# North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium



**Date**: April 6th, 2017

To: BAMC Executive Committee

Subject: March 2017 Broadband Summary of Activities

From: Trish Steel

### **Broadband Deployments and Adoption**

- Comments on the PUC "High Impact" areas were submitted to the PUC on March 16th.
- Bad news for Road 409: The JPR leasing agreement we were working on with a provider fell through. An engineer from JPR assessed the tower, and there are structural problems with the tower base that would require a major investment to fix. However, if they do nothing new with the tower, ie, no new equipment is added, then they don't have invest money. So that means that JPR has no motivation to fix the tower, since the income from leasing would be minimal. Even with offers to help finance repairs (grants, private investment) JPR does not have interest.
- Bad news from Frontier: I met with the Frontier Legislative Affairs for CA and they have no plans to spend CAF money in Mendocino for 2017; she would not share any information about future years.
- AT&T had a nationwide mobile outage on March 8th, and Homeland Security is opening an investigation into how it affect 911. I sent info to the Sheriff and Mendocino participated in the survey.
- AT&T also had a line down in Humboldt (<a href="http://kymkemp.com/2017/03/22/the-avenue-of-the-giants-is-closed-due-to-tree-down-and-fiber-optic-line-blocking-the-road/">http://kymkemp.com/2017/03/22/the-avenue-of-the-giants-is-closed-due-to-tree-down-and-fiber-optic-line-blocking-the-road/</a>) So even with their network upgrades the single route along Hwy 101 is an issue...
- Rumors of Cal-Neva closing their doors was just that a rumor. They are still in business.
- Good news: Some Gualala businesses now have fiber connectivity via GigaCity Fiber.
- Good news: The city of Willits has been successful in their meetings with CalTrans and conduit will be installed as part of their Main Street project.
- The NBNCBC developed some statistics and charts on wireline availability using recently release Round 12 data. This also includes the CPUC "gap" data which shows how many households are short for that county to reach the 98% served status. I converted that to percentage points (blue column). Mendocino is 30.8 percentage points away from 98% service. These new data sets are posted under Round 12 Data.
- I participated and helped promote AT&T's "It Can Wait" campaign to educate on the dangers of texting while driving. It's a good program and technology should be used safely.
- Want to read about a crazy-sounding idea that could disrupt the whole industry? Check out traxyl.com





## **Broadband Goals and Strategies**

The Broadband Goals is an important focus for this next quarter especially and <u>I am keeping info posted on website</u>. We have 3 official endorsements, and presentations before city councils in Ukiah (May 3rd) and Willits (May 10th) scheduled. I have met with some groups this month, including CalFire to update them on our activities. Hopefully we'll take the goals before the BoS in July.

#### **NBNCBC**

The Quarter 1 report was submitted to Tom, but the official 4-county report is not yet
official. I'll post under <u>NBNCBC</u> when it's available but for now the Mendocino County
portion is attached.

### Legislation and PUC Update

- Jim Wood signed on as co-author of The Internet For All Now (IFAN) and is meeting
  weekly with stakeholders; the bill is set to go to committee in April; that is about all I
  know. No details yet or language available.
- No decision from the PUC yet on whether they grant the carrier's request for a "stay" or re-hearing in the Rural Call Completion proceeding. (The 6-month delay request was granted)
- The PUC released their <u>Scoping Memo for Phase 2</u>; Mendocino did not submit comments on the memo, but I hope to have the county submit "reply-comments" which are due April 12th. There are other comments to the scoping memo posted.

#### Outreach

- We had our regular outreach meeting on March 3rd.
- I am doing a lot of outreach for endorsements of our Goals and Strategies. Please help if you can get an organization you are affiliated with to endorse.
- 3/28 I met with Cliff Rechtschaffen, the new PUC Commissioner along with a small group in San Francisco. The meeting was short (45 minutes) but good and I'm glad that I attended. The purpose was to update him on the IFAN/CASF legislation, the need for the legislation, and how the CASF program impacts us.





## March Meeting Summary

03/03/17	Public Outreach meeting	Community Foundation
03/08/17	NBNCBC team meeting	Conference call
03/17/17	Meeting with Frontier	In person, Laytonville
03/22/17	Meeting with Ukiah Coucilman Doble	Ukiah
03/22/17	Meeting with Agriculture Commissioner	Ukiah
03/22/17	Meeting with Ukiah Chamber of Commerce	Ukiah
03/28/17	Meeting with PUC Commissioner Cliff Rechshaffen	San Fransisco
03/30/17	Meeting with Farm Bureau	Ukiah
03/30/17	Meeting with CalFire Chief	Howard Forest CalFire Station
03/30/17	Participation in AT&T's "It Can Wait" campaign	Ukiah