

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CA Broadband Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion Input to the Broadband Plan
Date: Friday, November 20, 2020 12:06:40 PM
Attachments: SCDI Input to CA BB Action Plan.docx

Dear Colleagues,

Please find the input to the State Broadband Action Plan from the Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity and thank the Broadband Council for all its efforts.

Kind regards,

Trish Kelly

Managing Director

Valley Vision

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Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion

November 20, 2020

To: The California Broadband Council

From: Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion

Re: Input for the California State Broadband Action Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the California State Broadband Action Plan. The Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion is comprised of many community partners and is coordinated by a Steering Committee of Valley Vision, city of Sacramento, Sacramento Public Library, Los Rios Community College District, and California State University Sacramento. Its mission is to address the Digital Divide and provide opportunities for inclusive, affordable access to the Internet and technology, and development of digital literacy and digital skills. SCDI surveyed members to identify input for the Action Plan. The following comments are provided.

- **Access to Technology (devices, etc.).** Our college students have needs beyond high speed access. I'm surprised how many students are taking classes using phones because their family shares only one device such as a laptop and computers are a huge need with so many families needing access to technology to work and to learn at home.
- **Statewide Used Computer Donation Network.** For devices I recommend the creation of a statewide used computer donation network, and companies who donate used for refurbishing to the network be offered a benefit in the form of a tax break per unit donated. Donated devices would have to meet a predetermined minimum specification level in order to qualify. Also, I proposed a small tax on the sale of new computers to assist in funding the refurbishing of used computers to be provided free to communities in need.
- **Use of Existing Infrastructure.** Utilize existing cell towers infrastructure to broadcast Public Access, like they have in SF.
- **Affordable Broadband and Devices.** It is crucial that all members of our community have access to affordable broadband and for students to have access to affordable devices with which to reach their academic potential. Without both broadband and devices, our students struggle to succeed. Thanks for all the hard work you are doing. It is truly appreciated.
- **Multi-Unit Access.** Perhaps there should be a checklist rubric provided for tenants in apartment buildings, so they can access digital accessibility in their units. This would provide data for understanding how rentals and apartment building infrastructure contribute to factors related to digital inclusion.
- **Education Purchasing Portal.** Create a purchasing portal for all K-12 and Higher Education to access about cost and availability of devices, Internet service. There should also be a state center of excellence website for digital literacy resources.

- **Technology Capacity Support for Education.** A proactive stance by CA Dept. of Technology to emerging digital technology and finding a way that our K-12 teachers are mandated to keep pace with changing digital tools and applications.
- **DGS Devices Planning.** Connect work being done by the Ca. Dept. of General Services in planning for and providing refurbished surplus computers into the Action Plan.
- **Digital Literacy/Skills.** Ensure that linkages with education and workforce development are addressed and strengthened, including partnerships with CBOs and community partners.

Submitted by Valley Vision, Manager of the Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion, Trish Kelly,

