



LOCAL SNAPSHOT: Cooper’s Strong Proposal for Broadband Expansion

Governor Cooper’s Common Ground Solutions budget included \$14.5 million for a grant program to help local governments partnering with private providers and utility cooperatives complete ‘last mile’ broadband projects. These projects would connect residents and help business compete in a global market.

Below are last mile broadband projects that could be submitted for completion with the broadband funding in Governor Cooper’s budget:

County	Broadband project description	Funding needed
Chatham County	Strowd Mountain fixed wireless project for unserved community	\$750,000
Watauga County	Deep Gap/Powder Horn Mountain, wired access for approximately 200 homes without service	\$1,000,000
Stanly County	MCNC middle-mile extension to Albemarle and Pfeiffer University	\$2,500,000
Avery County	Fixed wireless residential service for unserved homes in the southern and western areas of the county	\$200,000
Graham County	Fixed wireless project to serve 3,000 unserved and underserved households	\$125,000
Jackson County	Fixed wireless project to connect 5 communities and approximately 2,000 unserved or underserved households	\$200,000
Swain County	County wide wireless project to enhance residential and small business connectivity	\$135,000
Lee County Schools	Home connectivity pilot expansion to provide home access to unserved students	\$100,000
Lenoir County	Coverage for unserved residents in Pink Hill	\$300,000
Nash County	County-wide wireline connectivity for unserved or underserved residents	\$2,200,200
Chowan County	Enhance wireless coverage for unserved residents	\$300,000
Jackson County	Fiber to the home deployment for more than 3,500 households and businesses	\$3,000,000

Alexander County	County-wide Fiber to the home deployment for households and businesses	9,000,000
Polk/Rutherford County	County-wide deployment to unserved and underserved households and businesses	\$5,000,000
Madison County	Fiber to the home deployment to unserved and underserved households and businesses	\$3,000,000
Haywood County	Fiber to the home deployment to unserved and underserved households and businesses	\$10,000,000
Source: Broadband Infrastructure Office records on last-mile projects in need of funding		