

County "Goes It Alone" Scenarios

(not participating in NC Broadband Infrastructure Office GREAT or CAB programs)



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1. **Property tax dollars** are not authorized for this expenditure under NCGS 153A-459, despite the use of “unrestricted general fund”, as the authority is not expressly granted under NCGS 153A-149. NC GS 153A-149 was not amended to add these types of broadband grants to the list of authorized functions, therefore a county still may not use property taxes if it goes it alone. The provision in 153A-149(g) just states that the authority to spend property taxes is separate from the authority undertake the activity. A county must have both. In this case, there is authority to award the grants under 153A-459, but not authority to expend property tax proceeds for that purpose.
2. **NC G.S. 143B-1373(a)(2)**. “Broadband service. – For the purposes of this section, terrestrially deployed Internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download and at least 3 megabits per second upload (25:3).”
3. **NC G.S. 143B-1373(a)(14)**: “Unserved area. – A designated geographic area that is presently without access to broadband service, as defined in this section, or where internet access service does not meet the definition of broadband service. Areas where a private provider has been designated to receive funds through other State or federally funded programs designed specifically for broadband deployment shall be considered served if such funding is intended to result in construction of broadband in the area within 18 months or for the duration of the federal funding program for that area, or if the funding recipient is otherwise in good standing with the funding agency’s regulations governing the funding program.”