

## REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

### HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**MEETING DATE:** April 1, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Henderson County Broadband Access – Funding Options

**PRESENTER:** Amy Brantley, Assistant County Manager  
Chris Todd, Business and Community Development Director

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
1. PowerPoint Presentation

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

At the March 20, 2024 meeting, the Board heard an update from the Broadband Taskforce on the program guidance for the North Carolina Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) broadband funding programs, including the GREAT grant (Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology), RDOF (the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund), and CAB (Completing Access to Broadband). The CAB program is currently seeking funding commitment forms and county priority areas for broadband access. These items will be included in a Scope of Work from counties across the state, and internet service providers will bid for each contract.

Staff have identified areas without broadband access and have mapped those locations alongside Census data, emergency response data, cell service data, and other broadband funded locations to help select potential priority areas. Staff have also estimated how many addresses could be served by different levels of committed funds under CAB's program rules.

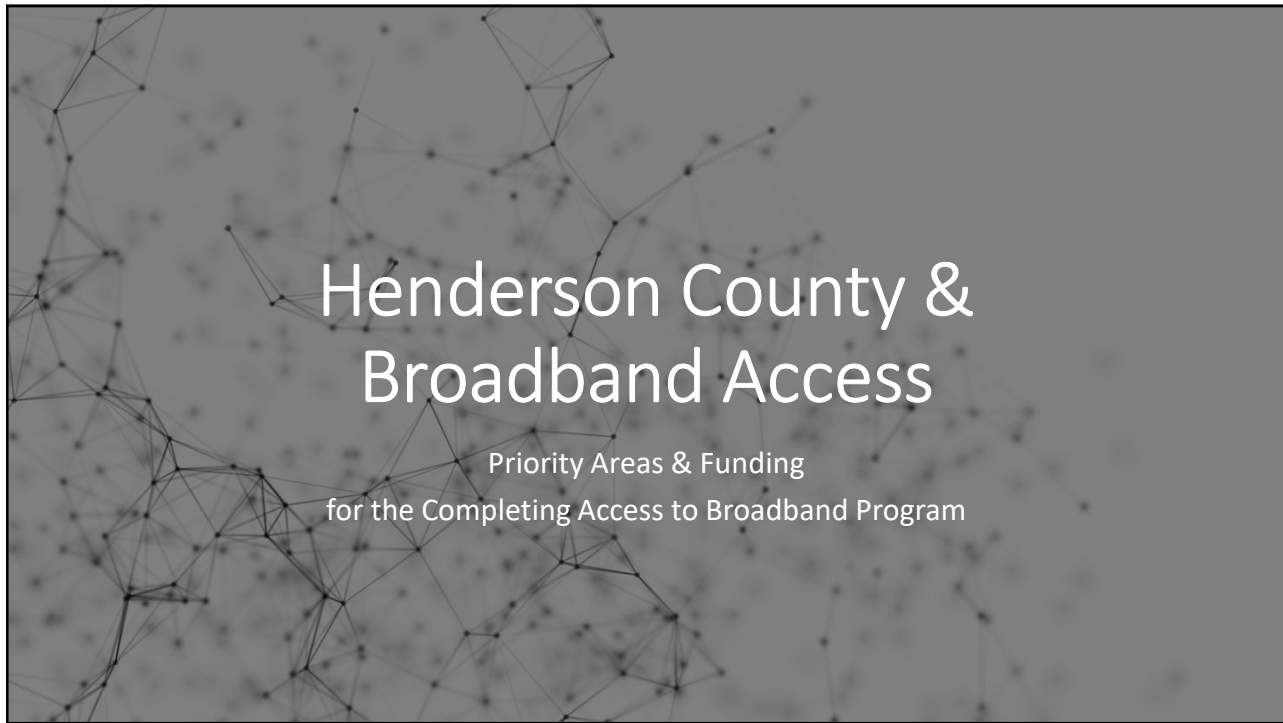
The Board is requested to discuss the total funding allocation to be provided by Henderson County and direct Staff accordingly.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

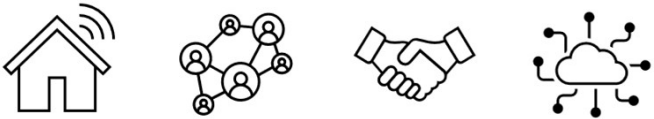
The Board is requested to discuss the funding allocation to be obligated to broadband for the CAB (Completing Access to Broadband) program, and direct Staff accordingly.

#### **Suggested Motion(s):**

*No motion suggested.*



1

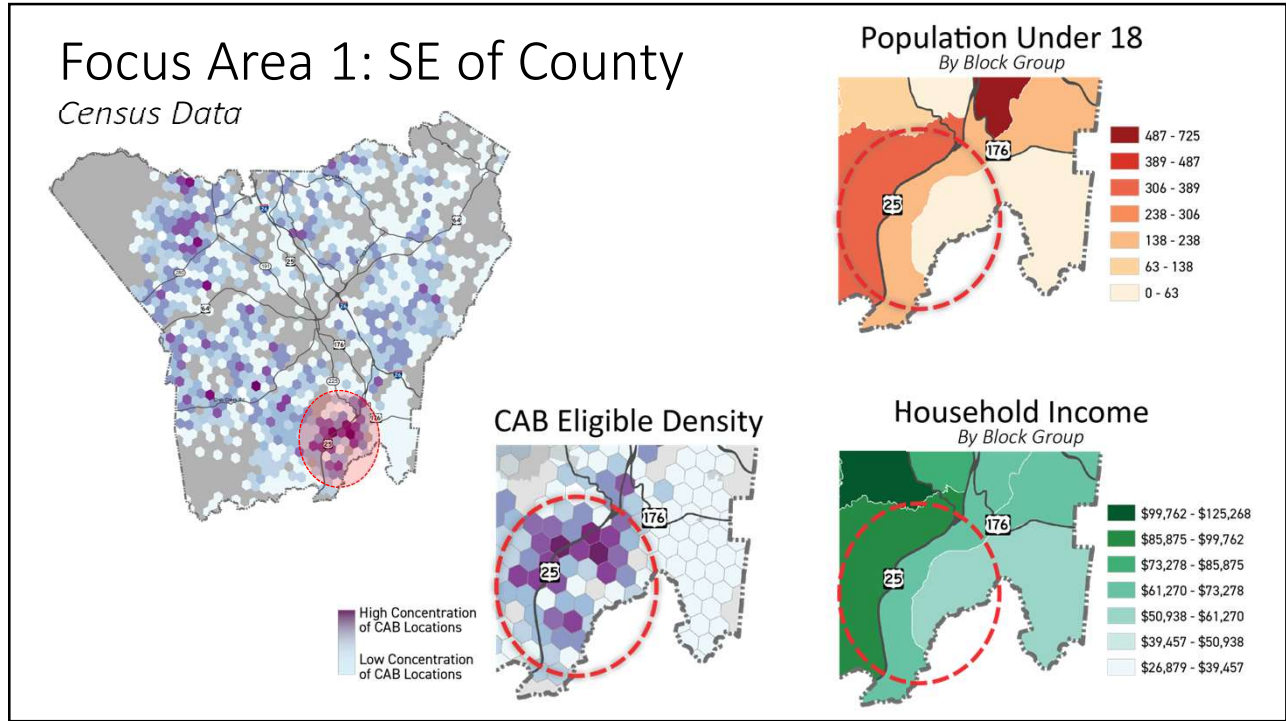


## Completing Access to Broadband (CAB)

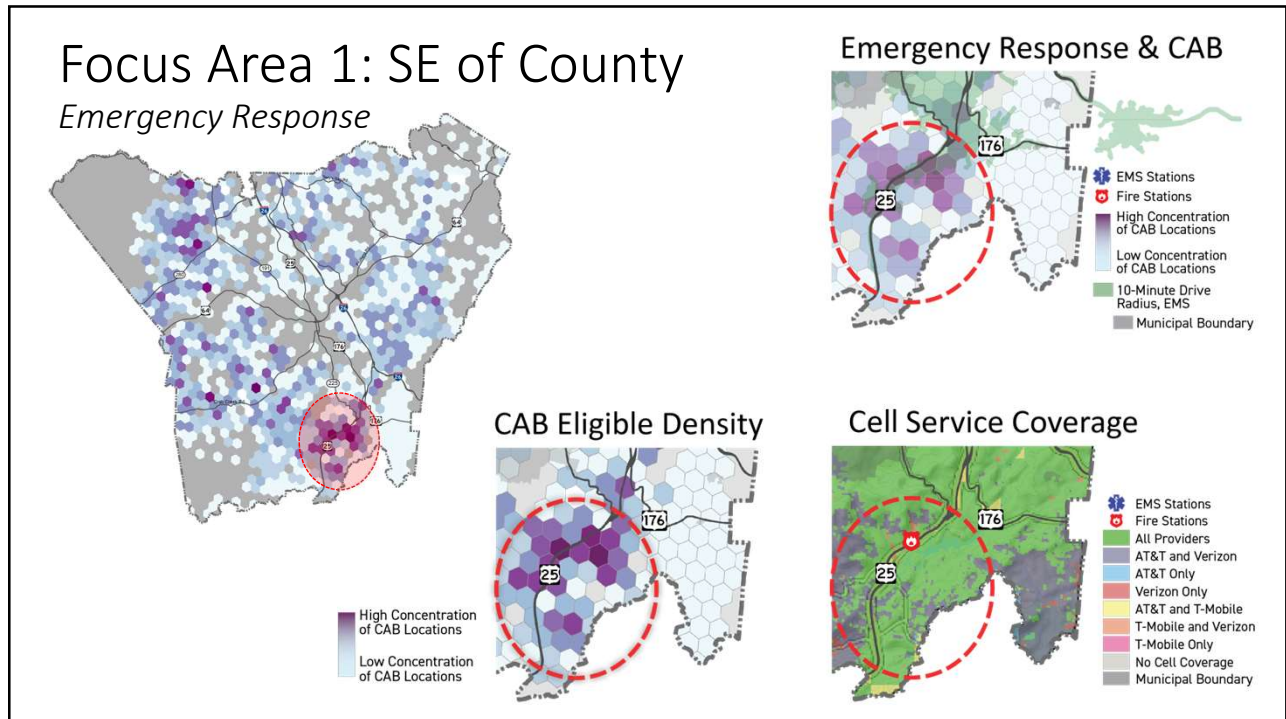
*Program Overview*

- CAB is a partnership between NCDIT and NC county governments using ARPA funds to connect households and businesses to broadband.
- Procurement process with individual Scopes of Work for each county that may include “high priority areas.” Once award is made, the project is contracted right away to a pre-qualified service provider.
- A *County Commitment Form* with an “up to” amount of funding we plan to commit is required by the program.
- The Stop-Gap Program and BEAD will be following CAB to continue completing access to widely spread unserved areas that are harder to reach.

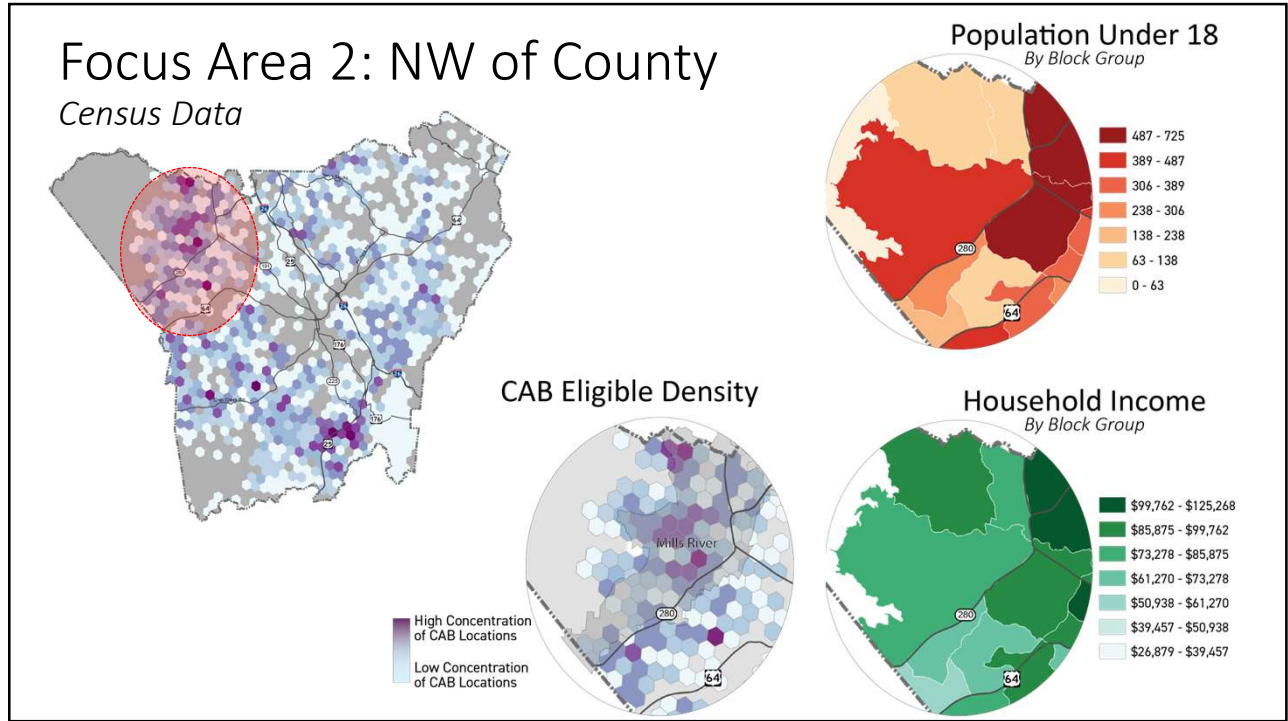
2



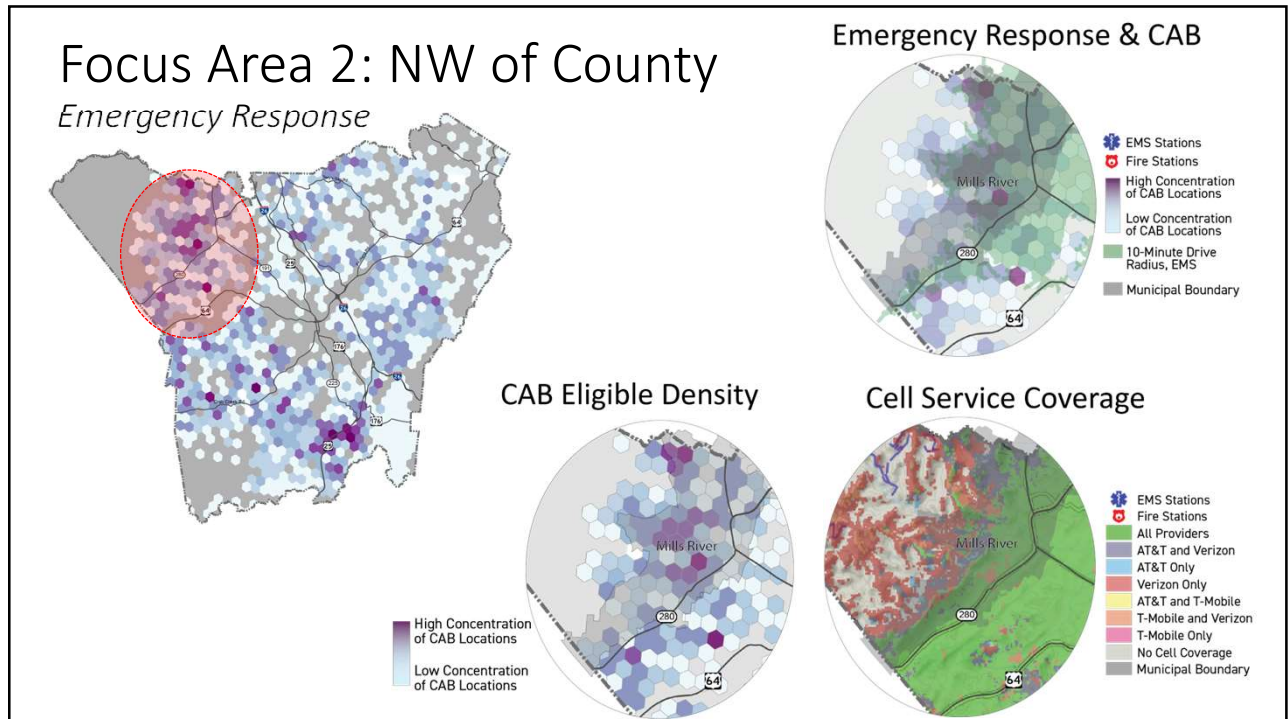
3



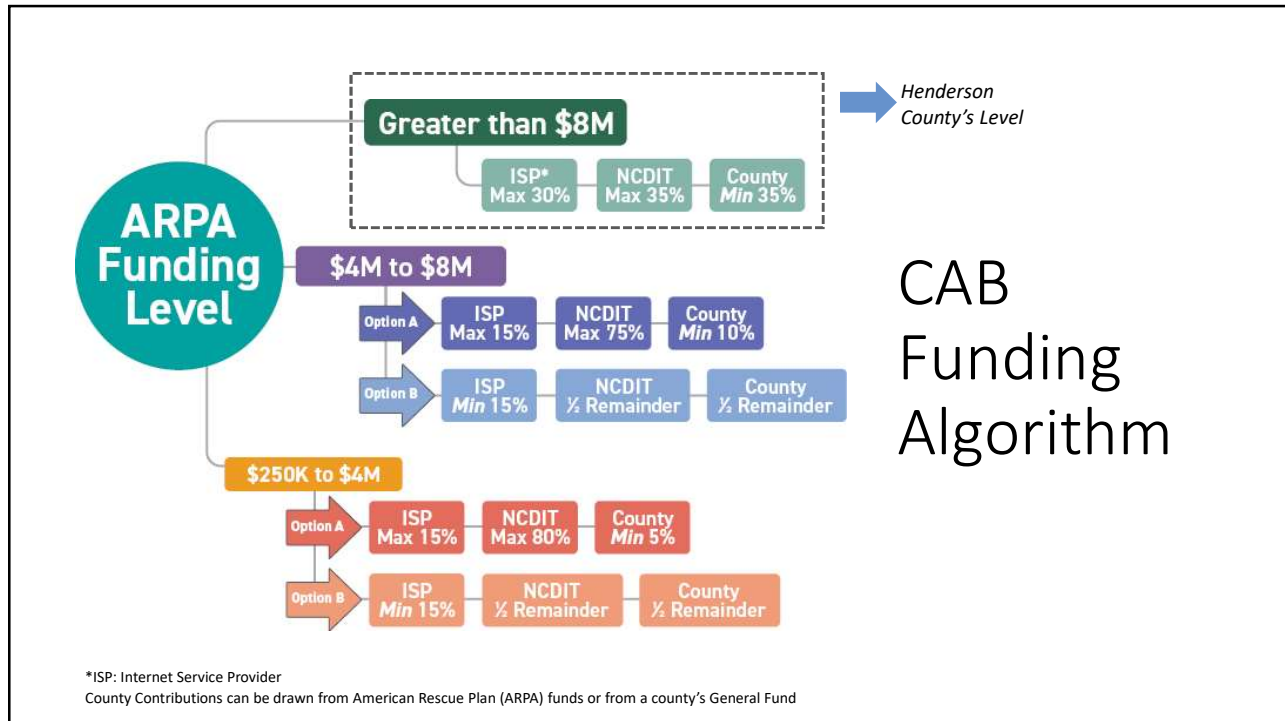
4



5



6



7

## Project Examples

**ERC Example:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| \$1,392,185.62   | County Match 35%   |
| \$1,392,185.62   | State Match 35%    |
| + \$1,193,301.96 | Provider Match 30% |
| \$3,977,673.20   | Total Project Cost |

**Funds reached**  
766 units

Rate of

---

\$5,193 per location served

**Saluda Mountain Telephone Company Example:**

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| \$1,829,212.70   | County Match 35%   |
| \$1,829,212.70   | State Match 35%    |
| + \$1,567,896.60 | Provider Match 30% |
| \$5,226,322.00   | Total Project Cost |

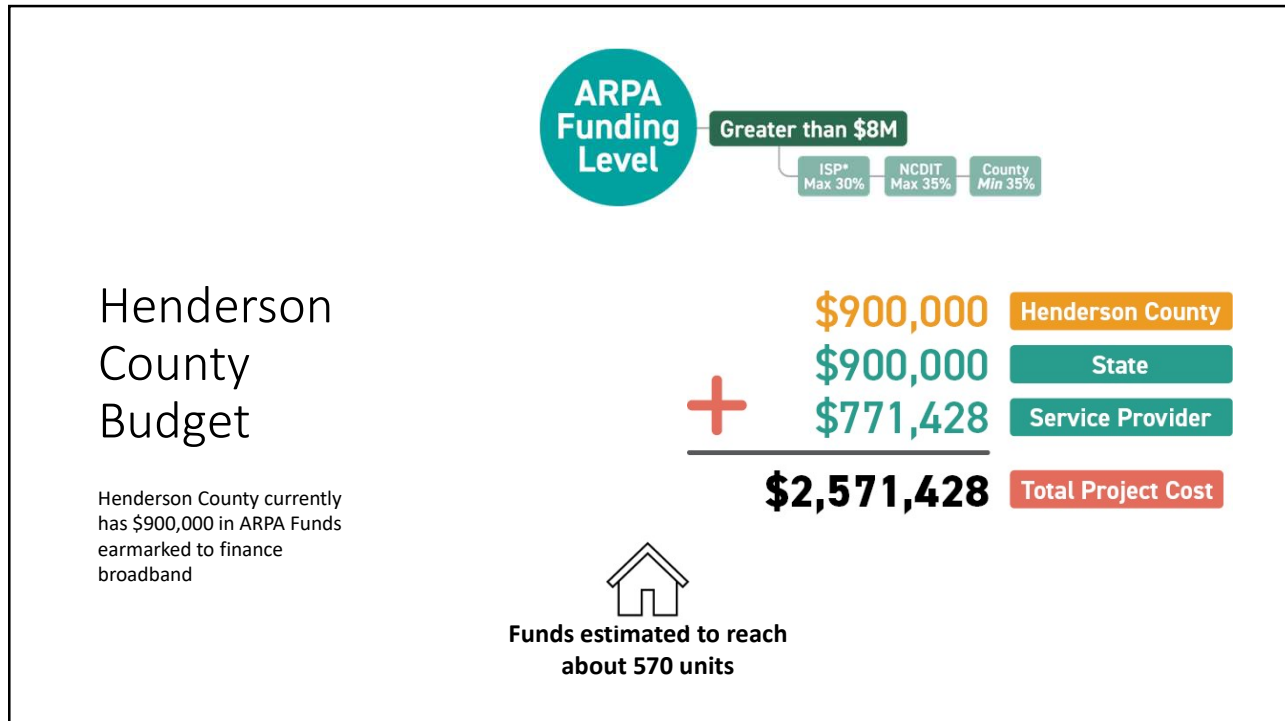
**Funds reached**  
1,176 units

Rate of

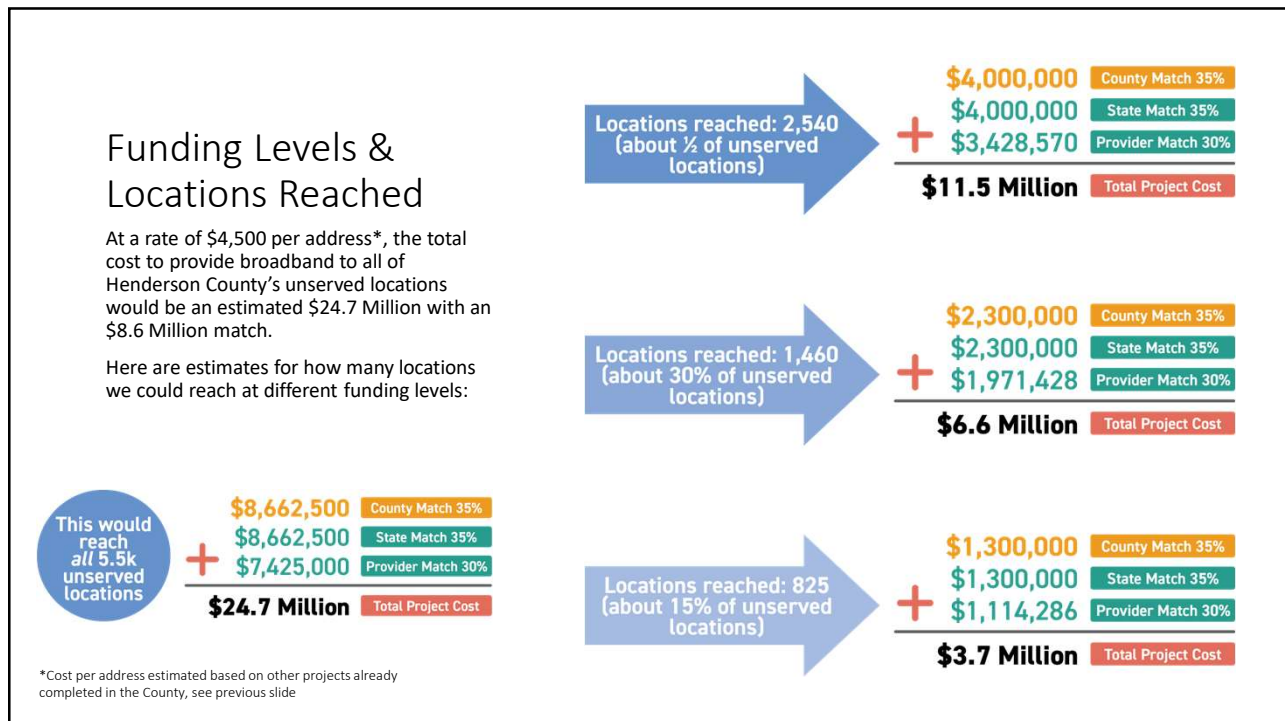
---

\$4,445 per location served

8



9



10

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**  
Funding Plan - Approved Projects  
**\$22,806,876**

| ARP Project #            | Project Description                                   | ARP Eligibility (Expenditure Category)                         | State Eligibility         | ARPA Enabled Projects | ARP Eligible         | Actual Expended As of March 28, 2024 | Remaining Encumbered As of March 28, 2024 | Amount Remaining     | Status      |
|--------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------|
|                          |   |  |                           | \$ 10,000,000         | \$ 12,806,876        |                                      |   |                      |             |
| 2056                     | All Inclusive Playground (9.21.2022)                  | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | § 160A-353(4)             | \$ 400,000            |                      | \$ 400,000.00                        | \$ -                                      | \$ -                 | COMPLETE    |
| 9043                     | Stryker Power Load Systems (5.2.2022)                 | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | §149-517, §153A-149(c)(5) | \$ 115,138            |                      | \$ 115,138.25                        | \$ -                                      | \$ -                 | COMPLETE    |
| 9031                     | Infusion Therapy - Pardee (8.18.21)                   | 1.6 - Medical Expenses   | § 153A-449                |                       | \$ 33,391            | \$ 33,391.17                         | \$ -                                      | \$ -                 | COMPLETE    |
| 9032                     | Infusion Therapy - Advent Health (9.15.21)            | 1.6 - Medical Expenses   | § 153A-449                |                       | \$ 18,248            | \$ 18,247.69                         | \$ -                                      | \$ -                 | COMPLETE    |
| 9047                     | Foster Care Services (7.20.2022)                      | 3.8 - Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth | § 108A-49                 |                       | \$ 348,000           | \$ 348,000.00                        | \$ -                                      | \$ -                 | COMPLETE    |
| 9040                     | VFW Renovation and Repair (5.2.2022)                  | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | § 153A-169                | \$ 4,200,000          |                      | \$ 2,938,336.06                      | \$ 1,261,663.94                           | \$ -                 | IN PROGRESS |
| 9027                     | Fletcher EMS (5.2.2022)                               | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | §149-517, §153A-149(c)(5) | \$ 3,100,000          |                      | \$ 831,855.40                        | \$ 1,382,211.47                           | \$ 885,933.13        | IN PROGRESS |
| 9052                     | Mills River Tower Upgrade (5.2.2022)                  | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | §153A-149(c)(11)(17)      | \$ 150,000            |                      | \$ -                                 | \$ 28,300.00                              | \$ 121,700.00        | IN PROGRESS |
| 2065                     | Recreation Sports Complex (10.3.2022)                 | 6.1 - Revenue Replacement                                      | §153A-149(c)(11)(17)      | \$ 2,034,862          |                      | \$ -                                 | \$ -                                      | \$ 2,034,861.75      | NOT STARTED |
| 9070                     | Broadband GREAT Grant Funding (3.22.22)               | 5.21 - Broadband, Other Projects                               | § 153A-459                |                       | \$ 1,000,000         | \$ 50,000.00                         | \$ 50,000.00                              | \$ 900,000.00        | IN PROGRESS |
| 2059                     | Edneyville Sewer - Collection System (5.2.2022)       | 5.2 - Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection           | § 153A-274(2)             |                       | \$ 9,300,000         | \$ -                                 | \$ -                                      | \$ 9,300,000.00      | IN PROGRESS |
| 9050                     | Self Insurance Reimbursement (5.2.2022 and 11.7.2022) | 1.6 - Medical Expenses   | § 153A-92(a)(d)           |                       | \$ 607,237           | \$ 559,822.00                        | \$ -                                      | \$ 47,415.14         | IN PROGRESS |
| 9069                     | Apple Ridge Housing Project (11.7.2022)               | 5.18 - Water and Sewer: Other                                  | § 153A-274(2)             |                       | \$ 1,500,000         | \$ -                                 | \$ -                                      | \$ 1,500,000.00      | NOT STARTED |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             |   |  |                           | <b>\$ 10,000,000</b>  | <b>\$ 12,806,876</b> | <b>\$ 5,294,791</b>                  | <b>\$ 2,722,175</b>                       | <b>\$ 14,789,910</b> |             |
| <b>REMAINING BALANCE</b> |   |  |                           | <b>\$ -</b>           | <b>\$ -</b>          |                                      |   | <b>\$ 14,789,910</b> |             |

Note: Accrued interest to date = \$1,355,751.76

<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>