

North Bay/North Coast Broadband Consortium

**The North Bay/North Coast Broadband
Consortium
(NCBCBC)**

**2nd Quarter Report
to the
CASF**

October 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014

Submitted December 31, 2014

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 primary goals of the Year 1 Annual Work Plan, Project Schedule and Budget are to:

- complete the development of community-based “last mile” plans for those unserved and underserved communities in each of the four counties; and,
- work with providers to facilitate the development, funding, and implementation of specific projects that will bring broadband infrastructure and services to these communities.

There are three measurable deliverables in the Year 1 Work Plan.

Deliverable #1 Produce a report covering each county’s: 1) involvement of the wide range of stakeholders (*Activity 1.1*) and (*Activity 1.2*); 2) completion of ground truth surveys validating broadband availability and access (*Activity 2.1*); and 3) status and progress in working with telecommunications providers to launch and implement projects that will provide broadband capabilities to serve 98 % of the county’s households (*Activity 2.2*) and (*Activity 2.3*).

Deliverable #2 Produce a report that includes: 1) a conceptual design for a countywide infrastructure plan for each county (*Activity 3.1*); 2) an initial set of “last mile” conceptual designs for communities in each county (*Activity 3.2*); and, 3) a conceptual design for a Region I Infrastructure Plan that links the county plans together (*Activity 4.1*). This report and designs will be used as a guide for the implementation of infrastructure projects and as a yardstick to measure progress (*Activity 3.4*) towards the 98% household access goal.

Deliverable #3 Issue a progress report assessing the availability of and the needs for adoption programs in each county. (*Activity 5.1*)

These deliverables and the associated activities are shown in Chart 2.1 below. **NBNCBC** will measure its performance against these tasks and deliverables in the Year 1 Work Plan on a quarterly basis using the Chart 2.1.

To execute the Year 1 Work Plan, **NBNCBC** is organized as follows: The four county governments are directly involved with the work of **NBNCBC**. As part of their participation in **NBNCBC** each of the four County Boards of Supervisors approved a

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to have Sonoma County act as the financial agent to administer the CASF Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia grant of \$250,000 over two years. Each Board also appointed a County Supervisor to serve on the NBNCBC Oversight Committee. The members of the Oversight Committee are Steve Kinsey, Marin County; Dan Hamburg, Mendocino County; Diane Dillon, Napa County; and, Efren Carrillo, Sonoma County. Tom West, the Consortia Manager, serves as the non-voting chair. Through the members of the Oversight Committee the interests of all the constituents of each county are represented.

The day to day operations of **NBNCBC** are carried out by a Management Team that includes the Consortium Manager and a County Manager and Deputies for each county. The members of the Management Team are Peter Pratt, Barbara Layton and Barbara Thornton, Marin; Jim Moorehead, Mendocino; Anthony Halstead, Napa; Mike Nicholls and Steve Sharpe, Sonoma; and, West and Trish Steel for **NBNCBC**.

Most of the work of **NBNCBC** is carried out at the county level. Each county has an advisory group or a task force driving the work.

The Oversight Committee meets officially on a quarterly basis, or as needed. Each county manager is keeping his Oversight Committee member informed on an ongoing basis; often meeting on specific topics.

The **NBNCBC** Management team meets at least once a month and often has special conference calls between meetings. Email exchanges occur daily keeping team members aware of ongoing activities in each of the four counties.

II. SUMMARY OF THE 2nd QUARTER

There are six major activities in carrying out this two-year effort. Within each activity, there are several tasks to be executed. In the Year 1 Work Plan we are only dealing with the first five activities.

During this second quarter the primary work of NBNCBC and each of the counties has been focused on **Activity 1.1, Activity 1.2, Activity 2.1, Activity 2.2 and Activity 2.3**. As depicted in the Project Schedule, we launched **Activity 5** at the start of October 2014. Although **Activity 3** is scheduled to commence in January 2015, Mendocino and Sonoma have already done some preliminary work in the activity. **Activity 4** launches in April 2015.

As shown in Chart 2.1, NBNCBC has achieved 80 percent of its target for **Activity 1 and Activity 2 (Deliverable #1)** through the second quarter. These two activities represent the major work to be accomplished by NBNCBC in this first year. There has been some initial work accomplished in **Activity 3**, 10 percent, and **Activity 5**, 10 percent.

Chart 2.1 FY Year 1 Performance Measures: Outcome Metrics

DELIVERABLES	Projected Completion Date	1st Qtr % Achieved	2Qtr % Achieved	3Qtr % Achieved	4Qth % Achieved
Deliverable #1. Status and Progress Report on <i>Activity 1.1 and 1.2 and Activity 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3</i>	6-30-15	65%	80%		
Deliverable #2. Status and Progress Report on <i>Activity 3.1, 3.2 and 3.4 and Activity 4.1.</i>	6-30-15	0%	10%		
Deliverable #3. Report on the Availability of and needs for adoption programs <i>Activity 5.1</i>	3-31-15	0%	10%		

It should be noted that Marin County has taken the **NBNCBC Year 1 Work Plan and Deliverables** as a guide and developed its own specific county- based Year 1 Work Plan to reflect its needs and priorities, but remain consistent with the overall **NBNCBC Year 1 Work Plan**. The other three counties are following the **NBNCBC Year 1 Work Plan**. As can be noted in this report each county is progressing at its own pace.

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

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

1.1. Engage Community Leadership

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

NBNCBC Consortium. As stated earlier, most of the tasks in the various activities are being carried out at the county level by the county teams. The Consortium Manager, Tom West, did meet the Napa County team and Supervisor Dillon in early October. The Chico GIC team was also present. The purpose of the meeting was to agree on a plan of action to pursue. (SEE Napa sections of this report for more details).

The Consortium Manager also spent three days in Mendocino in early November with the Mendocino team meeting with local providers,

community groups, two county supervisors, the Chief Executive Officer of the County and the Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County (BAMC). (SEE Mendocino sections of this report for more details).

Marin County. During 2Q 2014, Marin Broadband Task Force (MBTF) members kept the Supervisor and staff of Marin Supervisor Steve Kinsey (District 4) apprised of our activities. Supervisor Kinsey is Marin’s representative on NBNCBC’s Oversight Committee.

We have also briefed the President of the Board of Supervisors, Kate Sears (District 3), as MBTF moves into the network planning stage for the use of dark fiber assets in support more cost effective bandwidth for Marin’s school districts. These assets currently are installed and have been ‘lit’ in two (2) connected ‘metro rings’ in Marin County.

Supervisor Sears also serves as Chair of the Board of the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA), and has in District 3 a school district in which bandwidth constraint has been reported to the Marin County Office of Education (MCOE). For these reasons, we made the effort to report to Supervisor Sears as the E-Rate dark fiber initiative moves ahead.

As detailed in Section 2.2, below, it is the simultaneous goal of this network planning effort to have one (1) or more optical transport carriers / infrastructure providers to furnish the needed middle mile connections to Marin’s under- and un- served Priority Area communities, as fiber extension projects move into the rural underserved communities of West Marin.

Mendocino County. Community leadership has been actively engaged in Mendocino County. The Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County (BAMC) has met the first Friday of every month during the 2nd quarter. These meetings have been well attended, and have included County Executive Office representatives, Supervisors, Congressman Huffman’s Field Representative, Public Safety representative, the Executive Director of the Economic Development and Financing Corporation (EDFC), and the County Office of Education. We also continue to work with the County Planning Department on the revision to its Wireless Guidelines.

At the November 10th Board of Supervisors meeting, the “Broadband Outage Report” prepared by the Broadband Alliance was approved and posted to the county website (<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/bos/incidentreport.htm>), indicating a strong show of support at the highest level in the county for the work that we are doing. This report details how an ATT fiber break affected county residents, many of whom lost basic 911 services, and highlights the need for redundancy in our county broadband networks.

The County recently took action to allocate \$40,000 in its annual budget to hire a contract person to assist with the BAMC work on the **NBNCBC Year1 Work Plan**. This person will report to Steve Dunncliff, County Director of Planning and Building Services. Dunncliff will replace Jim Moorehead as the Mendocino County NBNCBC Manager. Moorehead is retiring from active leadership of BAMC. In essence, Dunncliff will bring

the efforts of BAMC and the County into alignment and spearhead the broadband efforts in the county. The contract person will assist Dunicliff.

Napa County. In early October the Napa team, Tom West and the Chico GIC staff met with Supervisor Diane Dillon in a day-long planning session. A plan of action was agreed to take the following actions: 1) Napa team identifies the priority areas working with the Sherriff's office 2) Chico GIC conducts mobile ground truth testing; and 3) Supervisor Dillon hosts a series of community meetings. Also, the Napa team has been working with key leaders interested in the Public Housing grant program.

Sonoma County. Access Sonoma Broadband (ASB) held monthly meetings covering a range of topics including: Local Telecommunications Permitting, 911 Outage Response, Ground Truth Survey Report, Local Safety/Emergency Services Networking, and Library Technology and Planning. ASB met with Sonoma County Wine and Grape Association, Open Space and Sonoma Land Trust and with Sonoma County State and Federal Legislative Advocates. Mike Nicholls traveled to in Wash. DC to participate in meetings with Federal Legislative delegation, FCC Commissioner Staff, RUS and USDA. ASB met with Open Space and Sonoma Land Trust. Nicholls addressed Russian River Rotary on progress and DC trip. ASB met with School District Superintendent re implementation of satellite broadband on school busses and potential for grant funding for rural students.

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;*
- 1.2.6. *Publish an electronic newsletter quarterly;*
- 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. There have been a couple memoranda from the Management Team that have been copied to the Oversight Committee during this second quarter. Mostly these memos to the Oversight Committee members deal with specific issues. At the same time each county manager makes frequent personal contact with the Supervisor to answer any questions.

The first official Oversight Committee meeting was held on October 3, 2014. The second official meeting was held on December 19, 2014. Future meetings are planned for April and June.

NBNCBC does not maintain an independent web site. It relies on the

BAMC web site to host its official information. The other counties also may post NBNCBC Information.

The planned an electronic newsletter in October did not take place. The first electronic newsletter will be issued by the end of January 2015.

A special report on Phase 1 Mobile Ground Truth Testing was submitted to the CPUC November 1, 2014. It was also shared with the Oversight Committee and the county advisory groups.

Marin County. Given the analytical and technical nature of our work during 2Q 2014, there was no media outreach conducted during this period. The Marin broadband initiative did however continue to enjoy increased recognition of our efforts among in-county elected officials, public sector agencies personnel, and the public at large. This remains the case, thanks to the positive regional news stories in 1Q 2014, and a lead editorial in support of the effort by the County's newspaper of record, the *Marin Independent Journal* published following the approval of NBNCBC by the Commission.

MBTF Member Barbara Thornton, Executive Officer of the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) continues to report activity updates on the efforts of MBTF to her Board members representing the County and all municipalities in Marin, excepting the City of Novato.

Assistance was given to County Supervisors' offices in response to citizen / constituent inquiries on broadband availability, to the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) as provider availability questions emerged regarding the commercial districts within the City of San Rafael, and to existing and proposed broadband providers seeking to bring broadband infrastructure to underserved areas of the County.

This latter work item is detailed more specifically under subsequent sections of this report.

Mendocino County. Mendocino County has reached out to the local community to educate and involve them in the broadband issue. We had meetings with representatives from three important community groups in unserved areas- Road 409, the Sherwood Road, and the Hopland Tribe of Pomo Indians. All are eager to work with the NBNCBC to improve broadband access for their communities.

Community members are actively attending and participating in Alliance monthly meetings, and play a valuable role in our efforts. We continue to post agendas and notes to our website and promote outreach work to enlarge the scope of our work.

Alliance Chairman Jim Moorehead was invited by Regina Costa of The Utilities Reform Network to participate in a telecom panel that she organized for the annual National Association of State Utility Consumers Advocates (NASUCA) at their annual conference in San Francisco on Nov. 18th. Jim presented highlights of the Broadband Outage report and its

effect on our county and was well received by the audience.

Napa County. No activity this quarter.

Sonoma County. ASB conducted four (4) meetings (see above). The Sonoma County board of supervisors approved the MOU for fiscal agent services. ASB responded to several individual inquiries regarding broadband services. ASB provided input for local press articles in several county newspapers re rural broadband access issues. ASB briefed new Supervisor Elect on Broadband issues. ASB updated its website regularly with timely news releases.

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--- **Deliverable #1**

- 2.1.1. *Initiate the Ground Truth Surveys, using the CPUC process, in Marin and Napa counties first focusing on the unserved and underserved communities, as reported by CPUC reports and continue working towards a complete county assessment of broadband needs;*
- 2.1.2. *Extend the use of the CPUC Ground Truth Survey process already underway in Mendocino and Sonoma counties working towards a complete county assessment of broadband needs; and,*
- 2.1.3. *Compile a progress report for each county of its finding as a result of the ground truth surveys.*

NBNBC Consortium. NBNBC launched an extensive Ground Truth Testing project. The project is being conducted in three phases. Chico GIC is executing this Ground Truth testing project. Chico GIC is using the CPUC's standing protocols and processes.

Phase 1 testing for Marin and Sonoma was completed and a report was submitted to CPUC on November 1, 2014.

Phase 2 mobile testing in Mendocino was complete in early December. The data are in the process of being analyzed. The data and written report are to be submitted to CPUC in mid-January.

Phase 3 will involve testing the priority areas for Napa that have now been identified. The testing of these priority areas, which are serviced by mobile wireless will take place in late January.

Marin County. We greatly appreciate the responsiveness of CPUC staff in providing guidance to NBNBC and to MBTF as Phase I of the field-testing was planned, executed, and its results analyzed.

As we stated in the 1Q 2014 report, "inclusion of mobile wireless data in the published Priority Areas of Commission Resolution T-17443 'converts' all 4 underserved and unserved communities of West Marin to "served"

designation. Marin is the only county in NBNCBC to experience such a 100% conversion rate.”

While we still point to the fact that such inclusion of mobile wireless in the metrics defining broadband availability” is policy that is at variance with funding criteria of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and of most other states that provide capital subsidies for broadband infrastructure”, MBTF is pleased that the Phase I sampling data demonstrates West Marin communities are indeed eligible for CASF funding.

This corrected data is now being used in our support liaison activity with broadband providers that have expressed interest in serving the Priority Area communities with broadband network infrastructure.

Mendocino County. BAMC Mendocino County held three days of intensive meetings while NBNCBC Consortium Manager Tom West was up in our area. During this time, we met with a broad range of community groups, leaders, and service providers to discuss broadband needs and services. We learned a great deal about the issues that our county faces in trying to reach specific areas of the county. This data was compiled into a "Provider Spreadsheet" for use in county planning.

Phase 2 of the Mobile Ground Truth Testing, sub-contracted to Chico GIC, occurred in late November and early December in six priority areas in Mendocino County to test for mobile wireless service. Within each priority area there were a number of different test sites. The results from this testing have not yet been analyzed. Fixed wireless and wireline testing sites have been selected, but will actual testing will not commence until the next quarter.

Napa County. The Napa team reviewed the broadband maps provided by the Chico GIC and identified areas that were unserved or underserved that would benefit from ground-truth testing based on their population density and/or planned development, both residential and industrial. Chico GIC staff will test the locations in these priority areas in January 2015.

Sonoma County. As part of the NBNCBC Phase 1 Mobile Wireless ground-truth testing project, testing was completed by Chico GIC on all five priority areas in the Sonoma County. The data and a written report were submitted to the CPUC on November 1, 2014. The report concluded that all five of the priority areas in Sonoma County tested to be unserved by mobile wireless. CPUC replied to the report agreeing with the results. The report was presented to the ASB group.

Additional fixed and wireline ground truth testing may be needed in Cazadero. This priority area is designated as being “served” on the California Broadband Availability Map. However, ASB believes much of this area is “underserved.” Work is in process with the leadership of these communities.

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

Deliverable #1

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

NBNCBC Consortium. This activity and the sub-activities are being carried out at the county level.

Marin County. MBTF is working with the Marin County Office of Education (MCOE) on planning for the first use of commercial dark fiber resources for E-Rate funded educational (K-12) use in Marin. We have begun a conceptual network design for use of dark fiber assets owned by Zayo Group, as such assets exist in underground pathways proximate to high bandwidth school facilities.

On one (1) key route, network design and costing work has begun to determine if Marin County government may also use the optical assets to cost effectively connect the data facilities of two (2) high demand locations, the Marin Civic Center, and the Marin Commons civilian and public safety facility. If dark fiber is proven to operate reliably and cost effectively for these school (E-Rate funded) and County agencies, network design and cost options will be explored for E-Rate funded optical fiber to be extended to schools in the underserved communities of West Marin. In this scenario, fiber could provide middle mile connectivity to broadband providers seeking CASF and other public sector subsidies to build access networks in these Priority Area communities.

This public sector demand aggregation model for the deployment of optical fiber supporting broadband underserved areas was a listed goal and operating strategy of MBTF in NBNCBC's application for Consortium approval to CPUC, filed in January 2014.

Mendocino County. During our three days of intensive meetings while NBNCBC manager Tom West was in the area, we met with major service entities, including the County Superintendent from the County Office of Education, and the Library Director and a member of the Library Advisory Board. These meetings were an opportunity to discuss broadband needs, issues, and challenges. We maintain a dialog with county government at a high level (Board of Supervisors) through the involvement of Supervisors at our monthly Broadband Alliance meetings.

Randy MacDonald, Chair of the Communications Committee of Mendocino County Fire Chiefs, made a presentation to the BAMC December meeting on the interface of public safety with broadband, and which agencies had most potential for working collaboratively with the NBNCBC and/or taking a lead in issues related to broadband.

Napa County. There were no contacts made during this quarter. The plan is to engage these groups once the ground truth testing is completed in the county.

Sonoma County. ASB worked with Sonoma County Office of Education on school broadband grant opportunities. ASB had a presentation by Sonoma Sheriff on public safety network. ASB had a presentation by County PRMD (planning office) regarding telecommunications permitting and policies. ASB had a presentation on Sonoma Library technology and planning. ASB reported to Cazadero CSD on DC Trip and status of priority areas.

2.3. Involve and Work with Telecommunications Providers---

Deliverable #1

- 2.3.1. *Initiate meetings with current major and local telecommunications providers, wireless ISPs, and cellular providers in the county to learn of their current offerings and future plans to deploy broadband to the communities throughout each of the four counties;*
- 2.3.2. *Determine the interest of each company in cooperating in this project;*
- 2.3.3. *Assess whether or not their current assets and future plans can be utilized to help meet the broadband needs in the counties and communities they serve;*
- 2.3.4. *Confirm those providers that do have such assets and are willing to work with the consortium in designing and implementing infrastructure plans to meet the needs countywide and in the communities they serve; and,*
- 2.3.5. *Produce a report that documents the results of these interactions with the providers.*

NBNCBC Consortium. In October, the Consortium Manager and members from Sonoma and Mendocino teams met with representatives from First Solutions and Fujitsu Network Communications. These two organizations have teamed up to invest in, build and operate broadband infrastructure in various regions of the country. They are currently working with UTOPIA in Utah and a finalist for a major project in Kentucky. Based on that discussion First Solutions determined that the NBNCBC region was not

ready to entertain a proposal from them.

Marin County. As referenced in Section 3.2, below, MBTF continues to work with several in-county based providers that have expressed interest in pursuing CASF, federal, and other funding to construct and operate broadband network facilities in Marin's under- and un- served Priority Communities.

Mendocino County. As mentioned, Mendocino County held two days of intensive meetings while NBNCBC Manager Tom West was up in our area. During our meetings with service providers who are active in Mendocino County, we asked the providers to share detailed information to determine current extent of service, future expansion plans (if any), and issues and challenges they face in their business operations. The majority of providers were open and willing to share this information and to work with us. Providers we had meetings with included Ted Williams of Tednology; Mendocino Community Network; North Coast Internet; 101 Netlinks; Pacific Internet; SeaKay; Central Valley Cable; and Ukiah Wireless. From these meeting we gained important "big picture" information about the challenges providers face in trying to meet the needs of local communities. Interestingly most of these providers do not have current plans to pursue a grant from the CASF Infrastructure Program. Most made the point that their major challenge was getting access to affordable backhaul transport.

Mendocino is also pursuing talks with the North Coast Railroad Authority and the Western Pacific Railroad regarding discussions of Right of Way as an asset for the deployment of broadband infrastructure and incorporation into the county fiber backbone plan.

All this information was compiled into a spreadsheet that will be used for planning purposes.

Napa County. Once the ground truth testing is done in the county the providers doing business in the county will be engaged to determine their interest in providing infrastructure and services to the priority areas that are identified as unserved or underserved.

Sonoma County. ASB engaged incumbent providers as participants in Access Sonoma Broadband group. Scheduled meetings with AT&T and Verizon with Mendocino and Sonoma officials to discuss and find solutions to 911 outages in both counties. Sonoma County is considering public/private project to utilize abandoned WilTel conduit infrastructure in unincorporated area. ASB contacted Homeland Security Branch of FCC re 911 outages and lack of redundancy. Filed report against docket. ASB continues to work with Sonic on broadband needs in Sonoma County. ASB continues discussions with Vibranz and County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District find a way for Vibranz to service Jenner coastal beaches, dependent upon open space covenant restrictions allowing a repeater antenna site.

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

3.1. Develop a Countywide Plan based on the Assessed Needs--

Deliverable #2

Marin County. MBTF spent considerable efforts in 2Q working with optical transport providers, agency officials, and collegial counties within NBNBCB to attempt to launch a partnership supporting the development of a key public rail right-of-way (ROW) in the region. The dual intent of such a proposed partnership was: 1. The maximum participation in ROW development by the optical transport sector, in order to increase the level of private investment in competitive regional optical infrastructure while achieving maximum non-fare revenue for the public rail authority, and; 2. The development by NBNBCB of public-private telecom demand aggregation strategies in order to further drive the demand for fiber access in the ROW, and provide for consortium-based public sector use of the fiber assets. Had the partnership moved forward, it would have provided key segments of a regional backbone providing connectivity for all four (4) NBNBCB counties.

Mendocino County. BAMC has started a preliminary design for a Mendocino County Broadband Backbone Framework to highlight proposed middle mile fiber routes needed to reach as many unserved areas in the county as possible. Working with GIC staff from Chico State, the framework has already undergone a number of revisions in what will be an on-going and long-term process.

Napa County. No activity this quarter.

Sonoma County. ASB started a preliminary design for a Sonoma County Broadband Backbone Framework to highlight proposed middle mile fiber routes needed to reach as many unserved areas in the county as possible. Working with GIC staff from Chico State, the framework has already undergone a number of revisions in what will be an on-going and long-term process.

3.2. Assist Communities to Develop and Implement Access Plans--

Deliverable #2

Marin County. The MBTF continues to support several operating access providers in West Marin, and one (1) community-based landowners' association that is partnering with a California headquartered Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) operator. With the Ground Truth Phase 1 field testing data now in-hand and analyzed, MBTF is now escalating its planned program of Access Model Development in partnership with with these entities.

As part of this Access Model support, MBTF has developed and reviewed a listing of federal funding programs applicable to the broadband underserved communities of West Marin with the staff of Congressman

Jared Huffman (D-CA-02). The Congressman has directly expressed his prioritization of broadband development for the California Second Congressional District to us, and has mobilized his district and Washington staff to support NBNCBC in its efforts.

Our goal is to work to support the development of CASF funding applications by these entities in early calendar year 2015, and to complement those grant applications with federal grant and loan applications where applicable.

Mendocino County. BAMC is working with the Albion Road leadership to develop a plan to deploy fiber-based infrastructure to serve 400 households. Looking for potential grant funding sources to match local contributions. This effort is in the early stages. Plan to work with other local communities.

Napa County. No activity this quarter.

Sonoma County. ASB has engaged a network design consultant to prepare a feasibility and cost analysis to construct broadband infrastructure in the Joy Road priority area. The plan is to seek providers to develop this priority area and potentially having them make an application for a CASF Infrastructure grant.

Based on achieving a positive plan for Joy Rd. the intent is to have the engineering consultant develop a feasibility and cost analysis for Dry Creek and other priority areas within the county of Sonoma.

As stated earlier, ASB is working with Vibranz and County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District to solve the issue for Vibranz to service Jenner coastal beaches. Tentatively this group is considering developing a CASF Infrastructure grant application, if the local issues can be resolved quickly.

3.3. Develop Time-Action Plan for Implementation

NO TASKS IN YEAR 1 WORK PLAN.

3.4. Facilitate and Monitor the Overall implementation of these County and Community-based Broadband Plans

Main County. We are not aware of any other community-based broadband infrastructure projects now ongoing in Marin County, other than those referenced in Section 3.2, above.

Mendocino County. BAMC is aware of the fixed wireless project that the DeNovo Group is implementing in Gualala, Manchester and Point Arena utilizing a grant from Google. DeNovo recently was provisionally approved to receive a FCC Rural Experiments grant to complete this project. As of this report it is not known if DeNovo filed the necessary detailed information with the FCC. We will track this effort and have reached out to DeNovo to better understand its plans.

BAMC has been working with one of the providers (Requested not to be named) of service in Mendocino regarding pursuing a CASF grant to upgrade its infrastructure. After internal analysis the company has decided to make the upgrade with its own funds. Its plan is to upgrade in the third quarter of 2015. BAMC will stay in touch with this company.

Napa County. No activity this quarter.

Sonoma County. In Sea Ranch, one of the priority areas in Sonoma, the local homeowner's association is implementing a "last mile" infrastructure with its own funds. It did submit a grant proposal for FCC/CAF Rural Experiments funds. The proposal was not granted. ASB is not involved in this activity.

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. *Collect, organize and analysis the county broadband needs to determine the interfaces at the county boundaries;*
- 4.1.2. *Working with the confirmed providers start developing a regional conceptual design based on the broadband needs throughout the county;*
- 4.1.3. *Working with providers create a preliminary conceptual design;*
- 4.1.4. *Assess the gaps in the current infrastructure;*
- 4.1.5. *Develop preliminary cost estimates to complete this conceptual design;*
- 4.1.6. *Review the preliminary design and cost estimates with county leaders and participating telecommunications providers;*
- 4.1.7. *Modify preliminary design and costs; and,*
- 4.1.8. *Produce and share the conceptual design for the region.*

4.2. Develop Time-Action Plans for the Implementation of the Regional Plan

NO TASKS IN YEAR 1 WORK PLAN.

4.3. Facilitate and Monitor the Implementation of the Regional Plan

NO TASKS IN YEAR WORK PLAN.

5. Activity #5: DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT ADOPTION AND TRAINING PLANS AND PROGRAMS--- **Deliverable #3**

5.1. Update Data on Existing Adoption and Training Programs

Marin County. MBTF member Barbara Thornton of MTA has involved representatives of Comcast Cable in launching the cable franchisee's Internet Essentials Program in cooperation with community leaders of Marin City. In addition, she is working with several partners in the community to establish three Mouse Squad teams that will provide computer training and learning for 48 elementary to high school age students and seniors.

MBTF continues to frame a project plan in partnership with The Canal Alliance to seek contributions in kind, grant funding, and possible backhaul telecom services to design, construct, and operate a community wireless network to support the underserved Canal Area neighborhood of the City of San Rafael. The Canal Alliance is a former sub-grantee of a Recovery Act broadband adoption grant (NTIA-BTOP). The data gathering and professional analysis of the community needs for digital adoption engaged in to date by Alliance staff will, in and of itself, prove valuable as the project goes forward.

Mendocino County. In December BAMC started researching “what qualifies as an adoption program” and how these programs relate to the digital divide. The Alliance has previously identified eleven areas that comprise the digital divide, and our efforts to update data on adoptions programs will identify which component of the digital divide the program tries to address. We have started identifying organizations that may have current adoption programs, and the next step will be to contact these organizations for details of their programs. We then plan to see where shortfalls occur in these adoption programs to address all component of the digital divide.

Information on the CPUC grant program which includes \$5 million to support adoption programs/equipment was shared with the Mendocino County Community Development Commission and the Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation (RCHDC), along with information on the CETF Webinar.

Napa County. No activity this quarter.

Sonoma County. The Community Development Commission is investigating submitting a grant proposal for Village Green II property in Sonoma under the AB1191 infrastructure and adoption program. BDHC, CHSC and Mid-Pen are also planning to submit grant proposals.

5.2. Develop Implementation Plans for Adoption Programs NO TASKS IN YEAR 1 WORK PLAN

6. Activity #6: EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CONSORTIUM NO TASKS IN YEAR 1 WORK PLAN