

**From:** Gretchen Swanson, DPT, MPH  
**To:** [CA Broadband Council](#)  
**Subject:** California State Broadband Action Plan - Public Comments  
**Date:** Friday, November 20, 2020 11:54:06 AM

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Dear Committee - I have been working with the Digital Inclusion Work Group for Long Beach for several months. A statewide broadband initiative is needed. Here are my considerations for your review:

1. Utilize a common digital navigator format (exampled by City of Long Beach) and mirrors Covered California. Implication is that everyone becomes informed; no and low cost options are systematically accessible and our State Broadband Work Group is apprised of resident, organization and business needs.
2. Seed Municipal/Regional Broadband Companies as Public Utilities - the investments in a statewide broadband infrastructure must sustain itself without disenfranchising those that need it the most with increasing fees.
3. Make existing benefit programs e.g. LifeLine or other no cost or low cost pathways widely known through all social service and public channels. While incentivizing other benefit programs e.g. through MediCal, and other needs based offerings.
4. Inform our federal government of needed stances to ensure equitable access, such as net neutrality.

It's a big idea. Make sure the results match the intention.

Thank you,  
Gretchen Swanson  
Long Beach, CA