

## California Broadband Council

July 29, 2022

### Meeting Recap and Transcript

The California Broadband Council (CBC) met on Friday, July 29, 2022 at 9:30am via virtual conference.

#### Agenda Item 1 – Welcome

Council Chair Liana Bailey-Crimmins welcomed Council members and attendees.

#### Roll Call

A quorum was established for the meeting.

Member		Designee	Present	Absent
California Department of Technology Director	Liana-Bailey-Crimmins		X	
Member of the Senate	Ben Hueso	Sarah Smith		X
Member of the Assembly	Mike Gipson	Dr. Angelo Williams	X	
California Public Utilities Commission President	Alice Reynolds	Darcie Houck	X	
California Office of Emergency Services Director	Mark Ghilarducci	Marv Green	X	
Superintendent of Public Instruction	Tony Thurmond	Geoff Belleau	X	
Department of General Services Director	Ana Lasso	Brent Jamison	X	
California State Transportation Agency Secretary	Toks Omishakin	Lori Pepper	X	
California Emerging Technology Fund President	Sunne Wright McPeak		X	

California Department of Food and Agriculture	Karen Ross	Michael Floressom	X	
State Librarian	Greg Lucas	Josh Chi	X	
Governor's Office of the Tribal Advisor	Christina Snider		X	

**Agenda Item 2 – State Broadband and Digital Literacy Updates**

Scott Adams Provided work plan updates and highlights of recent actions.

**Agenda Item 3 – Action Plan Updates: Long-Term Action Items**

Action plan owners presenting updates on long-term action items.

Rob Osborn of the California Public Utilities Commission provided updates of the following action items:

- #3 – Modernize California’s universal service programs
- #10 – Establish clear standards of consumer protection and provisioning of equitable service by providers
- #12 – Improve the California Lifeline Program
- #17 - Provide guidance to local governments and partner with Tribal governments to develop broadband strategies and explore options for increasing competition in their communities

Jason Kenney of the Department of General Services provided updates on the following action item:

- #7 – Identify state property for possible use for broadband infrastructure

Sarah Poss of the Department of Housing and Community Development provided an update on the following action item:

- #13 – Leverage existing California Department of Housing and Community Development programs, such as the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program and the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program

Scott Adams of the Department of Technology provide updates on the following action items:

- #14 - Promote existing state contractual vehicles with internet service providers and equipment vendors to support cost savings and efficient purchasing of broadband services and equipment by local public entities
- #16 – Partner with internet service providers to promote, track and publicly report the progress of adoption of affordable internet services and devices throughout the state
- #18 – Develop and manage a multi-layer network of digital inclusion stakeholders to discuss ongoing needs, share resources, and coordinate initiatives
- #24 – Request that executive branch entities and constitutional agencies incorporate broadband into their strategic plans

Kaina Pereira of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development provided an update of the following action item:

- #23 - Form a planning group of all state agencies that oversee any potential infrastructure or broadband adoption funding

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Middle-Mile Update**

Mark Monroe from the California Department of Technology provided a Middle-Mile update, focusing on Middle-Mile Advisory Committee updates and next steps.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Last-Mile Update**

California Public Utilities Commissioner Darcie Houck provided a Last-Mile update, focusing on different types of assistance.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Broadband Adoption Update**

Sunne Wright McPeak from the California Emerging Technology Fund provided an update on broadband adoption.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – NTIA IIJA Broadband Programs Update**

Scott Adams and Rob Osborn provided updates of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Infrastructure Investment and Job Programs.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Public Comment**

Staff noted written public comments were submitted by (attached):

- Katie Heidorn.
- Cesar Estrada.

There were no in meeting public comments.

Ms. Bailey-Crimmins thanked Council members, presenters, and attendees and noted the next meeting is Wednesday, October 12.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15am.

(meeting transcript attached; video and presentation slides from the meeting posted to Council web site)

#### **Attachments**

- Transcript.
- Written public comments.

## Transcript

Good morning, everyone let's call the California Broadband Council meeting to order I am Liana Bailey-Crimmins, Director of the Department of Technology and the new broadband council chair. Over the past six months, chief deputy Russ Nichols has served as the acting director and chair and I want to personally thank him for his leadership and partnership during the transition. In May the Council discussed the Broadband Action Plan and the focus was short-term action items. Today, the focus will be on the long-term action items which means those action items that are going to take more than just a few years to complete. This Council has made significant progress on these efforts, and we all look forward to hearing about these achievements today. With that, Miss Stein will you please call the roll.

Certainly. Good morning. Director Bailey-Crimmins.

Here.

Ms. Smith. Commissioner Houck.

Here.

Mr. Green.

Here.

Mr Belleau.

Here.

Mr Jamison.

Present.

Ms. Pepper.

Present.

Miss McPeak.

Present.

Mr. Flores.

Here.

Mr Chisom.

Here.

Miss Snider.

Here.

Dr Williams.

Present.

A few housekeeping items before we begin. There is time at the end of the meeting dedicated to public comment. Presenters, please cue Cole to advance your slides. All committee members, please raise your hand to speak. The Chair calling on you helps ensure you are heard. Madam chair, we do have a quorum.

Thank you, Jules. The first agenda item we have is the state broadband and digital literacy update. Mr Scott Adams.

Thank you, Director Bailey-Crimmins. And good morning, Council members and members of the public. My name is Scott Adams and I'm the deputy director of Broadband and Digital Literacy. I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide you with an update on our work today. As was noted by director Bailey-Crimmins, we have a full agenda today so my comments will be brief. Next slide, please. What I wanted to draw your attention to is that since our last meeting our offices been at work executing the Broadband Action Plan--implementation work plan that was approved by the Broadband Council and has been conducting monthly working sessions with the Broadband Action Plan item owners. As Director Bailey-Crimmins has noted, there's been significant progress on these long-term action items and you will hear about those in our next agenda item. There are a couple of significant highlights that we wanted to draw your attention to that will also be discussed in future or in later agenda items, but we wanted to flag these for the Council members and the members of the public. The first is related to the FCC's affordable connectivity program. California has made significant progress in both promotion of the affordable connectivity program and household enrollment in the FCC's program which provides a monthly internet service subsidy to residents to support affordability of home internet service and increase broadband adoption rates. This is the result of the work of many of the Broadband Council members and State Agency partners, including CDT, the Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Education, the State libraries, the Department of Aging, and also particularly the California Emerging Technology Fund. You will hear much more about the exciting news on enrollment and some future plans ahead from Sunne McPeak and CTEF and their update later on. Another key highlight I wanted to share with you is part of the council's efforts engage with critical partners and stakeholders and provide technical assistance that we did conduct a tribal digital equity planning grant workshop with the Office of Tribal Affairs and thank you Secretary Snider, the California Emerging Technology Fund and the National Telecommunications Information Administration. The intent of this workshop was to support tribes in seeking funds to develop their own digital equity plans, which will be developed in concert with the state's digital equity plan. And lastly, just wanted to flag that as we've been reporting out on the NTIA infrastructure investment and jobs act programs, which will be critical to the State in receiving funding to support implementation of the broadband for all program and its various digital equity initiatives that CDT has submitted the state's digital equity planning grant application to NTIA earlier this month and again, we'll share more details about that in a later action item in today's meeting. I want to thank you. That concludes my report and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Thank you, Mr Adams. Do any of the Council members have questions for Scott. Jules, just to let you know, I only see Scott Adams on the screen, so if there is anybody raising their hands, you just let me know. Alright. With that, we'll go ahead and go to the second agenda item which is the California Public Utilities Commission, Mr. Rob Osborn.

Good morning. I'm not sure if you can see me.

Yes, we can thank you.

Perfect. Thank you, thank you for allowing me to provide an update on the CPUC's action items from the Broadband Action Plan. I'm Robert Osborn, director of the communications division at the California Public Utilities Commission. The first item, which is action item #3 modernized California's universal service programs. The status of this...if you can go to the next slide so this is continuing...there have been many updates across the various programs so I'll highlight a few. On the California Advanced Services Fund, there have been major updates to a suite of broadband grant programs in the ongoing rulemaking which is listed on this slide R.20-08-021. This includes new opportunities to apply for adoption, public housing, and consortium grants. For the July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, public housing and adoption application cycle, we received applications for 19 projects for public housing for a total of one point...almost 1.4 million. For the adoption account applications, we received applications for 99 projects requesting a total of 28.5 million which exceed the allocation budget we set which was 20.024 million so we'll be going through those applications in the coming months. On the local agency technical assistance applications, we are planning to open the window for that in August 1st, and that is also under the California Advanced Services Fund P. Code § 281. For Lifeline, we recently completed an assessment and we're also in the process of vendor procurement for TPA third-party administrator transition which includes some modernization of Lifeline program high-cost fund, we're in the process of a cost of capital consideration as well as modernizing the broadband elements of high-cost funds. And then on surcharges we have an open rulemaking currently on modernizing how we calculate the public purpose programs surcharges and how providers will remit those surcharges and we're targeting first quarter 2023 for implementation. Please go on to the next slide. Thank you. So, on action item 10, which is establishing clear standards of consumer protection and provisioning of equitable service by providers, next slide please. Status of this is continuing so highlighting a few activities relevant to these rulemaking protections for consumers impacted by disasters, resiliency requirements...this was under our R.18-03-011. There's substantial compliance on the battery backup power backup and resiliency for both wireline and wireless providers, but we're still not there yet with regard to complete compliance and we're working with those providers now in determining areas where there still needs to be some supplements. On service quality standards, we opened a new rulemaking R.22-03-016, and this is looking at service quality standards and compliance for those service quality standards, including things such as out of service interval. The degree to which we have compliance from providers who are offering service to customers for telephone service repairing those outages within a 24-hour period that's one of the several metrics that we measure and enforce. On the digital redlining, we have that included in one of the phases of the broadband for all rulemaking, which is R.20-09-001. The proceeding goal really was to set up the strategic direction to expect judiciously deploy reliable fast and affordable broadband that connects all California, the key word there is all. We've been meeting with Cal advocates and also looking at various redlining studies that have been done in the past. In fact, the city of Sacramento last year published a report entitled "Race and Place in Sacramento" that looked at redlining. We're also considering what definition would be appropriate for redlining I think focusing more on the state of where things are today and how to cure those problems. So, we're in the process now given this transition from a census block based broadband mapping to location based broadband mapping, this will allow us to do a deeper dive into the deployment and adoption of broadband across the states so stay tuned for more on that. Next slide please. So, improving the California Lifeline program...next slide please. That is the business continuing. A number of things have been happening in this front so we updated the support amounts in standards for the California portion of Lifeline support that goes to providers. And that increases the amount of broadband data that the California Lifeline program offers. We've reformed the renewals process in compliance with AB 74, so streamlined the procedures for participants to renew their participation in the program and in addition will not directly be related to AB 74. The Lifeline program has expanded the identification verification that makes it easier for parolees...or people who will be going on parole...to participate to enroll in the Lifeline program. On Lifeline program assessment and evaluation, this was issued as a ruling in May, we've put that out for comment. We've...um, it's a pretty wide-ranging assessment of the

program and we're in the beginning stages of implementing program reforms. We have the assessment available on our website, and I can provide that link afterwards. And Commission staff presented this assessment...the summary of that to the administrative committee that oversees the Lifeline program and their full report, as I said, is available online. Finally, we're addressing the additional federal support and this isn't a proposed decision we're considering rules for how the program should address additional federal support offered by the Affordable Connectivity Program. Excellent. So, action item 17...next slide please. Technical Assistance for tribes and local governments, the status of this is continuing. The Commission continues to provide both formal and informal guidance to local agencies and tribes regarding broadband solution in those areas. In 2020, the Commission adopted rules for a Tribal Technical Assistance Program to reimburse tribes for pre-project costs related to network deployment. In April of this year, the Commission adopted an expanded program that provides support to local agencies, as well as tribes who call this the Local Agency Technical Assistance. As I mentioned earlier, we are planning to open the application window for these grants in August. Informally and in addition to participating in the California Department of Technology roundtables earlier this year, Commission staff and Commissioners and advisors regularly meet with local agencies to discuss broadband network deployment and, I believe, Commissioner Houck will provide more details on that in her update. The Commission also has a tribal consultation policy under which tribes may request government-to-government meetings with the Commission to discuss broadband and other utility issues. And we have dedicated staff that have extensive experience with federal and state funding opportunities for tribes, and we make ourselves available to advise tribes as needed. This concludes my updates on the CPUC action item, thank you.

Thank you, Mr Osborn. Do any of the Council members have questions for Rob? I see Miss McPeak, you have a question?

I do, chair director Bailey-Crimmins. Welcome. Thank you very much for calling on me. Thank you Rob for that presentation, I'm actually wanting to congratulate you and your staff for being so responsive when we did workshops and in June, so people could get their applications into the CPUC by July 1<sup>st</sup> and I was just wondering, and I also want to acknowledge that Commissioner Houck actually increased in the final decision, the amount of funding into the adoption account and the public housing account. Could you just review, maybe I missed how many applications you received for the adoption account and for the public housing account. I heard the number...the total number of applicants, you know requested grants which far exceeds what is available, but I'm wondering if you have the number of applications for those two accounts.

Yes, for public housing was 19 project applications for a total of 1.4 million. And for adoption was 99 projects for a total of 28.5 million.

Thank you, thank you again for repeating that for me. Appreciate again...you're staff being so responsive in helping and the technical assistance really makes a difference that we have helped, along with your staff, out to the to the applicants, and I further commit to you and Commissioner Houck on the public housing side to get a lot more of the housing publicly subsidized housing organizations to apply.

Thank you, Ms. Wright McPeak. Any other questions for Mr Osborn? Okay. We'll go ahead and go on to the next presenter, which is for the Department of General Services, Jason Kenney.

Hey everybody, how're you doing? I'm Jason Kenney, DGS, deputy director of real estates, here to give an action item update on item 7, identifying state property for possible use for broadband infrastructure. Next slide please. So, just as a briefest of recaps, as we reported out previous broadband Council meetings, you know the initial step that we took in conjunction with CDT and PUC was to take a look at the universe of state property, DGS has a GIS-enabled database

that's public that shows all potential property with few exceptions, and then align that to the middle mile network using proximity as the primary variable and you know that came up with the most maximum universe of potential state properties that could be leveraged or utilized for the middle mile network. Beyond that we've been working with our partners to see if we could identify maybe a bit more granular criteria, and you know cross reference that with that we actually have on record without having to spend millions doing you know infrastructure deep dives and you know so some of the information we had, others we didn't but we were able to sort of update the map and both you know our GIS folks and CDT's GIS folks have created an updated map that represents maybe a slightly slim down, but still what we're calling the max of universe of state property that has an alignment or a potential use for the middle knowledge network. Next slide. To advance the action item, though in simply saying that these properties are close to and could be used is probably not sufficient. And so, we've done a number of industry presentations both of those listed there the broadband for all roundtable and the broadband industry meeting. We did those presentations to highlight the fact that there is state property that is potentially available, you know...locational alignment, those sorts of things and we followed up those meetings with a survey what we were really looking for is to try to gauge not just general interest in using state property but also perceived barriers and then the specific development framework, you know, as most entities say look, I just want ground to bury conduit in, I want to put an antenna on a building...like what, what would the...I want to build a 40-story tower like...what is the...sorry, um...40-foot tower, what is the...what is the general gist of the use of state property because all of that will impact how we select property if we have property that actually works. The transactional authority, the leasing authority that we would use...the whole nine yards, so we've...you know, we're kind of craving input. Next slide please. We did get results from the survey, they were somewhat limited so we had 14 responses out of 152 ISPs who were the subject of the survey. That could indicate uh...you know, potentially diminished interest in state property or it could just be that folks got busy. So really quickly, I'll cover just anecdotal results and kind of next steps, but anecdotally we got back kind of what we suspected that there was definitely interest in a lot of you know rooftop improvements you know, putting antennas on roofs that sort of thing or the erection of larger scale towers. Generally speaking, the survey indicated that folks were looking at long term leasing models, you know at...you know, essentially far less than fair market value and that there would need to be some sort of permanent site access...24/7 access to the sites so that they could come in and do whatever repairs, upgrades, whatever they needed to do unimpeded without interference. And then, one of the questions we asked kind of more generically was what kind of barriers they foresaw in doing this and, as expected, you know cost permitting and just speed to execution were kind of the general concerns raised. Next slide. So, since we didn't get you know really a great sample size, we are...CDT, I should say, is resending the survey to see if we can get additional feedback. We hope that will get a larger pool, or at least increase our pool, but we don't expect necessarily to get materially different responses from the survey, which is meant to be sort of an introductory pass at this, and so, at the close of this, you know...subsequent resending of the survey, our plan is to do a random selection and schedule more in-depth interviews with some of the respondents to tease out some of the concepts to talk a little bit more about state property in general. Because again, you know if we're going to use state property in this way, we would need to have you know property specific solicitations, we have to have many, many conversations with the department who actually have jurisdiction over those properties about encumbrances and uses and since the state has tens of thousands of properties and tens of thousands of buildings, it is you know, pretty impossible to sort of talk about all of that without a little more specificity. So those interviews, I think, are going to be really useful and either helping us say that yes, this concept is viable and here's a targeted way to go do it or to say that, right now, that doesn't appear to be interested in state property and we should put this on the shelf until that changes. The other thing though that I think is particularly useful to highlight is...you know, these interviews are also going to probably tease out just the specific transactional path that we want to follow, so our...the state's authority to lease property is a creature of statute.

Most departments don't have any authority to lease their own property out...it all runs through DGS, and DGS has a variety of leasing authorities. But they are either very generic or they're specific to a purpose and the generic ones tend to have restrictions on either duration or fair market value those sorts of things. And so, these surveys will let us know if there might need to be some sort of legislative tweak to facilitate a broadband deployment on state properties more broadly. But that's where we're at and kind of where we're headed next but I'm happy to answer any questions that the Council may have.

Thank you, Mr Kenney. Does any of the Council members have questions for Jason? I see um, Miss Wright McPeak.

Thank you, Jason. I appreciate the effort and I'm not surprised by the initial response, although as you just said, it raises the awareness, so my question is as particularly regional broadband consortia are working with prospective partners on last mile deployment and looking at projects, developing projects, and they're in that phase now...how should they interact with you on where there might be state properties along the path of deployment.

That's a great question so um, and maybe, if I can get on a soapbox for ten seconds, I promise it won't take long. You know, I think your question kind of teases out sort of the difference between that and what we're doing here, so what we've been focusing on is sort of taking this proactive holistic look, where can we find alignment, where can we get stuff out to entice people to come in. That is very different, I think, than folks who are currently working on an effort and need to cite something. And so, those don't happen severely...they don't have to wait for our survey, they don't have to wait for our investigatory results...those sorts of things. I would happily, you know, tell anybody who's willing to listen...we have a website, the website lists every single piece of state property...it's a GIS-enabled database, you can literally search by county, senate and assembly district, city, you can draw lines and see all property in a certain area, whatever you want to do, it's a really robust database and so, if some provider out there needs to deploy and they look at that and they say hey there's a piece of property here, DGS is happy to take that go liaise with the department who has jurisdiction over it, see if there's any issues, I mean it could be a wildlife cord or something that would obviously make it completely unusable, but we're happy to go do that and see if there's a deal to be made, we would probably have to put that out to solicitation. But I would also imagine that, that entity would have a pretty competitive leg up in and winning it. It would be fair and unbiased on our part. But it would be absolutely something that we'd be happy to facilitate that to see if we can you know help those last mile deployments as well.

Great, thank you. I really appreciate that.

Mr Jamison.

Thank you Jason. I just, I just really want to commend you, the CDT team, CPUC team, for putting this...uh, getting us to this point, it seems like this is a topic that we've been talking about for some time, kind of conceptualize...it's really nice to see us making progress and kind of get to that point where there may be some possibilities albeit you've got a big map and a little number of respondents, but that's...that's actually one of the things I wanted to ask about was of the respondents, I think you said there was 14 out of 150 if I remember correctly, give or take...was there any commonality among those respondents you know, whether it be geographically size...was there anything that we could kind of glean from that to think about who we might want to further target, since they clearly had some level of interest.

Yeah, I want to see if our CDT partners want to add, but from my review of the respondents, it seemed to be a pretty you know, decent sampling size. We had some big entities and small

entities I didn't catch anything that was geographic. I'm not sure that we necessarily had that as a demographic question at the beginning of the survey if memory serves, but it seemed to be amid the 14, it wasn't like you know just the biggies or just some small regional folks. It seemed to be a decent cross section.

Okay, good and then the only...one other thing I wanted to ask was going back to kind of the leasing authority issue and that's something you and I have long talked about, it's kind of a second pillar of this of solving through this problem. I would just say that I'm a bit concerned that word...you use the term teasing out, which is a great...is a great phrase really, it's almost a needle in the haystack effort right you really try to marry that perfect state property with that perfect ISP business need. I'm a little concerned that we're going to finally get to that point but realize that and, as we know, 10 years is you know hardly enough for particularly small ISPs to make ROI. And then the moment we find out we need legislation, you know, we could be looking at another you know 12 months before getting there so, it'll be really good to get that...your follow-up on your surveys done and accomplished, and maybe give us that direction as to whether we really do need that authority or not.

Yeah, it's a really good flag and I agree, it is an important element of it, I...I'm going to go on a limb and predict that you know, insofar as folks said they want towers, we need an authority change, I think that's going to be just an easy statement to make here. If they're talking about you know, putting antennas on buildings, that we could probably...probably facilitate fairly simply. The other thing is, there are existing communications towers, a lot of the ones the state administers, are for emergency purposes, but they're you know CHP, Cal Fire, OES, quite a few towers throughout the state that we have a telecom leasing program that includes letting private entities...so long as no conflict, you know to lease out space on those towers, so there are things where we could probably move the needle now while an authority changes pending, but yes and so far, if someone comes back and says we want to put you know 40 foot towers on state property for 99 years of less than fair market value, that will almost certainly require a transactional change in authority for us.

Thank you.

Mr Flores.

Good morning, everyone, and thank you for the presentation. I'm just wondering if you have...have you thought about the fair system, you know...there are quite large entities throughout the state, I will say...some are pretty strategically located if there's a single purpose or that you might have in mind for those properties.

Yeah so, indeed yes obviously...well not obviously, we don't...we don't have authority to dictate what happens to properties under the jurisdiction of other departments, and so you know, we kind of had this clearing house role and transactional authority but typically we work on behalf of clients. The fair grounds are absolutely part of our property inventory or absolutely part of our search. And historically, you know, there's a lot that's done with those both from a fair purpose, but also for non-fair purposes...emergencies, I mean a lot happened in the pandemic as well, and so those conversations would need to occur through the actual district agricultural associations, the Boards who have jurisdiction over those properties. They would actually have to you know be fully on board but going back to you know, Miss McPeak's comments, you know if the last mile provider, you know needed to put something on their property, we could facilitate that and certainly in this middle mile alignment, their properties are included in the next.

Okay, well, I can, I can tell you that the uh, the boards themselves are pretty anxious to help in any way they possibly can so you'll have their full cooperation. Anything we can do to help, obviously we want to be there for you.

Of course, of course, yeah I just want to speak for her, but yeah, I fully, I fully expect the same. This is something that state government I'm sure is going to lean into.

Thank you.

Alright, Mr Kenny, I do not see any other questions so we'll go ahead and go to the next agenda item. Great job.

Thank you.

Department of Housing & Community Development, Sarah Poss.

Hi, good morning. Can you hear me?

Yes, we can hear you.

Perfect. Thank you, good morning. My name is Sarah Poss and I'm with the Department of Housing & Community Development, Unit Chief of our Policy & Program Support, here to give a very brief update on action item #13, which is the sole action item that HCD is in the lead for in the action plan. So, our action item is to leverage existing HCD programs, such as the Infill Infrastructure Grant in the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program, and next slide. Just wanted to give a quick overview of AB 434, which is our Super NOFA program--Notice of Funding Application program, and our Infill Infrastructure Grant program falls under that sort of suite of programs. That allows for a coordinated single application, which allows for our stakeholders and for each HCD to align eligibility, criteria, scoring, and release of funds to really just kind of help streamline the process. Next slide. So, to give you an idea of where we are in the process, applications for the Super NOFA were due earlier this month and awards are scheduled for later this year and I'll talk a little bit about what these programs did to satisfy the criteria set forth and the action item. So, to talk about first eligible expenses, broadband is now an eligible expense under all four of these programs. And it's a threshold requirement to receive funding, so the speed has to meet the minimum federal requirement of 25/3. 25 megabits per second for download, 3 megabits per second for upload, and then we've also added certain point scoring criteria if projects meet the following criteria on the slide, I won't go through all of it because all of this information is available on our website, but we're giving the opportunity to go above and beyond just the minimum standard and really make sure that there's a robust broadband capability under all four of these programs. Next slide. Moving on to the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant, this grant for background is administered by the Strategic Growth Council and it's implemented by HCD, we're currently in Round 6 of funding, and the award date was earlier this year in January. Round 7 is available, the NOFA is available on our website for public comment right now. So, we have a proposed Round 7, again it's up for public comment, so it hasn't been completed yet, but I wanted to talk a little bit about the characteristics of the eligible expenses and threshold requirement for AHSC for Round 6 and 7, so I'm in both Round 6 and 7, broadband infrastructure is an eligible expense, and we've proposed for Round 7 that broadband service be offered as an eligible expense. For Round 7, we've also proposed that digital literacy programs be an eligible expense and then the threshold program...for the threshold requirement in Round 6, as I mentioned, you know same for AB 434 programs, it's 25/3. For Round 7, we've proposed that applicants are required to provide broadband service at no additional cost to the tenants so we've met the recommendations of this action item and we're continuing to build upon them and make sure we've got a more robust

offering in our grant programs for these broadband considerations. That's...that's the conclusion of my presentation, I promised you it would be brief, but happy to answer any questions.

Thank you, Miss Poss. Does any of the Council members have questions, and I see Miss Wright McPeak. You have the floor.

Thank you, Madam Chair. Sarah, thank you very much for that. Really encouraging and positive approach that HCD is taking. HCD has always had a very big place in my heart. My question is, do you think most of the people that are applying for the...for the programs, particularly the Sustainable Communities Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities grants are aware of the California Advanced Services Fund public housing account? Now most are...new construction is a lot different than retrofitting and the legacy properties, but many of the applicants, I think, are actually have a multitude of properties so they've got legacy properties, as well as new properties just what is your thought there and then what else would you advise us we could do to coordinate on getting the word out around the California Advanced Services Fund public housing account.

Ms. McPeak, thank you so much for the question. In full transparency, this is my second month at HCD, so I am still learning about our programs, I can't claim any of the credit for the amazing work that's been done with these programs, so I, so I have to tell you, I don't know how to speak to your first question but I'd be absolutely happy to follow-up in writing and get that to the Council and get it to you. And then as far as continuing to coordinate, I think that the infrastructure that the Council provides in coordinating and the action plan that's been provided, it has been very valuable in helping HCD make you know, make sure that we're in alignment with the administration. We're working with other departments and agencies to make sure that we're meeting the goals of the action plan, so I think continued coordination is just the key and thank you for the question.

I see no other Council member questions, so thank you very much Miss Poss, I look forward to seeing you again next month. Our next agenda item is from the Department of Technology Scott Adams, you have four action items that you're going to be updating the Council on so I'll go ahead and turn it over to you.

Thank you, Director Bailey-Crimmins and glad to be back here. CDT will be presenting on four action items, the first of which is action item 14, which is to promote existing state contractual vehicles with you know, internet service providers and equipment vendors to support cost savings and efficient purchasing of broadband services and equipment by local public entities. This is a much broader action item. So, there's other areas that we've been you know exploring and leveraging besides just what shown here on the screen. If you could advance the next slide, please. As far as the progress that we anticipate you know, this is a long-term item, this will be continuing and ongoing. Some of the highlights we want to report out here though is that we have been able to leverage existing procurements and contracts for the middle mile broadband initiative, which you'll hear a little bit about later with deputy director Monroe's presentation, but in terms of next steps, we really think there's a potential opportunity that we can further explore and the development of this, the digital equity you know plan, and also the...align the planning efforts with the public Utilities Commission. Next slide. The next is action item 16 which, again, these are summarized...summaries of the action item language by the partner with existing internet service providers to promote, track, and publicly report progressive adoption of affordable internet services and devices throughout the state. Next slide. Again, this is a long-term item and it's going to be ongoing and require continue building a partnership of multiple entities. We do want to flag that the most significant way that we're moving forward on promoting low-cost service and device offers is through the broadband for all portal, as we ensured in past meetings. The Department of Technology is partnered with the California Emerging Technology Fund and

everyone on to create an affordable service and device offer locator by zip code for both organizations and individuals to access low-cost service plans and you can see two images here of what is on the portal. The first is the zip code finder and then the second image on the right shows just a brief summary of what comes up and you can see, part of the state's strategies to couple the affordable connectivity plan with existing private sector low cost offers you see two of those here. If we were to extend out the...um, this image, you would see there's also some affordable device offers that show up on the on the tools, so we continue to build this out. Next slide, please. Also, in terms of um...you know, tracking adoption rates, um...you know, and in enrollment in subsidies is we reported out in our last meeting, we've also fully integrated you know, resource page and a tracking system for the state's um...you know, enrollment in connection in the affordable connectivity program. This again was a joint effort that was that in partnership with the California Emerging Technology Fund and CSU Chico. We, you know, have created a system where we can get live updates on both you know, the percentage and number of state households participating in the affordable connectivity program and then what the second image shows is that there is a searchable function both by county and zip code to show enrollment percentages, and you know, by county and by zip code, so we look forward to hearing more about this in Miss Wright McPeak's presentation later on. Next slide, please. So, action item 18 really refers to developing and managing a multi-layer network of digital inclusion stakeholders to discuss ongoing needs, share resources, and coordinate initiatives. Next slide. This will continue to be a long-term action item and ongoing. We do want to report that in the last several months that we, CDT, and other Broadband Council members you know, partners have engaged with over 1,000 local and tribal governments, broadband consortia, metropolitan planning organizations, schools, libraries nonprofits, and internet service providers, and those have been via a variety of means and needs, and consultations, the broadband for all roundtables, and attending external meetings and conferences. Next slide. In terms of next steps we're just committed to continue to expand our network and areas of engagement and those will include establishing regular subject matter convenings, for instance, on broadband adoption, and digital literacy, and digital equity, hosting regular broadband for all roundtables with Broadband Council members and partners, you know, establishing digital equity and BEAD planning events you know, providing monthly electronic updates and really utilizing the broadband for all portal, which was called out in the action plan as being a central repository of information for the state's broadband for all efforts and using that as a...as a web presence to communicate and update information with you know, the universe of stakeholders and partners. Next slide, please. So, the last time we will report on his action item 24. Again, that's the last item in the action plan and it request that executive branch entities and constitutional agencies incorporate broadcast into their strategic plans. Next slide. Again, this is a long-term item that is ongoing...wanted to report the progress that we've made thus far is we had put together a survey and sent it out to 132 entities. Some of the folks we've reached out to are agency and department chief information officers, Broadband Council members, you know, agencies and departments, and then action item leads. We have also conducted individual outreach. Thus far we've received Just some highlights, we wanted to share with the Council to give you a sense of what we're finding here. There...these are five examples, so the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation obviously reports that they're deploying broadband to prisons in support of rehabilitative efforts for incarcerated persons. The Labor and Workforce Development Agency is developing a workforce literacy program that will include digital literacy. The Department of Parks and Recs is expanding their connectivity services to rural parts with connectivity challenges. The Department of Food & Ag is you know, surveying the Network of Fairs to learn about broadband capabilities and deficiencies as we've heard earlier today, and then the Department of Motor Vehicles is expanding their services online, including senior services via voice-assisted technologies. Next slide. So, the next steps on this item...is our staff is going to continue to do targeted outreach to...um, intend to get more responses and idea of where agencies and departments are. We intend to quote those together and report out results at the Broadband Council meeting in October, and then we anticipate given the broad nature of this action item that will further refine it

and probably recommend some revisions...semi-annual action plan revision process at the end of the year. And that concludes my updates on these four items. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Thank you, Mr Adams. Do any of the council members have questions for Scott? All right, I see none. Thank you very much...appreciated, Mr Adams. I know you have additional updates later on throughout the presentation...oh uh, throughout the morning, so good to see you. Our final action item update before we go to general session and general updates is from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, it is Kaina Pereira.

Good morning, and thank you for the opportunity to present on action item #23, which direct scope is to form a planning group of all state agencies that oversee any potential infrastructure of broadband deploy...adoption funding. To date, we have opened up additional capacity on our team to enable this and other action plan items undergo business charge. Well, our focus up to this point was standing up permitting and funding opportunities. These next deliverables will continue to expand on these efforts. By including new programming and elements that were included in the state budget and federal infrastructure programs previously developed and those that are continuing to be rolled out. As we continue to build out the Community Economic Resilience Fund and additional programming from this and last budget cycle, we will convene appropriate agency partners to align the design, implementation, and delivery of these programs in a transparent and consistent manner. This will allow for increased likelihood of our ability to leverage state funds against upcoming federal investments. Additionally, we aim to continue to push for further engagement with our federal partners and the state agencies on program development. The governor recently appointed a new senior advisor for social innovation and we look forward to working with them to highlight opportunities available within the philanthropic funding area. Each of our action items continues to progress and we're excited to deliver actions that will enable increases to broadband deployment, increased transparency and opportunity in the process from the local level, as well as increase capacity for delivery and technical assistance. As this momentum continues and our new programs come online, we're eager to work with all of our communities together with our community solutions team on delivering the tools and resources our jurisdictions need to meet them all, thank you very much.

Any questions regarding action item #2 for Kaina? All right. I see none, thank you very much. All right, we will go to Mr Monroe who will provide a middle mile update. Mr Monroe.

All right, good morning committee members. Mark Monroe, Deputy Director for the middle mile broadband initiative, happy to provide an update on this project. As everyone is aware the federal funding for this project comes with tight 2024 and 2026 completion deadlines, so it's really important that, that month-to-month we are making significant progress. We'll start today with a quick recap of kind of what's happened since we last spoke. We, uh...to start with, I think, hopefully folks have been tracking. We signed procurement contracts for fiber and related materials in May. This is to secure roughly 3,000 miles or more of fiber in conduit and vaults and all of the things that we'll need over the life of the project and really intended to get ahead of the line in terms of any supply chain issues or material shortages between now and 2026. Similarly, we have provided a 10,000-mile MMBI network map. This is the, this is the final initial map of where the...where along the state highway system we would build to get to the unserved and underserved communities. It combines approaches and methodologies and analysis used by the Public Utilities Commission and Golden State Net and to reach as many unserved and underserved communities as possible and it allows CalTrans to start its pre-construction process for the entire network and move towards updated cost estimates and construction mobilization as we head towards these 2024 and 2026 deadlines. We're now...now that we've kind of come out with a lot of this initial planning and we're moving into this execution phase...so, as I noted, you know, in addition to CalTrans working on the...on its pre-construction work to prepare this 10,000

miles, CalTrans has also been looking for dig smart opportunities. These are identified as transportation projects where CalTrans is going to be underground anyway and such to the extent that fiber or conduit or any components of this project can be added. It's a good efficiency and a smarter use of funds so CalTrans...we'll be talking a bit about some of what CalTrans has done on that front so far. Golden State Net, our third-party administrators continue to explore lease options for segments at the state, ultimately decides that it can't afford to build and then we're looking at how we best optimize...uh, build a lease option statewide to really optimize statewide network coverage. Also want to note that the 2022 budget package provided an additional \$550 million dollars in funding for the MMBI project, bringing the total of \$3.8 billion. These are outyear funds, your general funds, they will help fund a greater amount of construction on the network and will help address other cost pressures, you know caused by inflation and increased demand for labor equipment and materials. We'll move on to the next slide. So, as I mentioned earlier, the dig smart opportunities so as, as we all know, CalTrans has...it is constantly doing hundreds of projects...transportation projects throughout the state and so these tend to take longer and so not every project will lend itself to adding fiber to it, so in a way that would...that will tie to the federal timeframes. But they have so far been addressed...looked at 89 different projects, there they identified 10 where...transportation projects that will be started in the current calendar year where they'll be able to add fiber or conduit to them and they evaluated another 79, so you can see in the map here where the initially team projects were. We'll talk a little more about those in the future, or you know later here, but you can see some of the red points where these you know, these projects are located. Next slide. So, one of the big challenges that anybody's done construction in California knows about is the um...you know, the CEQA and the NEPA concerns and all of the...as well as, all the other dependent permitting. And so, we have this...what you're looking at here really is the time frame as kind of an average time frame that CalTrans estimates this, this...all of the permitting would have taken, under normal circumstances, about 30 months on average and this is important because if we go to the next slide, we can see that...um, we can see that...that's...that's shortened...been shortened here largely to by about 13 months to 17 months. SB 156 provided CEQA streamlining that really makes things go faster and you can see the dependencies down there for some of the other permitting...state permitting agencies that all of that work can start earlier so, given the fact that we need to be under construction and have our construction contract signed in the next two and a half years, this is really important information Similarly, we can look at the federal...the federal permitting agencies we have, you can see that CalTrans has historically had NEPA delegation which really can see how much faster that makes the NEPA process and so there's some highways that go through federal land like BLM land where we're still working on how...about how that's going to work out, that is a generally a longer time frame, but you can see it for most of the work there's again, substantial shortening by the FHWA applying NEPA delegation which used to apply just to transportation projects but expanding it to apply also to broadband projects, so I'm really happy about the progress we're making there. Then again, all of this pre-construction work has to be done before we can actually go in the ground for any given segment and go to construction so This is something that that CDT is really focused on and working with CalTrans. You want to go to the next slide. Real briefly, I think you know, in the past we've talked about the 18 initial projects that we announced last November. You know per SB 156, all the projects had to have been identified, as you know, needs or solving for problems identified by the Public Utilities Commission. And these 18 had already been identified even by the Public Utilities Commission ahead of their broader assessment as meeting solutions, so we started looking at these...I'm sorry, one second. Alright, got some other noise in my background here...the pleasures of working from home. So, in terms of the...these initial 18 projects, the...uh, you know, the idea really was to get started and get learning on that pre-construction process and so we're exploring leasing or exploring building, we're looking at sections that are going to be in tribal areas or urban and rural communities and we're looking at a range of geographical locations and so within some of these you have some of these dig smart opportunities. A lot of...but also, a lot of standalone and the Golden State Net has gone through and done some

assessment that we presented previously regarding potential of leases that would help provide connectivity to these 18. Next section. So, I'm gonna...going back and tying those 18 to the...to that pre-construction process, you can kind of see a summary in the middle here of the permitting timeframe, we just discussed. The permitting is obviously part of a broader...we'll call it design, but it's really the whole pre-construction work that CalTrans has to do before it can actually go on the ground and so, lining that up, you can kind of see some of the percentages there and the various statuses of the 18 projects so some of them are in more challenging areas and so they're still working out some of the details on how to do that and some of the others have been able to make some more progress, and in the months and of course years to come, we'll see a lot of this get caught up and kind of move forward and so really that the path that we see here for the initial 18 is what's now being followed with the broader 10,000-miles. Next slide. So, I'm looking into the months ahead here. We're looking at the broader program. We are working on a vendor briefing session on labor market for construction. We just...we just recently had a...started one of two contractor forums to really go out there and find out what the best approaches to construction are and how best to make sure we have the best access to labor and equipment. As similarly, we are in the process of working on a market sounding to identify where lit service and dark fiber service, uh...leases would be needed to make sure that to the extent that we have the fiscal...that financial flexibility to do so, we can design, we can optimize the design of the network. I mean that we're also working with Golden State Net and the business plan for ongoing maintenance and operation, so that's the...that's the, you know, kind of the summary of my presentation today.

Thank you, Mr Monroe. Does any of the council members have questions for Mark? Alright, I see none. Excellent presentation, thank you, Mr Monroe. We'll go ahead and shift to the next agenda item. We are lucky enough...Commissioner Houck will be providing a last mile update. Commissioner?

So, thank you. Again, Darcie Houck with the California Public Utilities Commission. And I'm going to be providing the update on our CPUC last mile broadband initiatives and I'll ask for a little bit of patience and bear with me as some of the information I'm going to provide may overlap with some of the comments that were recently provided by Director Osborn a little bit earlier this morning, so thank you. So, this slide provides a snapshot or an overview of our activities to implement the last mile broadband initiative programs. On the left, we have our local agency technical assistance program which will provide support to local agencies and tribes for pre-construction cost for broadband network deployment. And I'll be talking about this program and some recent updates in more detail a little bit later in the presentation. Next, we have the Loan Loss Reserve Fund with \$750 million dollars allocated to help local agencies, tribes, and nonprofits finance broadband network deployment projects. As we've mentioned at previous broadband council meetings, we intend to issue a staff proposal very soon in August, so we hope that you will engage in our CASF rulemaking to provide comment on the staff proposal and help us create a program that suits the needs of those it's intended to assist. We need to have the federal...uh, next on the chart is the federal funding account. We adopted program rules last this last April. The federal funding account will award grants to fund last mile broadband infrastructure projects in every county and we are developing priority areas and will be publicly releasing those areas prior to accepting applications. And then finally, the last column we have our CASF programs, which include our infrastructure account, adoption account, public housing and consortia account. And I'll be providing some updates on these programs a little bit later in the presentation and giving some more detail on some of the grant application numbers and amounts. Next slide please. So, our local technical assistance grants, the CPUC established a \$50 million grant program to provide local agencies and tribal entities with grants of up to \$1 million to help plan for broadband infrastructure projects to serve their communities. A broad range of local agencies are eligible and grant funds can be used to form joint powers authorities and co-ops. There's a wide range of activities that are eligible for funding through this program

including environmental, feasibility, and engineering design studies, needs assessments, and broadband plans. We included this program and our updates today because we have some recent update activities and I think it's worth repeating, even though I know it was mentioned a little bit earlier, but our website. We posted a grantee manual; we have recorded webinars on the grant rules and the grant application; another recorded webinar including a detailed walkthrough of the grant program process will be posted on our website over the next week. We will be hosting a live webinar on August 2, again that will be next week to provide further information. And most importantly I'm very happy to announce that we will begin accepting applications on August 1 next week. Our staff has done just a tremendous job of getting the new program up and running. There's lots of information and we encourage you to check that information out. We're very excited to launch the grant program and to work with all the local agencies and tribes on their broadband projects, and we've been doing some pre-meetings with different communities, local and tribal governments. Next slide, please. Okay, so this is...I'm going to talk a little bit more about the California Advanced Services Fund applications that we've recently received. First, I want to note that we recently received comments on a staff proposal to modify the rules of the CASF broadband infrastructure grant account. We anticipate a proposed decision on these rule changes to be issued in one of our August meetings. Party 7 opportunity to provide additional comments on that proposed decision before the commission votes it out. And in regard to our remaining CASF programs, we had three grant opportunities open in July, the broadband adoption grant fund projects, fund projects by public entities and community-based organizations to promote digital literacy and broadband access. The grants to consortia help regional organizations to develop broadband projects and complete the grant application process. And the third opportunity was for grants to build broadband networks, offering free broadband services for residents of publicly supported housing communities and farmworker housing communities. In total, the CPUC received 118 applications requesting a total of nearly \$30 million. We received applications for 19 projects in the public housing facility...for the public housing facilities for a total of 1.4 million. We've received 99 applications for adoption activities for a total of \$28.5 million. The adoption account applications can be summarized as follows, there were 88 applications for digital literacy projects, which represents \$22.8 billion dollars. Six applications to fund call center projects, seeking a total of \$5.2 million. And five applications to fund broadband access seeking a total of a half a million dollars. The rural and urban regional consortia account grant window closed on July 15<sup>th</sup>. We received 15 applications, 13 of which are from existing consortia requesting additional funds to continue operations, and the remaining two applications are from areas currently not represented by broadband consortia and our staff are currently reviewing these applications. And there's more information on these grant opportunities available on our public web pages and...um, we can provide that link and there's contacts for the grant programs. If you need more information, you can email: statewide broadband (all one word) @cpuc.ca.gov. And then, next slide. So, I just wanted to also provide a brief update on some recent outreach with local agencies and tribes that was conducted in coordination with RCRC, my advisor Eileen Odell and I did a trip through the eastern Sierras at the end of July and you know, it was just before the Oak fires that broke out, we were at Yosemite National Park, met with park folks regarding broadband issues there, we also met with Mariposa County supervisor, Rosemarie Smallcombe, and we learned a lot about the communications challenges for Mariposa county and Yosemite National Park. We also met with staff and representatives, traveled to Mono county, Inyo county, and Alpine county, and met with the Bishop Paiute tribe. These were all separate visits that we conducted and then since the last broadband meeting, we've also had separate consultations and met with the Yurok tribe and the Klamath tribe regarding broadband issues. So well, we've known that many rural parts of California continue to be unserved by internet service providers and cell providers, these visits really hammered home for me and my staff how truly isolated some of these communities are without access or having limited access to broadband. For example, in Alpine county, their county building serves as an emergency shelter, but has no internet connectivity and Yosemite National Park, we learned that they're struggling with communications resiliency and this has

also lead to difficulty in attracting employees because the internet service is very poor to nonexistent in the employee housing. Attending school virtually was extremely difficult if not impossible for some of the children in these communities during the pandemic. We also learn that California Fish & Game has moved to sell of fishing licenses and hunting licenses online through QRS codes and if there's no service in the area, people visiting or vacation in these areas may have to travel long distances to acquire their licenses, which affects economic development. So, again, I just wanted to give an update on some of the outreach we've done, I was truly impressed by the dedication and ingenuity of the public servants we met with who are facing challenges in areas such as public health and safety, economic development, and education opportunities for their communities with a lack of or limited broadband services, and I'm looking forward to continuing our work, supporting network development in underserved and unserved areas, and hope to continue visiting with various local and tribal communities throughout the state, and continue to coordinate with CDT in these efforts for outreach. So, that will conclude my comments on our last mile update.

Thank you, Commissioner Houck. Um...very...it was nice that you actually personalized and you know...your visits sound like they're worthwhile. Sometimes when we walk a mile in other people's shoes, we understand the importance of this endeavor so thank you very much. And do any of the other council members have questions for the Commissioner about her presentation? Alright, Miss Wright McPeak...do you have a question?

No, I don't.

Alright, alright. With that, thank you very much, Commissioner. We'll go ahead and go on to the next agenda item, which is actually Miss Sunne Wright McPeak, who will provide a broadband adoption update.

Thank you, Madam, Chair. May I just also thank Commissioner Houck for the focus on broadband adoption. So, we'll go on to the next slide, please. I'm going to provide an update on three items: ACP enrollment, report on IOU Leadership to promote adoption, and on ACP mobilization statewide under the banner of Get Connected California. Next slide. So, here is what you heard from deputy director Adams. Scott presented this very good news of what is a very useful tool on the website of the California Department of Technology. Last week, the White House made an announcement about the number of enrollments nationwide. Vice President Harris focused on California as the State that has the most enrollments in the nation, 1.6 million California households have enrolled. We have about 5.8 million households, who are eligible for the Affordable Conductivity Program or ACP. Scott showed you the enrollment tracker on the website. You can easily query it around where are we today with the latest data from the Federal Communications Commission universal services administration company, and I do want to acknowledge that CSU Chico the North State Collaborative does an amazing job of immediately updating as soon as the FCC data is available. Next slide. Here is just the summary for everyone, as we...I think all know, there are about 13 million households in California, 45% of those households 5.8 million are eligible for the Affordable Conductivity Program and, as I just said 1.6 million have signed up. That's 28% of those who are eligible and we had set a goal in March of reaching at least 5 million of households in the next four or five years, which puts us at about 32% of that original goal. California remains around 12.37 or 4% of the nationwide enrollments and you can see here that the majority still remain mobile enrollments. Then there's...if you will, landline or fixed mobile...excuse me, fixed broadband into the home, that's around 40% and we have less than 1% that's wireless or satellite. The issue that really we want to flag is that low-income households need to have generally both a mobile device, and especially if their children going to school, another permanent connection in the home, so we want to continue to track this proportional share of what the enrollments are of mobile versus in-home service. We also can see from the data that there is a direct correlation between promotion

and signups. So, if there's advertising, if there's activity, if there's distribution of information, as it was by Los Angeles County in December, enrollments go up immediately. We see on the website, InternetForAll and on EveryoneOn, also immediate activity as soon as there is some awareness...some promotion that reaches the eligible households. Next slide. I'm now going to report on a piece of this work being done by the investor on utilities and thank my colleague Debbie Shireman, who is organizing and working with all of the four large investor-owned utilities. And I want to compliment you see, the names of the 10 people from the four IOUs who are doing tremendous work in reaching out to their low-income customers and their customers who are already enrolled in their rates subsidy programs. Next slide. The IOUs have identified four key strategies and are now persisting in implementing them, so the first is to have a telephone number and a link to the company websites on their website. The second is to provide the message about the discounted of broadband rates in all of their information around their discounted energy programs, the nexus to include flyers about affordable broadband ACP now in the education kits that go to low-income households for home repairs. And the last is to work with CETF on training their community-based organizations who do the outreach for their energy programs to also have information around ACP and to be able to inform their customers and the low-income households they're working with about this opportunity. To date, three of the four IOUs arranged the briefings for their CBOs and 140 CBOs have been trained. Overall, the IOUs have a goal of reaching 4 million customers on their care program. We have this information about ACP and on the next slide, you will see that there's already been a collection of activities of those four strategies that have resulted in 1.9 million plus completed activities for those 4 strategies. So again, I want to do a great 'thank you' to the investor-owned utilities and those 10 leaders on getting all of this work done that's adding to our mobilization which leads to the next slide, which is...oh, I want to show you their examples of what the IOUs have on their website, so this is one, and on the next one, you'll see three more that are amazing information that the IOUs have all had to do this work around, and this leads into and compliments on the next slide, the mobilization that really is coming about because state agencies have coalesced to coordinate activities under the banner Get Connected California. The organizing partners are the Department of Technology, so thank you to Scott and his team, the California Department of Education so really Jeff Belleau has identified this with Superintendent Thurman to target, particularly this next coming month August because that's once kids are going back to school. The California State Association of Counties, so Jeff Neil in ferreting...and Brian <?> have been wonderful in working with also the State Library...thank you, Josh Chishom and then working with CETF. We have this collection of effort because 90% of all of the households who are eligible for ACP are also enrolled in Medical, CalFresh administered by counties, and the National School Lunch Program obviously administered through the schools. We're also working I should add, with higher education, all three systems' because the PELL grant is another category for automatic...um, automatic enrollment in ACP. The first month of focus, it won't be the last in this fiscal year, but the first month again identified by CDE is this coming Monday because this is the time that kids are going back to school and we really want our students who are qualified for the National School Lunch Program and their parents to know about ACP. We also realize that if there's no broadband at home, yet you have to enroll and ACP online that some households are going to need assistance, they're going to need a place to go. And so, the California Department of Education has targeted Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> for onsite assistance. We are currently identifying those host sites, recruiting volunteers and staff, organizing for our community-based organizations to be able to take calls, and internet service providers are also joining in this entire effort. I also want to compliment and thank my colleague Marissa Canche and Charles Gardner for coordinating and staffing this working group at the State level, and I want to welcome any other state agency who wants to join and, lastly, going to the next slide. These are links to really important information, the first is that the California Department of Education secured from the FCC the approved verification letter to make it as easy as possible for a household qualified for the National School Lunch Program to take that document and be able to submit it to enroll in ACP and then there is going to be a toolkit that anybody can use for

your own mobilization where you can take flyers and add your own logos, you can customize, your able to access ads, you can also customize and it'll be other information to mobilize in August as the first month this fiscal year, and to work on the 27<sup>th</sup>. And then in summary on the last slide, we just want to thank everybody that we have made the progress today to 1.6 million households enrolled. We want to accelerate that progress to meet the goals of the California Broadband Council. We commend the IOUs and ask even more assistance during this fiscal year to accelerate enrollment and we invite everybody to be involved in this ACP mobilization Get Connected California, especially in August. We have the housing authorities, counties, cities have been getting involved, regional broadband consortia, the metropolitan planning organizations, particularly SANDAG and SCAG are doing a tremendous job, and the internet service providers are joining us. So, thank you Chair. I'll return this back to you.

Thank you, Miss Wright McPeak for you know, the adoption update I think that's really where the rubber hits the road where you make a difference in the lives of residents and so it's...it shows the importance that this Council makes across the state, and so it was very rewarding to hear your update. I will open it up to comments from the Council members. Does anybody have questions for Sunne? Alright, I don't see any. Thank you again, Miss Wright McPeak, always a pleasure. Our last presentation before public comment is the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act update, a mouthful that's why we have two presenters today to go over that it, that is, Mr Scott Adams and Mr Rob Osborn.

Thank you again, Director Bailey-Crimmins and Council members and members of the public. You know, I know this has been a long agenda and we can see how comprehensive this state's Broadband For All program and various initiatives are and how they all are interdependent and fit together. One of the things that we've been doing in each of the meetings this year is to inform Council members of the status of the NTIA IIAJ programs to the extent that they represent significant funding to support you know, the Broadband For All initiatives that are currently in place, and to expand on those so I'm happy to be here with Rob to Osborn from PUC to provide a quick update. Next slide, please. Wanted to share that two of the big programs through that NTIA IIAJ programs for the digital equity planning and BEAD programs, and so, as we mentioned at the top of the meeting here, the Department of Technology has submitted a digital equity planning grant application to the NTIA earlier later this month. The CPUC has submitted the broadband equity access and deployment letter of intent to be the administering entity um, uh...and you know, and do the 5-year plan for that and receive the funding. Both of these efforts will require the development of plans over the next year, which CDT and PUC will be coordinating over the next year and it will require you know, participation and contributions from Broadband Council members and other stakeholders. Once the plans associated with these are completed at the end of the year and approved by NTIA, these will unlock potentially billions of additional federal dollars that can help support the state broadband for all efforts that you've heard about you know in today's agenda and even you know go further beyond that. Next slide, please. Wanted to provide a brief update and to clarify that what the state has submitted on digital equity is an application to receive planning funds to develop and expand the state's digital equity plan. And you know, we anticipate the state's done a lot of work on digital equity and many of the components discussed today represent you know, in essence, a digital equity plan, but the funds we will receive in the efforts will be able to undertake over the next year will help us really expand to do a gap analysis, you know, and identify, you know, needs and resources to support digital equity throughout the state and wanted to share with you that some of the measurable objectives that the NTIA has laid out for the digital equity planners really identifying access to fixed and wireless broadband you know, fostering online accessibility and inclusivity of public resources, fostering and promoting digital literacy, raising awareness and use of measures to secure online privacy and cyber security, and then really supporting access to devices and technical support. You know, some of the outcomes that the digital equity planning process calls out is really fostering and facilitating you know, educational outcomes, economic and workforce

development, access to health care and health care services, civic and social engagement, and delivery of social services. Next page, please. As I mentioned at the top, this is you know, the value of the state and the state partners and also something embedded in the infrastructure legislation and the NTIA's NOFO is that partnership and collaboration is critically important to states and developing their plans. And really requires meaningful engagement that prioritizes eight covered populations. On the left-hand side of this, you will see that the eight covered populations are low-income individuals, aging individuals, incarcerated individuals, veterans, individuals with disabilities, members of racial ethnic minority groups, individuals residing in rural areas, and individuals with literacy barriers, including those who are English learners and have low-levels of literacy. Additionally, there's a specific requirement that there be expensive engagement with tribal governments and entity so um...you know, coordinated outreach and collaboration on strategy with strides, inventory and existing resources and programs, and then alignment of the state digital equity plan with tribal digital equity plans, and one thing that note we already got started on is earlier this month, we did do a technical assistance workshop with tribal entities to make sure that they were able or aware of and able to submit letter of intent to receive separate funding allocations from NTIA to develop their digital equity plans in coordination with the state's overarching plan. Next slide. Just real briefly, wanted to give you an update on the timeline. So, the deadline for the planning grant application was July 12. We submitted the application on July 11. There's currently an application review process. We expect that the planning grant funds will be received by the state sometime in late September early October, there will be you know, the state will have one year from the receipt of the reward to develop the state digital equity plan and then once that plan is completed, it needs to be submitted to the NTIA and improved and then that will enable the state to unlock another pool of funding for capacity and implementation grants. And so, I know Rob Osborn from PUC would like to share some information about BEAD. I'm going to hand over the floor to him.

Thank you Scott. So, just as a recap the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program has 42.45 billion available nationwide. We expect California will be eligible for one of the largest percentages of that money dependent upon the number of eligible locations the plan, well...the rules, state that initially \$100 million is allocated to each state and jurisdiction and then...well actually, not jurisdiction, so, for instance, Washington DC. And then on top of that, there's a location-based allocation. So, BEAD funds are intended for broadband planning, deployment, multi-tenant building deployment, adoption in digital equity, and workforce development. The last mile prioritization goes in the order of providing broadband to unserved first-off, and then underserved, and then finally to anchor institutions in that order. The BEAD grant...so, the money will be allocated to California and then the PUC would have subgrantee programs similar to what we have in place already for the Federal Funding Account for...and this will be separate for BEAD. The BEAD grants require a minimum of 25% matching funds so as Scott mentioned, we submitted the letter of intent with a request for \$5 million in the initial planning funds to the NTIA for BEAD, and so the next step on that is the BEAD initial planning funds application, which is due before August 15. And that will cover the expenses required to create what's called the BEAD 5-year action plan. That 5-year action plan is due 270 days...within 270 days. The CPUC intends to use the initial planning funds to create a comprehensive 5-year action plan that will identify California's broadband needs and lay out how and when BEAD funding, which requires matching funds, as I said earlier, is most appropriate in the context of the other state and federally funded programs that we have. So specifically, CASF, Federal Funding account, Loan Loss Reserve, local agency technical assistance, other initial planning activities will include public and stakeholder outreach, training and education, and planning for workforce development. Next slide please. So, I apologize this slide is rather complex and detailed but I'm just going to touch upon some highlights. So, after the initial planning funds are awarded and the 5-year action plan is approved, PUC will be submitting the BEAD initial proposal, which is due 180 days after the notice of funding amount is issued, so we would be notified of our allocation for the state. And we have 180 days to put forth a BEAD initial proposal and that...once that is

approved, 20%...up to 20% of funding will be made available. Following that there's a final proposal, which will then...once that is approved, release the remaining amount up to 80% of the funding, and that final proposal is due 265 days after approval of the initial proposal. As Scott said, the California Department of Technology is a state entity tasked with creating the digital equity plan. And the PUC is in close coordination with CDT in putting together a holistic and effective set of IJJA plans, meaning digital equity and BEAD not only meet the NTIA's requirements, but also maximize the use of IJJA funds by leveraging existing initiatives and programs. So, we're really in a pretty strong position with regard to other states, thanks to the hard work of the governor with the executive order N-73-20, and the Broadband Council with the Broadband Action Plan that we put together at the end of 2020 and the various broadband funding initiatives that were introduced or extended last year. California is well positioned to take full advantage of the BEAD and the digital equity funds. One example, just before I end the cost modeling and GIS work we've been doing and how we're integrating those tools into the grant making process to ensure the optimal and equitable use of precious state and federal resources to bring broadband to all Californians. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr Adams and thank you, Mr Osbourn. Do any of the Council members have questions for either Scott or Rob? Alright, I see none. Thank you very much for your presentation, we'll go ahead and move on to public comment. Ms. Stein, will you please provide the public comment guidelines and again the public comment process.

Sure. In order to ensure that everybody who wishes to make public comment has the opportunity to do so, we respectfully request one speaker per entity and two minutes per speaker. We'll go in order of online submissions received before the meeting, ZOOM, and then online submissions that were received after the meeting began. Please raise your ZOOM hand if you'd like to make a public comment. If you are calling, if you are attending via phone, please press \*9 to raise your ZOOM hand, and also before we get the question, we will be posting video and slides to the website, most likely within the next week. We're not seeing any hands, so what I'm going to do is go ahead and go to the two online submission that happened after the meeting began. One is from Katie Heidorn. Um...I don't...I know I saw her here. And I will go ahead and unmute you.

Good morning, everyone and happy Friday. Katie Heidorn, Executive Director of Insure & the Uninsured Project, thank you all for the wonderful presentations today...um, really appreciate how you organized this and walkthrough everything, so thank you for that and appreciate all the work that's going on. A couple comments that I think were quite specific that I wrote down...um, just a couple questions on, I heard someone talking about using state prisons as part of the network, and I was just curious if the California Health and Human Services facilities are also being considered the developmental centers and the state hospitals. A lot of our work is focused around making sure that anything possible that could be an anchor institution in under resourced communities are considered and so just wanted to submit that. And then the other piece I'm so excited about...um, Miss Wright McPeak's presentation around Get Connected...looking forward to continuing the work that we're doing on ACP promotion. But just wanted to note that there are huge amounts of folks enrolled in the Medical Program and the Women Infants and Children's Program, which are under the jurisdictions of departments in Cal-HHS and we'd love to see those considered for maybe not this one, I know that the...the train is moving on August and so excited for that promotion right as schools coming back in session, but as you do additional rounds of the Get Connected program, please consider the Health and Human Services programs as well. Thank you so much.

Madam chair, I might...I want to just comment thank you Katie for your leadership and I know that the California Department of Technology is working through the process to actually...formally request HHS involvement, but so is the California State Association of Counties and you have great working relationships, so please reinforce that message, let's

engage. I think you're absolutely right and, of course, your work on Insure the Uninsured, and being able to either make aware or engage all of those healthcare facilities and locations to promote ACP would be welcomed, so help us Katie. You are such an amazing leader and we need everybody just to come together as soon as possible.

Thank you. The next person who submitted an online public comment is Cesar Estrada. Mr Estrada, if you are in attendance, could you please raise your hand. I'm not seeing any hands. Is there anybody else who'd like to make public comment? It appears that nobody is raising their hand, Madam Chair

Alright, thank you, Ms. Stein. Are there any other council members who would like to make additional comments before we close the meeting. Alright, I see...oh yes, Ms. Wright...Ms. Wright McPeak.

Madam Chair, I think you'd be...you'd be disappointed if I didn't make one last comment that I, and I apologize, but I do see that Dr Williams, is here representing the Assembly and Assembly member Gibson, and I wanted to assure Angelo and also Sarah Smith, representing the Senate that a part of the Get Connected California, we're actually providing information out to all the legislators as well. So, a number of legislators have asked about how they can be involved and I simply wanted to acknowledge that we will be following through on that opportunity as well.

That's an excellent point. Thank you very much, Miss Wright McPeak. Is there any other comments from any of the other council members or from the public? Alright, I want to thank the council members, presenters, and attendees...and for their contribution today. I also want to express my gratitude for those people who are working so diligently to move things forward. Your work is valued and it will make a great contribution to advancing broadband for all. Our next meeting, as a reminder, is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> because of the 2022-23 budget. We are...because of Bagley Keene, we have the...been given the opportunity to remain virtual through July 2023, and so we will...these will be virtual unless otherwise posted. We look forward to seeing everyone then. And with that, we will be concluding the July California Broadband Council meeting.



**From:** California Broadband Council   
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** CA Broadband Council  
**Subject:** New Entry: Broadband Council Comment Form

**I have a comment regarding:**

Broadband Council

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**Name**

Katie Heidorn

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**Email**



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**Organization**

<http://www.itup.org>

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**Comment/Question**

Hello, thank you for the CDT update presentation at the Broadband Council Meeting today.

How is CalHHS working in partnership with CDT on these initiatives? Will state hospitals and developmental centers be anchor institutions? They are typically located in underresourced/rural areas.

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Regarding ACP adoption, has CDT contacted CalHHS and the Department of Health Care Services about adding in ACP outreach information into the Medi-Cal redetermination packets? All of these Medi-Cal beneficiaries are eligible for ACP, and 14.6 million people are currently enrolled in this program.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

Katie

Sent from [California Broadband Council](#)



**From:** California Broadband Council [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 10:53 AM  
**To:** CA Broadband Council  
**Subject:** New Entry: Broadband Council Comment Form

**I have a comment regarding:**

Broadband Council

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**Name**

Cesar Estrada

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**Email**

[Redacted]

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**Organization**

All American War Veterans

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**Comment/Question**

My Dear, Mr. Jason Kenney and Mr. Brent Jamison in regard to Last Mile or Middle Mile solution? Why don't we include or involve the First Responders Network and Public Utility Cable and Phone, Transit Systems + Power Companys existing infrastructure as a more modern and visionary approach than just going to the far-flung houses or abode where on existing poles or infrastructure is not currently present or in existent. And also, to Mr. Mark Monroe and Miss. Darcie Houck If I forget!

Sent from [California Broadband Council](#)