

# **Broadband in California**

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# California Department of Technology

CDT is the guardian of public data, a leader in IT services and solutions, and has broad responsibility and authority over all aspects of technology in California state government, including:

- Policy formation
- Inter-agency coordination
- IT project oversight
- Information security
- Technology service delivery
- Advocacy

# Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy

- Statewide ecosystem dedicated to closing the digital divide
- California Broadband Council
- Broadband Executive Order and BB4ALL Action Plan
- Statewide Open-Access Middle-Mile Network

### California Broadband Council

12-member council established in 2010 to promote broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas of the state as defined by the Public Utilities Commission, and broadband adoption throughout the state for the benefit of all Californians.



## **COVID / Digital Divide**

#### Lack of equity is apparent in broadband statistics:

- 83% of Californians have access to broadband
- Only 52% of Californians have broadband at modern speed of 100 Mbps
- 51% rural households have no network offering 100 Mbps
- 28% tribal lands also lacking this service level

#### **Executive Order N-73-20**

Required the development of a California State Broadband Action Plan.

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### EXECUTIVE OPDER N. 73-20

WHEREAS deploying affordable and reliable broadband networks throughout California will accelerate continuous improvements in economic and workforce development, infrastructure, public safety, education, economy, and an engaged citizenty; and

WHEREAS broadband access, adoption, and training are essential components of digital equity for California's diverse populations; and

WHEREAS over 2.000.000 Californians do not have access to high-speed broadband service at benchmark speeds of 100 megabits per second download, including 50 percent of rural housing units; and

WHEREAS as of December 2018, 23 percent of California housing units, housing 8.4 million residents, do not have broadband subscriptions; and

WHEREAS despite the increasing importance of broadband for employment, health, public safety information and community connections. 34 percent of adults 60 and over do not currently use the Internet; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the extent to which broadband is essential for public safety, public health, and economic resilience; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has caused schools to shift to distance learning; and

WHEREAS telehealth greatly expands the ability of Californians to access medical, behavioral and oral health services, and has been prioritized across health systems during the COVID-19 pandemic, yet not all Californians have access to sufficient broadband to allow live videa connections: and

WHEREAS effective emergency services require using broadband infrastructure to integrate data in real time from all available sources so decision makers at the local, regional, and statewide level have access to the information necessary for the protection of lives and property, and

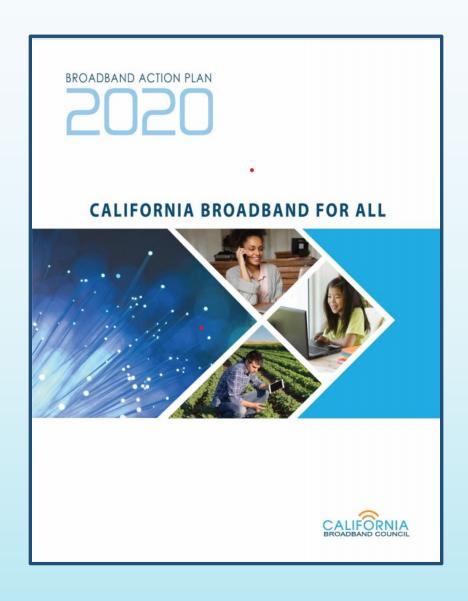
WHEREAS local and fribal governments play a critical role in understanding the broadband needs of their communities and in infrastructure planning and permitting.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Order to become effective immediately.

#### Contained specific direction on 15 items:

- Data and Mapping
- Funding
- Deployment
- Adoption

### **Broadband Action Plan 2020**



**Goal 1:** All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses.

**Goal 2:** All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices.

Goal 3: All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion.

#### 24 Actions:

- Adoption
- Deployment
- Digital Literacy
- Funding
- Mapping and Data

### CDT/OBDL

- Contracting and procurement
- Refining cost models for broadband projects
- Convenings and roundtables with stakeholders
- Identifying funding programs and grants (mostly federal) to support broadband deployment, adoption and digital literacy training
- Broadband information portal

# **SB 156 (Chapter 112, Statutes of 2021)**

- \$6 billion investment over three years to:
  - Expand broadband infrastructure
  - Increase affordability
  - Enhance access to broadband for all Californians.
- >\$3.25 billion to develop, acquire, construct, maintain and operate a statewide "open-access middle-mile" network. (CDT)
- >\$2.75 billion for last-mile infrastructure grant programs (CPUC)

# **SB 156 (Chapter 112, Statutes of 2021)**

- CDT/OBDL oversees the acquisition and management of contracts for the development, acquisition, construction, maintenance, and operation of statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network
- CDT/OBDL main POC
- Retain third-party administrator (CENIC MMBI, LLC)
- 9-member Middle-Mile Advisory Committee to monitor the development of the middle-mile

## Leadership

#### Middle-Mile Advisory Committee

- CDT: Chair
- DOF
- Caltrans
- CPUC
- GOV OPS
- 2 Ex Officio Senate
- 2 Ex Officio Assembly

# **Business Partner Working Group**

- CDT
- TPA
- DOF
- Caltrans
- CPUC

# **Program Oversight And SLFRF Reporting**

- CDT
- DOF

# Working Group



#### California Department of Technology

- Program, fund management, reporting and oversight
- Retain TPA
- In collaboration with TPA and CPUC, facilitate high speed broadband access through last-mile connectivity



#### Department of Finance

- Budget oversight and facilitation
- SLFRF quarterly reporting to the federal government



#### California Public Utilities Commission

- Provide data to identify unserved & underserved areas
- Facilitate public comment
- Recommend network placement



#### **Caltrans**

- Leverage existing transportation projects
- Oversee acquisition and management of construction contracts for open-access middle-mile broadband network

# **Guiding Principles**

- 1. Provide affordable, open-access, middle-mile broadband infrastructure to enable last-mile network connectivity throughout the state.
- 2. Build the network expeditiously, leveraging existing infrastructure, networks, and construction projects, where feasible.
- 3. Prioritize connectivity to unserved and underserved communities, including community institutions.

### Links/Resources

California Broadband Council

**Executive Order N-73-20** 

Broadband for All Action Plan

Senate Bill 156

Middle Mile Advisory Committee

California Public Utilities Commission