



North Florida Broadband Authority

Expanding Access to Broadband Throughout North Florida

FCCMA Presentation

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and

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Dream to Reality: How It Got Done

Key Players and Factors

- North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP)
- Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC)-14-counties in rural North Florida
- Broadband Feasibility Sustainability Study
- NTIA Announcement of \$7.2 Billion in Broadband Funding Available (July 15, 2009)
- Creation of North Florida Broadband Authority (NFBA)



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Creating the NFBA

- Had three weeks to create entity to meet single applicant goal
- First NFBA board meeting was August 5
- Grant submittal was August 17
- Partners in accomplishing this:
 - North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP)
 - Cities, Counties, Economic Development Practitioners,
 - Florida Institute of Government
 - Government Services Group
 - Nabors, Giblin, & Nickerson, PA



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NFBA – What is it?

- Newly formed governmental authority;
- Specifically created for Broadband;
- Through Interlocal agreement—15 Counties, eight cities;
- Governing Board (Representation from each entity);
- Assets Owned by NFBA Members;
- Sustained Through Operating Revenues



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Reason for Grants Success

- Provided more detail than most Round 1 applicants
 - Design
 - Financial detail
 - Sustainability
- Garnered extensive community support
 - U.S. senators and congressmen
 - Over 70 letters of support from:
 - Cities
 - Counties
 - Law enforcement
 - Libraries
 - Health care
 - Community colleges
 - State agencies
 - Public service
- Exceeded criteria for meeting unserved and underserved areas
- Detailed response when we got to due diligence



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The Grant

- \$39.4 million total;
- \$9.2 million in-kind contributions;
- \$30.1 million awarded February 18, 2010



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What is the Project?

- New **Middle Mile Broadband infrastructure;**
- Extend high speed internet backbone capacity direct and through last-mile providers;
- Serves vital anchor institutions (public safety, hospitals, public health, libraries, schools, major employers, etc.);
- Private sector commercial customers;
- Ultimately, all residents in region.



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Project Phases

- RFQ's: Project Management, Engineering, System Integration, Operations and Management;
- Build-Out and Deployment (Goal 6-18 months);
- Ongoing reinvestment, expansion, upgrades



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NFBA – Capacity

- Within 2 years, 1 Gbps capacity in region
- Initial offerings 300-600 mgbps
- Over 9,100 Square Miles
- 154,000 households
- 26,893 businesses
- 1,573 critical facilities
- 265 health care entities





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Next Step/Challenges

- Broadband Adoption
- Job Creation and Sustainable Economic Development
- Quality of Life/Community Benchmarks
- Job Training and Skilled Workforce



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Sites of Interest

- North Florida Broadband Authority
www.nfba-fl.org

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