

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.
 - a. 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.