

# Broadband For Chatham

Seeking Opportunities To Close The Connectivity Gaps

September 19, 2016

# Broadband For Chatham –

**Chatham County desires broadband**

**everywhere**

**for everyone!**

**1 – Pursue the possibilities**

**2 – Find the answers and direction needed**



# Broadband For Chatham – A Focused Team



# Broadband For Chatham – Experts

1 Confirmed possibilities



2 Brought new ideas to the discussions



3 Revealed areas of concern



# Broadband For Chatham – Experts

## 1 - Confirmed Possibilities

Library connections, funding and ability to expand broadband service were confirmed as ‘possibilities’ by all experts.

But

the experts lacked consistency in their views and no ‘actionable’ steps could be identified that would deliver a desired result.

# Broadband For Chatham – Experts

2 - Brought new ideas to the discussions

All experts agreed with need to plan a network route different from straight library to library connections.

New ideas included wireless point solutions, expanding existing private providers coverage, establishing new service providers from private or newly formed public solutions

All had knowledge of various funding sources

But no ‘actionable’ steps could be identified.

# Broadband For Chatham – Experts

## 3 - Revealed areas of concern

Experts had 'similar' ideas, but seemed inconsistent with each other

Conflicts of opinion existed as to what was legal for County action

No clear 'actionable' steps were identified

# Broadband For Chatham – (Re)Set The Goal

Seek opportunities which can be acted upon and expected to result in actual and beneficial broadband service delivery to unserved and underserved.

A dream becomes a goal when action is taken toward achieving it...



KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
SET NEW  
GOALS



# Broadband For Chatham – What is Legal



Counties in NC **cannot** initiate or provide broadband service  
(P3 Act, NCGS Section 143-128.1cc)

Counties in NC **can** participate in privately initiated  
broadband by

- 1 – providing grants to enable service to unserved
- 2 – freely provide assets such as access to towers, conduit, dark fiber, other vertical assets, etc

# Broadband For Chatham – Others Trying To Help



June 29, 2016 – Recommendation:  
'meet and listen to private provider needs'

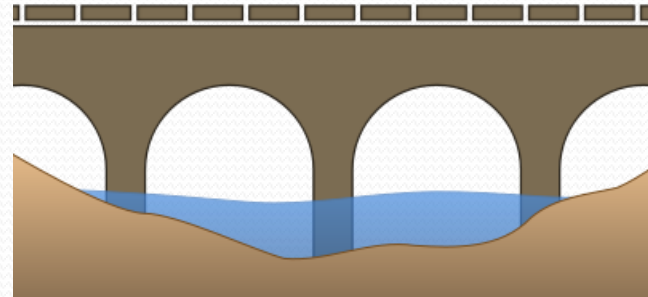


**NC** NORTH CAROLINA  
NEXT GENERATION  
NETWORK  
**NGN**

# Broadband For Chatham – Private Providers

**DIG ONCE!**

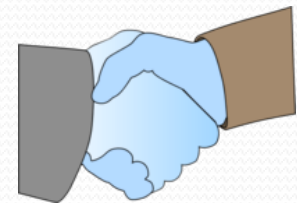
Standards and Usability!



Ability to attach to bridges



Ability to deliver support



Citizen Interest

**August 30, 2016**

# Broadband For Chatham – Root of the Problem

Existing incumbent providers can pick and choose who they will provide service to and the limits to that service.

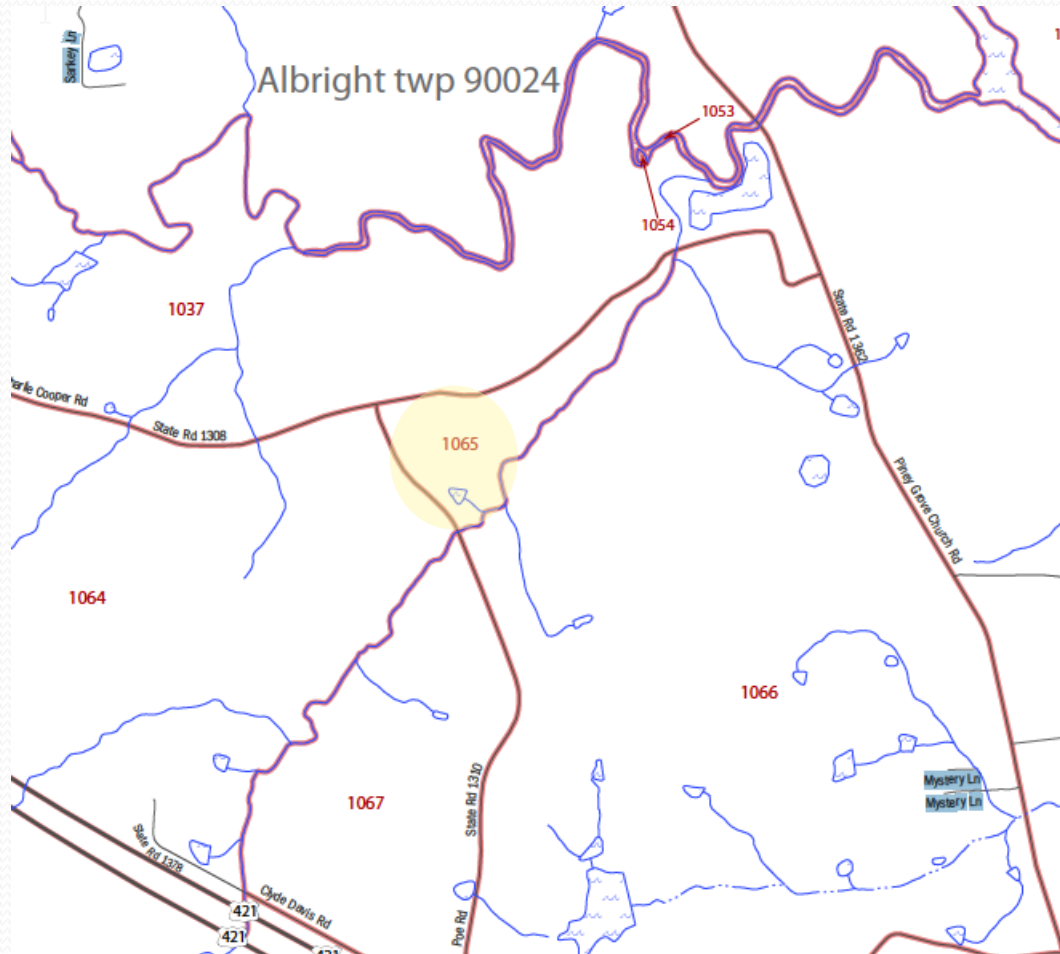
They can provide or cut off service.

There is no competition to force them otherwise.

The laws allow them to operate in this very limiting way.

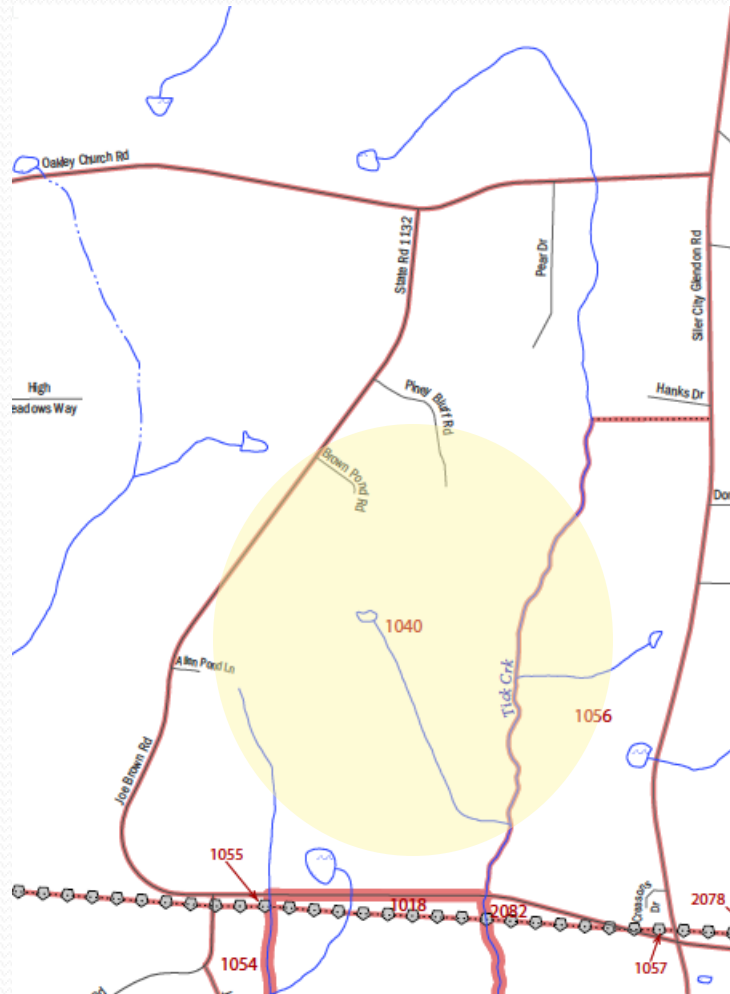
Reports of service coverage are erroneous and misleading.

# Broadband For Chatham – Example 1



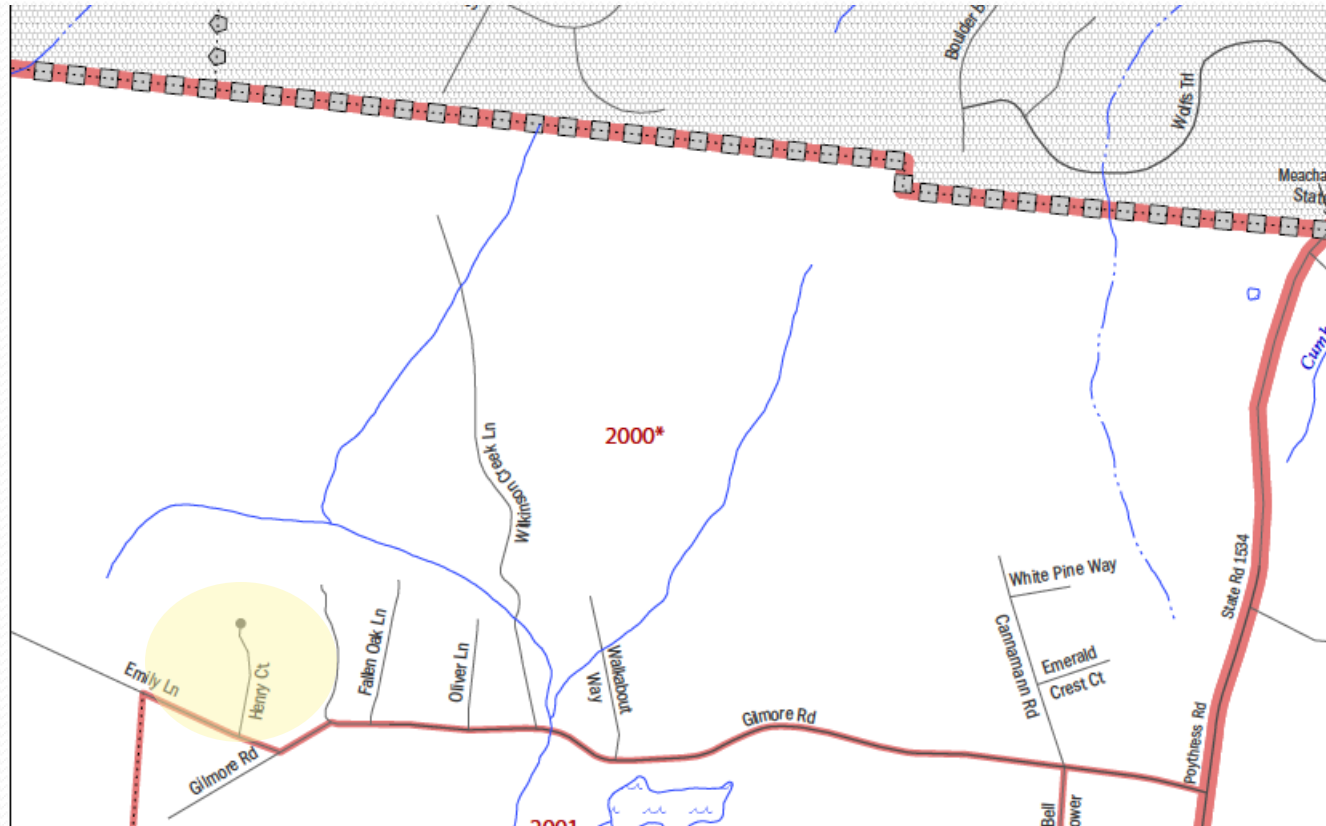
Census Block 1065 – Charlie Cooper Road – NW Chatham

# Broadband For Chatham – Example 2



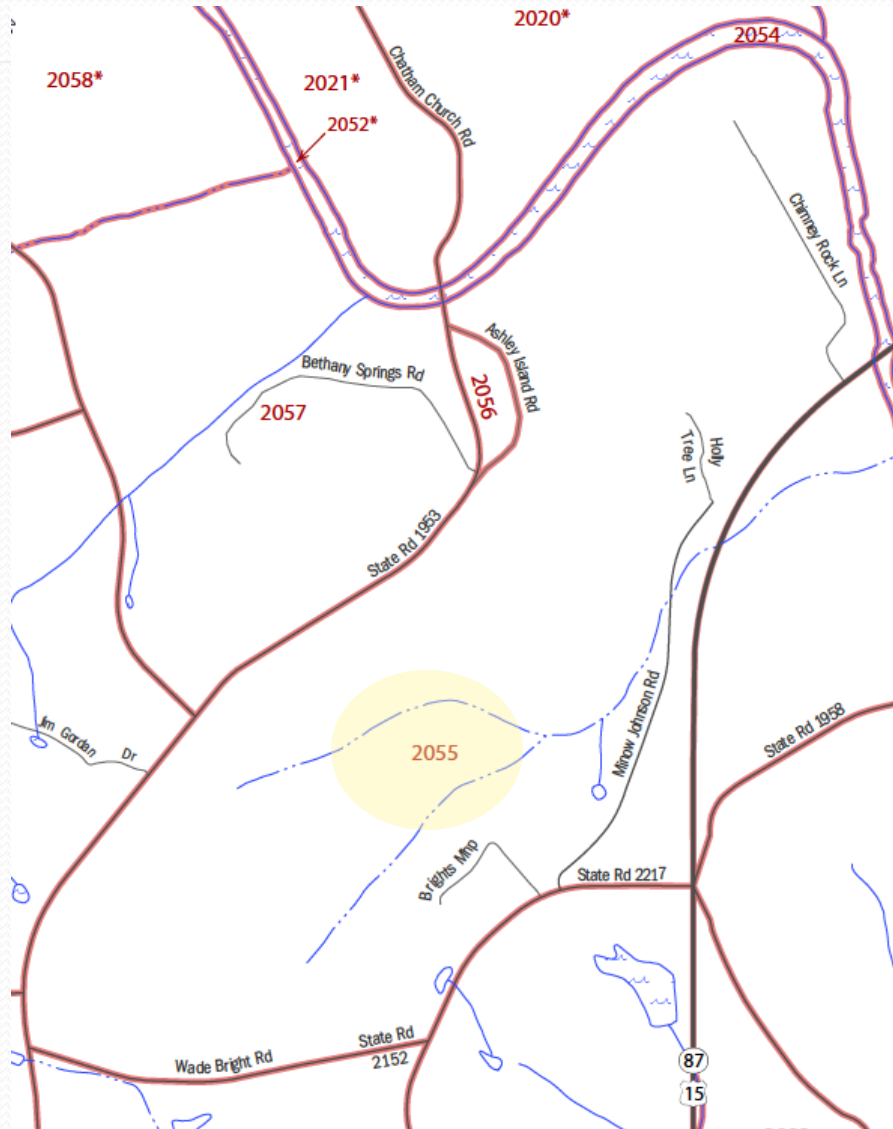
Census Block 1040 – Joe Brown Road – SWChatham

# Broadband For Chatham – Example 3



Census Block 2000 – Henry Court– NE Chatham

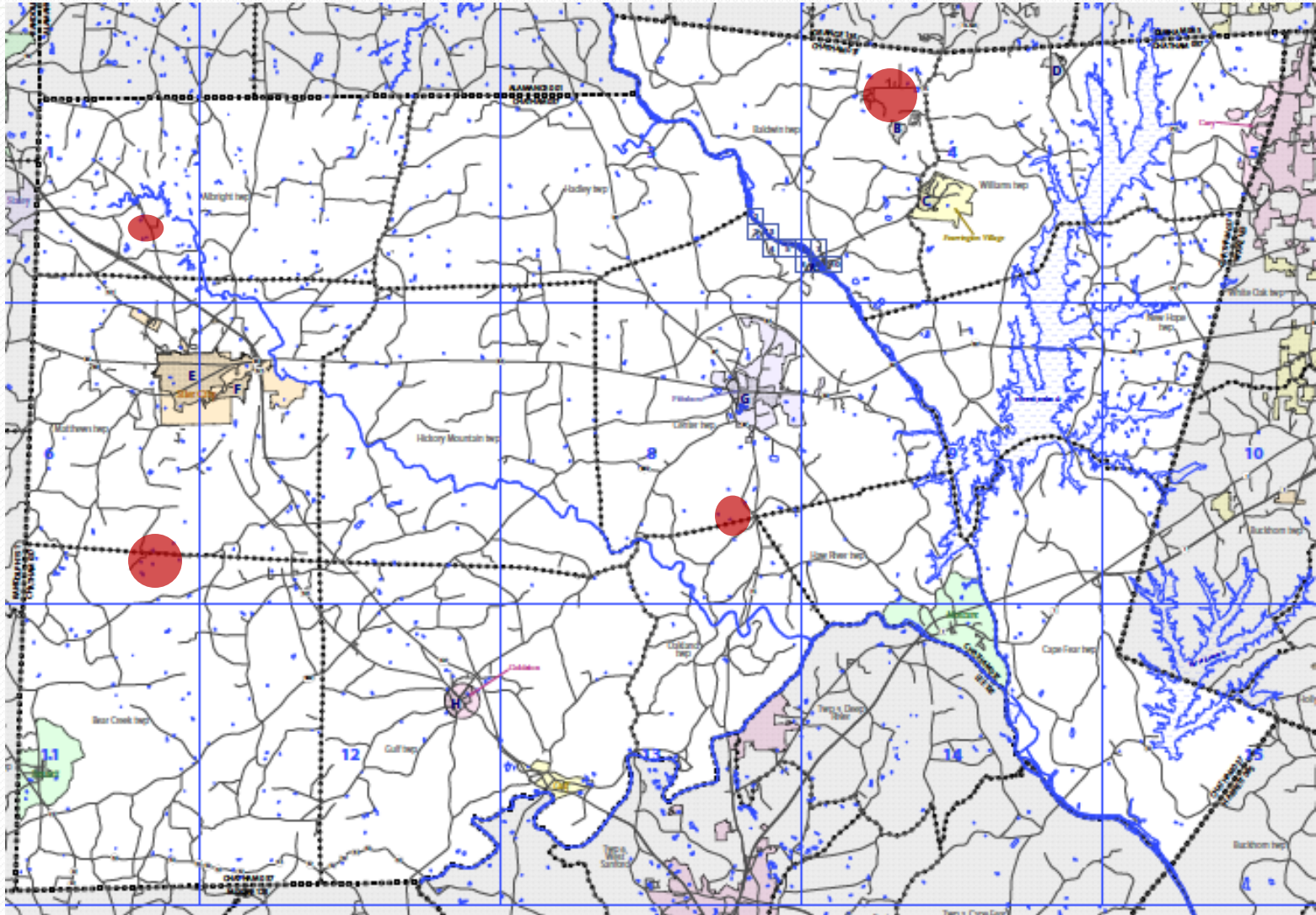
# Broadband For Chatham – Example 4



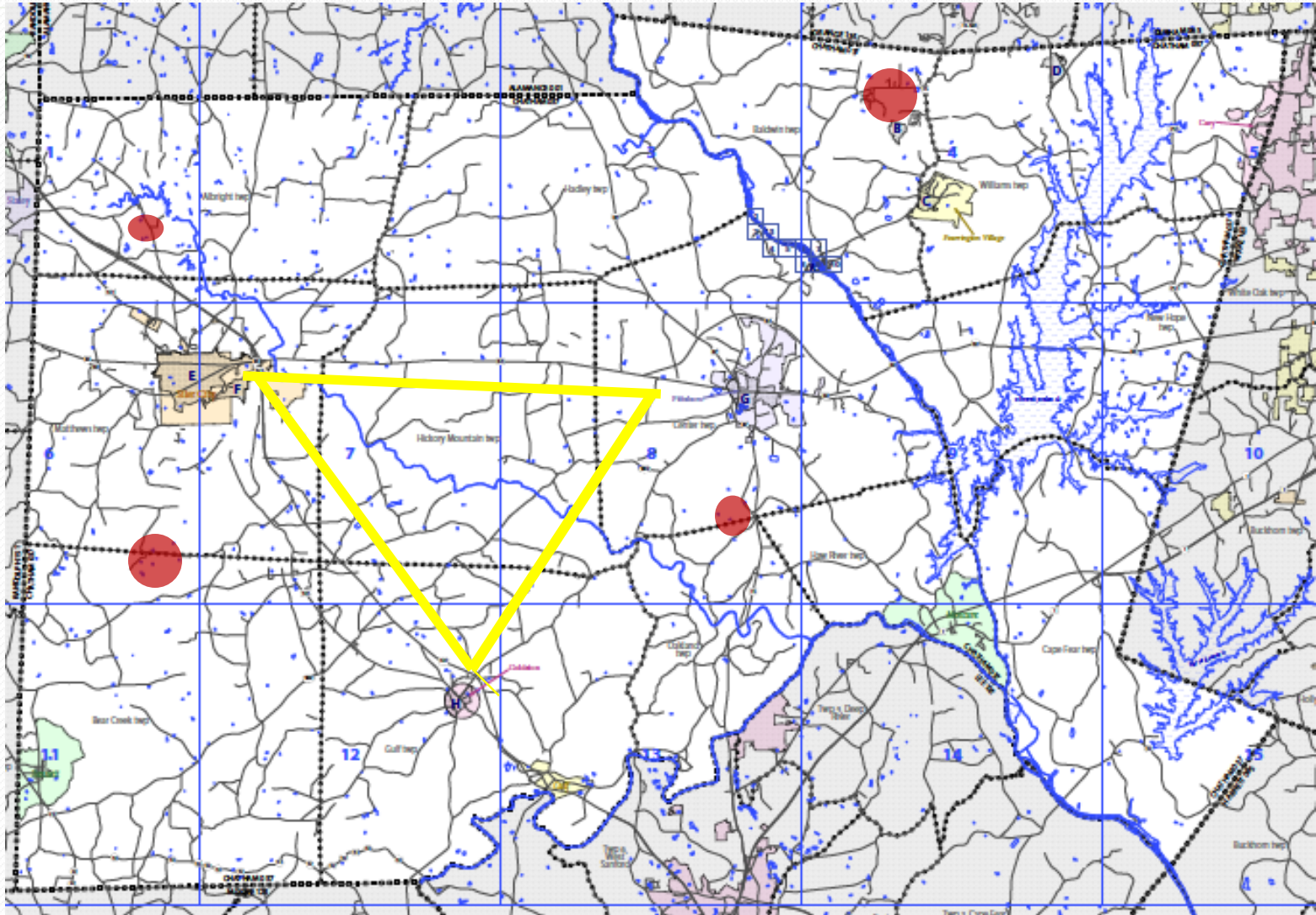
Census Block 2055 – Minnow Johnson Rd- Central SE Chatham



# Broadband For Chatham – Spread of Problem



# Broadband For Chatham – A Solution Needs A Result



# Broadband For Chatham – We have learned..

- \* a lot about what is and is not possible;
- \* about the inconsistencies of information that exist;
- \* about what is legal;
- \* what others are doing.

We have remained optimistic, been frustrated, but kept going and continued to seek the experience and expertise needed to identify actions that would deliver a result.



**We are about to get the expert assist needed!**

# Broadband For Chatham – New Help Coming



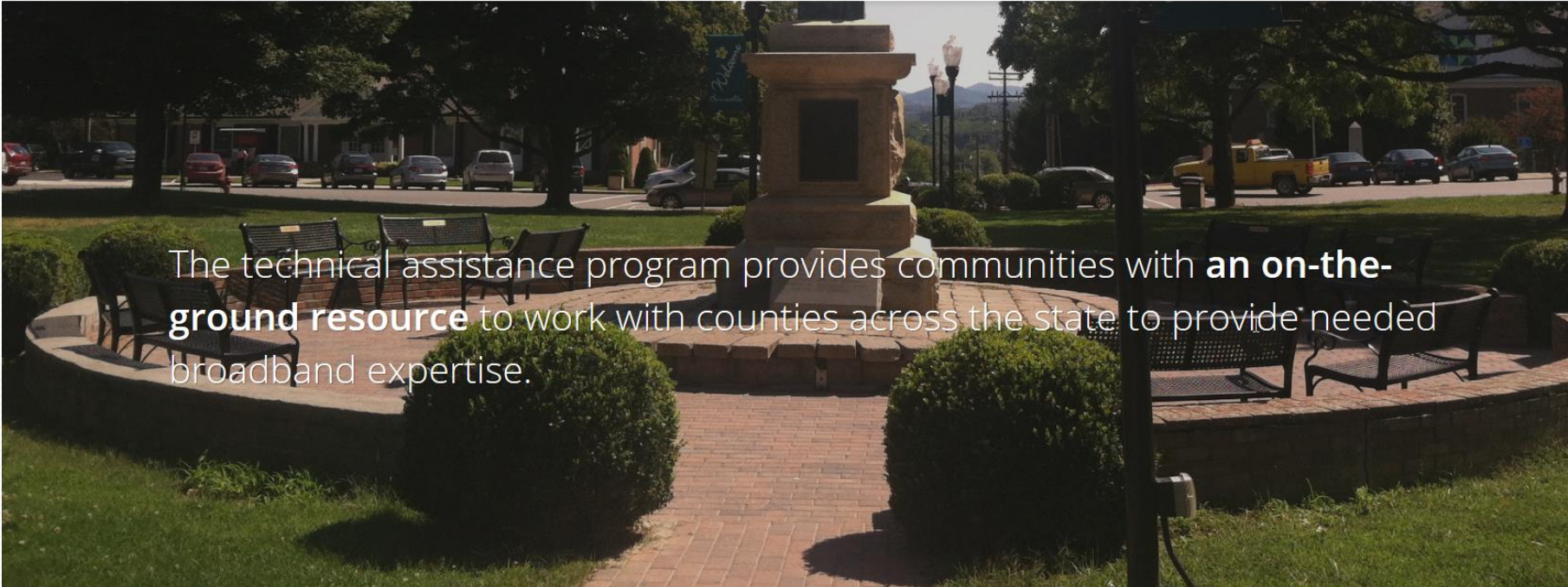
HOME

ABOUT BROADBAND IO

BLOGS & STORIES

CONTACT

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A photograph of a park area. In the center, there is a large, square stone monument on a raised brick platform. Surrounding the platform are several black metal park benches. The background shows a street with parked cars, trees, and a building. The scene is well-lit, suggesting a sunny day.

The technical assistance program provides communities with **an on-the-ground resource** to work with counties across the state to provide needed broadband expertise.

<https://ncbroadband.gov/technical-assistance/>

# Broadband For Chatham – Technical Assistance

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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To help businesses & communities as an on-the-ground resource to:



### technical expertise

Provide technical expertise & facilitations for county leaders & economic developers to aggregate demand



### reducing barriers

Leverage assets & reduce barriers to attract providers



### funding opportunities

To identify potential broadband funding opportunities

# Broadband For Chatham – Technical Assistance



## Region

-  West
-  Central
-  East

# Broadband For Chatham – Technical Assistance

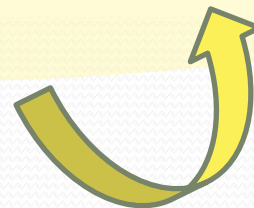
## Technical Assistance Program

High-speed internet, or broadband, is universally recognized as an essential asset to attract and retain businesses, prepare a digitally ready workforce, and improve government efficiency. However, significant challenges in broadband deployment and adoption remain for many in North Carolina's cities and counties.

To address these local challenges, NC Broadband's Technical Assistance Program provides communities with an on-the-ground technical support team to work with communities across the state to provide needed broadband expertise. Specifically, the Technical Assistant Team partners with willing communities to develop local objectives and plans in order to do the following:

- Understand current broadband availability
- Locate unserved and underserved businesses and residents
- Identify assets relevant to broadband deployment
- Build partnerships with broadband service providers; and
- Identify opportunities to leverage assets, reduce barriers and help make the business case

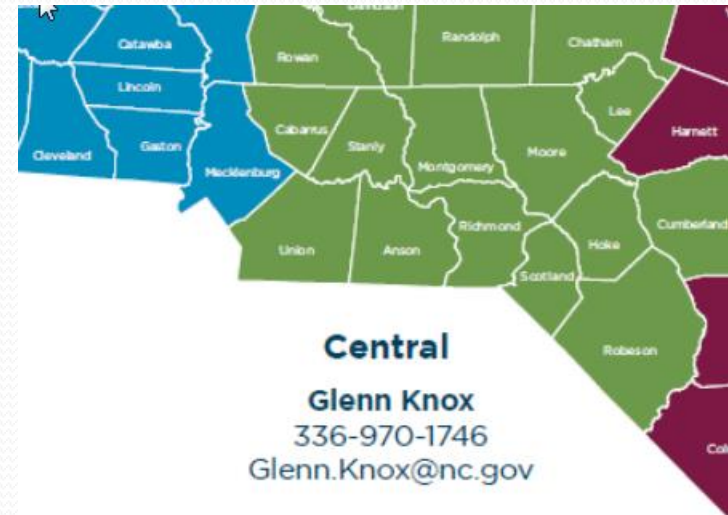
*This service is provided through State and federal funding at no cost to the counties.*



# Broadband For Chatham – Next Step

September 23 @ 9AM

Chatham Broadband Team  
meets with Glenn Knox to  
begin using planning  
services.





# Broadband For Chatham

The Chatham Broadband Team is committed to finding the directions that will



*Thank you for your time today!*

