## **ABBA Goal**

Extend affordable broadband internet service access to every customer in Albemarle county.

## **Definitions:**

*Affordable* – Priced at typical user rates. As an example, if customers in the west of the county pay \$60/month on average for broadband, offering this at \$200/month to new customers in the west would not be typical user rates.

*Broadband* - a nominal 25Mbps down/3Mbps up connection preferred (25/3), a 10/1Mbps connection as a minimum when working with funding agencies that specify that floor.

Access – the service is available for purchase by the customer.

*Customer* – residences, businesses, etc. Service access is provided when the service is available to the customer's premises, not when the customer purchases it or distributes it within their premises.

## Principles:

- 1. ABBA will partner with current or future businesses to provide internet services.
  - a. ABBA will not operate its own internet service provider facilities
  - b. ABBA will facilitate investment in internet infrastructure through grants and public/private partnerships
  - c. ABBA will not establish preferred provider relationships. ABBA may engage specific providers for specific projects based on requirements for that project and provider availability.
- 2. Broadband technologies with which ABBA works must be robust.
  - Some technologies and implementations are subject to significant degradation due to weather, time of day usage, or other factors. A robust solution will normally meet the broadband definition consistently.
  - b. Solutions which do not meet the broadband definition will not be a focus.
- 3. Funding sources other than debt will be used for all ABBA activities.
  - a. Federal, state, local and private grants will be sought as needed.