist in the development of “last-mile” plans. It is also committed to working with providers, although because of the difficulty of this challenge, community organizing is an important part of a potential project. Most of these potential plans have been introduced in other parts of this report, but in summary the Alliance is currently working with the following communities:

- Albion (SeaKay, Further Reach, and the Mendocino Coast Broadband Alliance)
- Westport (SeaKay)
- Road 409 (SeaKay)

- Covelo (US Cellular, Frontier)
- Laytonville (Frontier)

Securing funding for projects has not been easy. The CASF program has provided state funds for deployment which have been very critical to Mendocino County in the past. The Alliance hopes that the CASF program is re-authorized so some of these potential projects mentioned in this report have the possibility for funding as they are developed. [Letters in support](#) of legislation for these programs have been submitted and are posted on the Alliance website.

**Napa County.** None at this time.

**Sonoma County.** Race Communications has filed an application to CPUC for Gigify Occidental (Joy Road Priority Area) and is awaiting a response. ASB has provided Race with detailed feasibility studies for Dry Creek, Cazadero and Jenner Priority Areas. Initial plans include the prioritization of Dry Creek as the next rollout, pending CPUC’s decision on Gigify Occidental.

### 3.4. Facilitate and Monitor the Overall implementation of these Community-based Broadband Projects

3.4.1 Facilitate and monitor the implementation of these community broadband projects.

**Marin County.** As we reference above, in Section 2.2, 2.3 and 3.1, our strategic developmental partner, Inyo Networks, Inc., has informed us that it requires indications that the review process of the Nicasio Broadband application is moving ahead, and/or reasonable assurance that the CASF Program will be reauthorized by the Legislature in order to move ahead aggressively for the balance of communities in West Marin.

**Mendocino County.** Facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of community-based broadband projects is an ongoing activity. The public is kept informed of progress via the Alliance’s public outreach meetings, [website](#), email list, and [social media](#).

**Napa County.** None at this time.

**Sonoma County.** ASB collaborated closely with Race Communications personnel in preparation for the application to CPUC for Gigify Occidental project. A Sonoma EDB Board Member is facilitating a meeting with a Dry Creek broadband advocacy group to review and discuss infrastructure plans in early April.

## 4. Activity #4: INTEGRATE THE COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS AND PLANS INTO A REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION---**Deliverable #2**

### 4.1. Aggregate the Broadband Needs of the Counties into a Regional Needs Statement

- 4.1.1. Update and aggregate the county broadband needs that are regional;
- 4.1.2. Update the an overall regional design;
- 4.1.3. Working with the counties refine regional broadband design;
- 4.1.4. Develop cost estimates to implement the unfilled gaps in this design; and
- 4.1.5. Produce and share a project plan for a region project.

**NBNCBC Consortium.** As reported in previous quarterly reports lines on regional maps have been drawn to signify possible routes in several counties, with theoretical points of connection. These pre-designed route outlines have been used by several of the counties as possible examples of intra-county routes, and inter-county points of interconnection.

Integral to this effort, **NBNCBC** has identified a major need for a fiber-based middle mile infrastructure along the Route 101 Corridor from the Bay Area to the Oregon border to facilitate economic development in the region and to create a more competitive and cost-effective environment for broadband services to this region.

We have developed a request for proposal to engage a consulting engineer to do a preliminary design and cost estimate for some of the segments the Route 101 Corridor. We are weighing using some of the remaining unspent CASF grant funds to launch this effort and to complete a portion of the work before June 30, 2016.

## 5. Activity #5: FOSTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADOPTION AND TRAINING PLANS AND PROGRAMS--- Deliverable #3

### 5.1. Update Data on Existing Adoption and Training Programs

- 5.1.1. Identify existing programs that might be offered in each county; and,
- 5.1.2. Update the assessed need for adoption programs in each county.

### 5.2. Develop Implementation Plans for Adoption Programs

- 5.2.1. Work with community-based entities within the county to develop a base level program for the county;
- 5.2.2. Work with these entities to identify funding sources to underwrite to enable them to implement the base level program across the county; and,
- 5.2.3. Work with these community-based entities implement tailored programs, where needed.

**Marin County.** MBTF Member Barbara Thornton, Executive Officer of the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) continues to spearhead MBTF's adoption efforts by working with community partners in a specific community in Marin.

**Mendocino County.** Since the [Adoption Report](#) was published almost a year ago, the Alliance has been meeting with school districts and the Community Foundation to develop a proposal for a county-wide digital literacy adoption program, with a plan to submit to the Bechel foundation for private funding. The proposal ideas have gone through various evolutions with each meeting, and it has been a lot of work, but the feedback has helped form a proposal that has great potential. The proposal is now out for review.

The Alliance is also working to improve digital literacy in other ways as well. A volunteer is writing a blog titled, "[Crossing the Digital Divide](#)". Seven of the articles are now posted on the Alliance website.

And finally, the Alliance is working with the Family Resource Center in Laytonville for submittal of a "Letter of Interest" for the grant program that the California Emerging Technology Fund/Frontier partnership has established to increase broadband adoptions among low-income families.

**Napa County.** We have drafted a three-year project plan to provide broadband access and adoption training to as many as 500 migrant workers who reside in the three county-owned and operated farm worker centers throughout the year. This project is designed to recapture the original goals of providing access to: online language and digital literacy instruction, resources and other information tools for this population, and adequate general Internet services to enable the residents to communicate with family and friends while residing at these centers.

We are proposing to use Napa's unspent CASF grant funds, approximately \$48,000 to underwrite this three-year project. We plan to submit to CASF (Alice Glasner) this project proposal by the end of April. Subject to CASF approval the project will be launched by June 15, 2016 with the CASF grant funds expended by June 30, 2016.

**Sonoma County.** ASB followed up with Comcast during a second meeting regarding expansion of their planned Internet Essentials program for seniors in Sonoma County. Stumbling blocks were discussed regarding the rollout in San Francisco and potential sponsoring groups for a Sonoma County program. Individual County Senior Centers have developed their own programs fitting in with local community needs.

## **Activity #6: EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CONSORTIUM**

### **Deliverable #4**

6.1.1 Conduct an overall evaluation of the Consortium's performance.

This activity will be done in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.