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# Broadband for All, Digital Equity, and BEAD Regional Planning Workshop

May 20, 2023



# #BroadbandForAll

Share images and video of this workshop on social media using the hashtags:

**#BroadbandForAll** and  
**#DigitalEquity**





# AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Ice-Breaker
- Broadband for All Program and Overview of Existing Investments and Efforts
- Lived Experienced Discussion
- Small Group Conversations
- Calls to Action
- Refreshments and Concurrent Working sessions
  - Working Session A: Broadband Infrastructure Deployment
  - Working Session B: Affordability and Adoption

# Welcome and Introductions

**Kome Ajise**

**Executive Director, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)**

**Roland Ok**

**Planning Supervisor, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)**



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# Regional-Local Partners



# **Broadband for All, Digital Equity, and BEAD Regional Planning Workshop**

**Senator Lena A. Gonzalez, District 33**

**Anh Q. Nguyen, California Department of Technology**

**Maria Ellis, California Public Utilities Commission**

**Raquel Aparicio, Governor's Office of Business and  
Economic Development**

**Susan Walters, National Telecommunication  
and Information Administration**



**Ice-Breaker**

**Kick-off Leadership Engagement:  
Biggest Challenges to Digital Equity**

**Roland Ok**

**Planning Supervisor**

**SCAG**



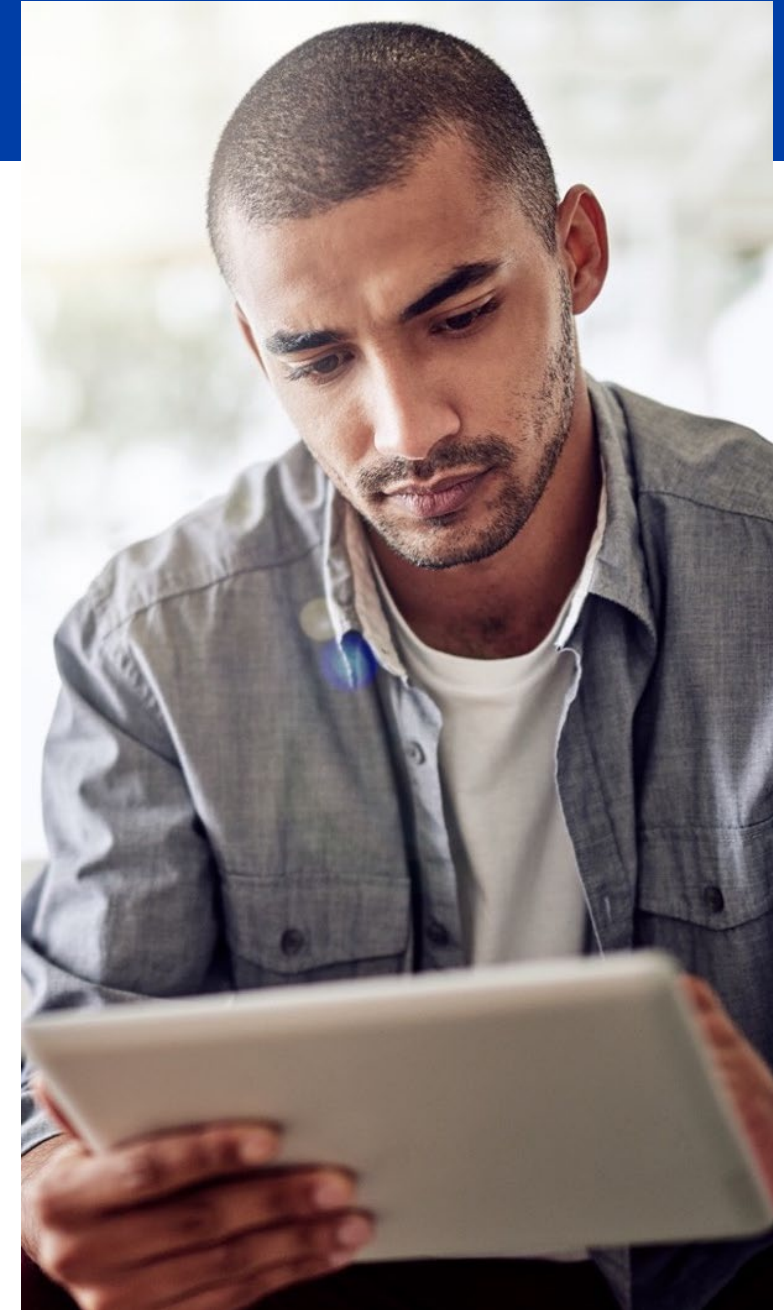
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## Icebreaker Exercise

How important are the following barriers and challenges to achieving Digital Equity for all residents in your region?

Please respond to each on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being most important.

Barrier or Challenge	1	2	3	4	5
Lack of high-speed internet infrastructure.					
Affordability of high-speed internet service.					
Unawareness about affordable Internet (ACP).					
Need for digital literacy training.					
Unavailability of affordable computing devices.					
Other? (Please describe.)					





# Broadband for All: Overview of Existing Investments and Efforts

**Anh Nguyen**

**Engagement & Operations Manager,  
California Department of Technology**

**Maria Ellis**

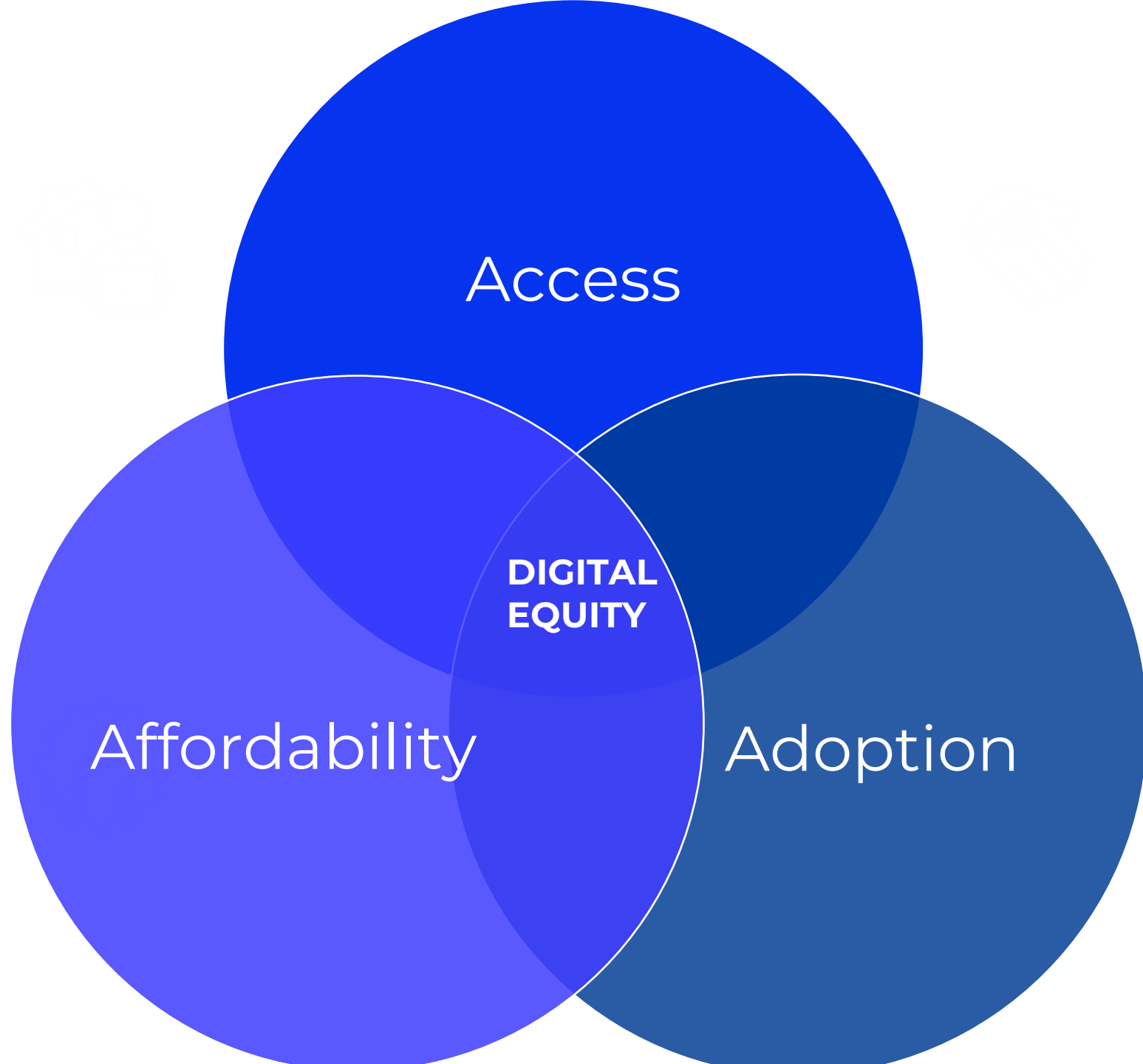
**Deputy Director for Broadband  
California Public Utilities Commission**



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**“Californians’ ability to access and use broadband is the difference between being able to fully engage in life and being cut off.”**





Access

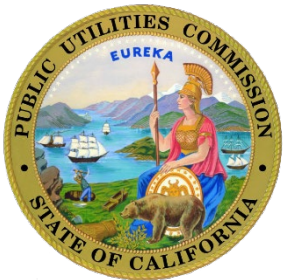
Affordability

Adoption

**DIGITAL  
EQUITY**

MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

# California Broadband Council



# Executive Order N-73-20

Required the development of a California State Broadband Action Plan.



## Specific direction on 15 items:

- Data and Mapping
- Funding
- Deployment
- Adoption

# BROADBAND FOR ALL **Action Plan**



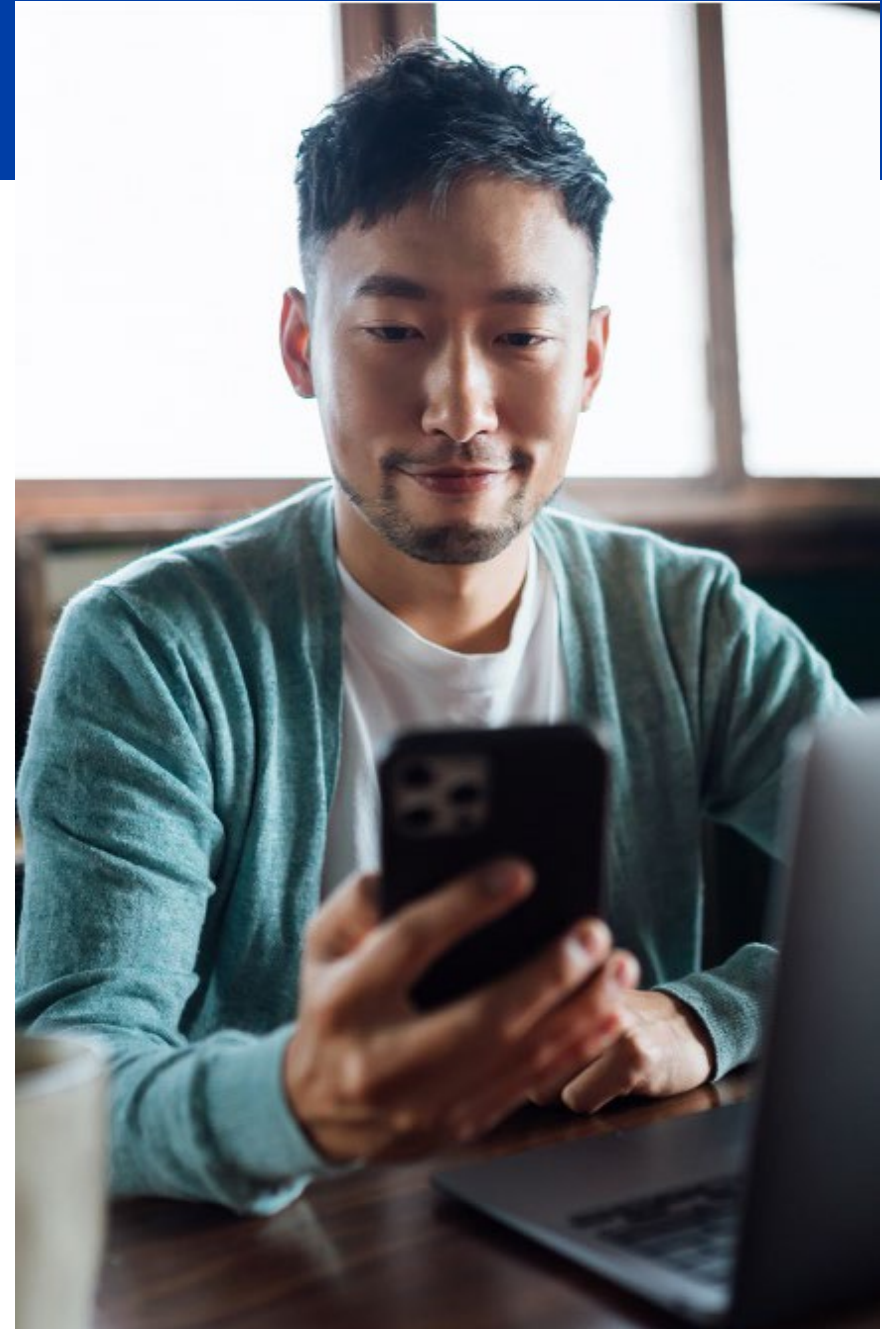
**Goal 1:** All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses.

**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.

## Senate Bill 156

- **\$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)



# Middle-Mile Broadband Network



- **10,000-mile statewide network on state highways**
  - Contracted by Dec 2024
  - Constructed by Dec 2026
  - Broke ground October 2022

Statewide Construction Evaluation Map of 10,000 miles of proposed build



# Last-Mile Broadband Programs

## California Advanced Services Fund

**Up to \$73 million+ annually**

Several of programs to fund broadband infrastructure, adoption, and digital literacy, as well Tribal technical assistance.

## Federal Funding Account

**\$2 billion**

Grants for last-mile broadband deployment that focuses on fiber and cable technology. These funds must be encumbered by the 2025 federal deadline, and spent before 2027.

## Loan Loss Reserve Fund

**\$750 million**

Offers credit enhancement, or a type of insurance, that helps lenders control for the risk that loans will not be repaid. For development of public networks.

## Local Agency Technical Assistance

**\$2.4 million remaining (Tribal)**

For public entity or consultant costs to create Joint Powers Authorities, and for other costs to prepare to deploy broadband infrastructure, including for environmental permitting, engineering, etc.

## BEAD

**TBD; ~990 million to \$1.1 billion+**

Grants for broadband deployment, adoption support programs, and digital literacy.

# Broadband Adoption

## Broadband adoption is daily access to the Internet:

- At speeds, quality and capacity necessary to accomplish common tasks,
- With the digital skills necessary to participate online, and
- On a personal device and secure, convenient network.

*Definitions - National Digital Inclusion Alliance*



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# Affordable Connectivity Program

**The Federal Communication Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program** is a \$14.2 billion benefit program to lower the cost of home internet service for residents.

**\$30 per month**

toward internet service for  
eligible households

**\$75 per month**

for households on  
qualifying Tribal lands.

**One-time discount  
of up to \$100**

to purchase a laptop,  
desktop computer, or  
tablet from participating  
providers

California leads the nation in Affordable Connectivity

Program enrollment with

**2,113,473**

in statewide enrollment as of May 15, 2023

**36% of ACP-Eligible Households**

*USAC ACP Enrollment and Claims Tracker*

# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

The IIJA invests roughly \$65 billion to support broadband deployment and adoption and promote digital equity in states.

**Broadband Equity, Access,  
and Deployment (BEAD)**

**\$42.45B**

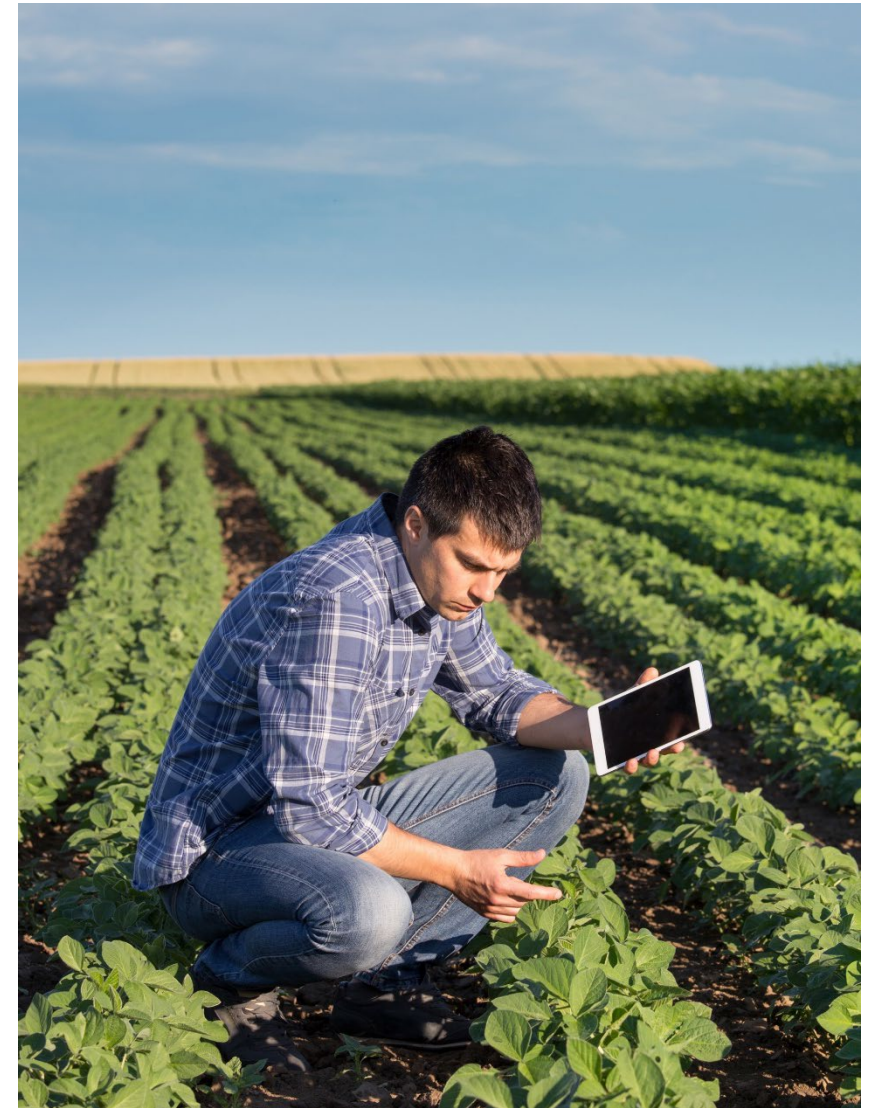
**Digital Equity Planning,  
Capacity, and Competitive  
Grants**

**\$2.75B**

## BACKGROUND

# SDEP AND BEAD Plan Coordination

- CDT administering entity for Digital Equity Planning program
- CPUC administering entity for Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment program
- Planning processes are coordinated
- Extensive statewide and local engagement and input
- When completed, both plans will be integrated and unlock hundreds of millions of additional dollars to achieve Broadband for All





# Covered Populations

The Digital Equity Act prioritizes investments for eight “Covered Populations”

**1**

**Individuals living in covered households**

with an income at or below 150% Federal Poverty Level

**2**

**Aging individuals (60+)**

**3**

**Incarcerated individuals**

other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility

**4**

**Veterans**

**5**

**Individuals with disabilities**

**6**

**Individuals with language barriers**

including individuals who Are English learners; and have low levels of literacy

**7**

**Members of a racial or ethnic minority group**

**8**

**Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area**

**9**

**Women and those who identify as female**

**10**

**LGBTQI+**

*Specifically called out in the BEAD notice of funding opportunity*



## SDEP PLANNING APPROACH **PLANNING COMPONENTS**

**The planning process will consist of five components:**

- Statewide Planning Group
- Outcome Area Working Groups
- California Digital Equity Survey(s)
- Regional Planning Workshops
- Statewide Public Engagement



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# Digital Equity Survey

## Survey

CDT will distribute a statewide **Digital Equity Survey** to residents of California as a civic engagement tool to identify barriers to digital equity, especially for Covered Populations.

The survey is intended to capture information about internet access, internet affordability, and internet adoption for residents in California households.

## Timeline

Launch Q2 2023

## Scope

Two versions of the survey will be shared in **all 58 counties** and will oversample for the **eight covered populations**:

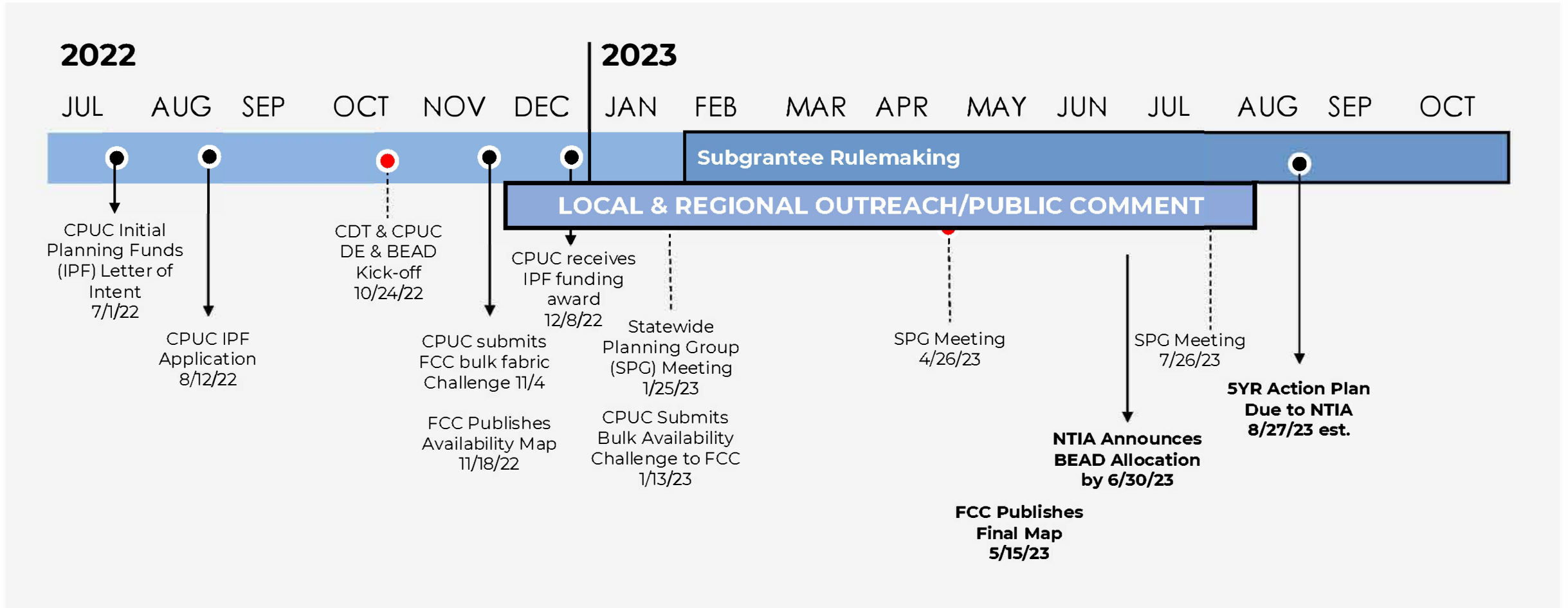
- **Online survey**
- **Phone survey**





# California Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Timeline

Key milestones:



# Lived Experiences from Covered Populations

**Roland Ok**

Planning Supervisor

SCAG



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**Paulina Chavez, EveryoneOn**

**Jillian Muyhor See, Community Member**

**Jonathan Gray, YMCA of Greater Long Beach**

**Councilwoman Lisa Lavelle, City of Avalon**

**Lea Eriksen, City of Long Beach**

**Monica Vasquez, Wilmington Senior Center**

**Alondro Alfaro, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians**

**Gretchen Swanson, The Heart of Ida**

# Small Work Group Conversations

**Roland Ok**

Planning Supervisor  
SCAG

**Sunne Wright McPeak**

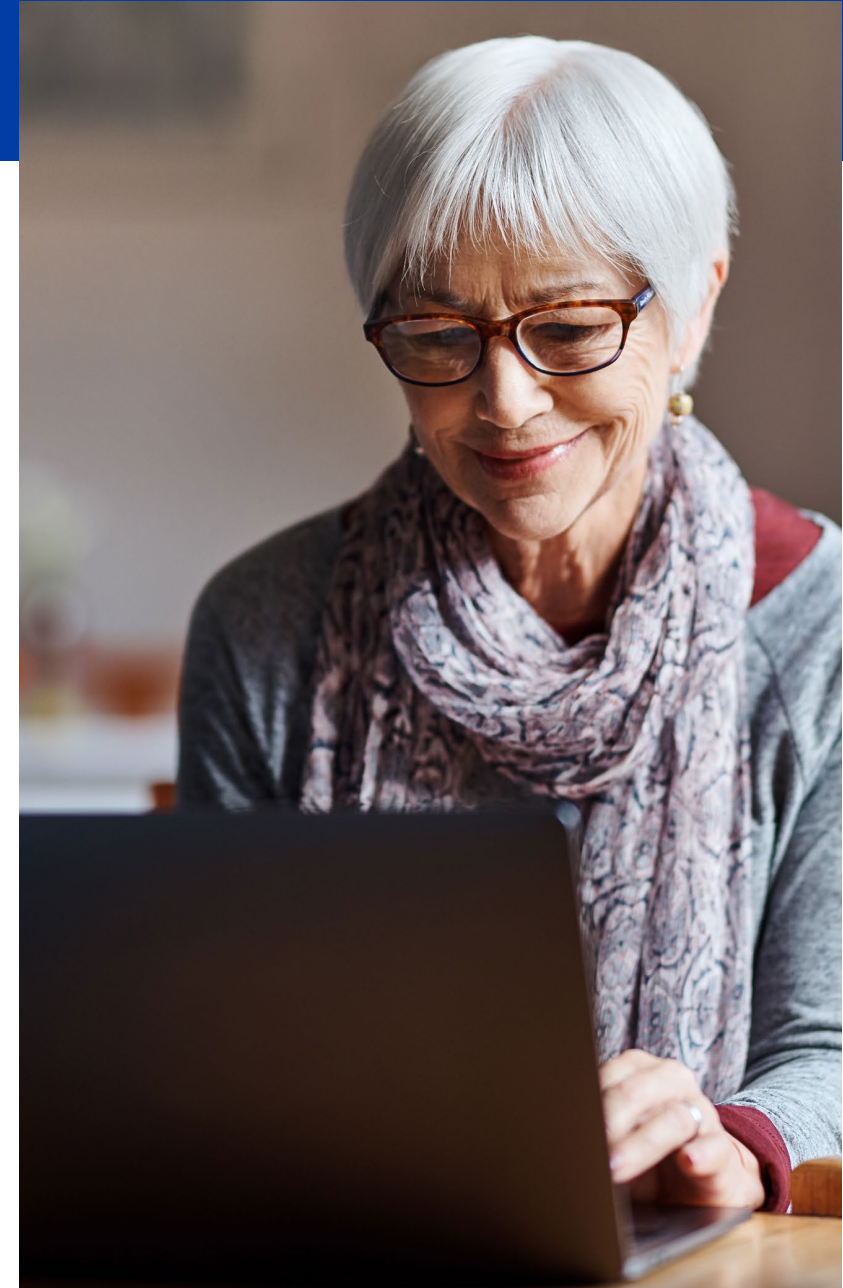
California Emerging Technology Fund



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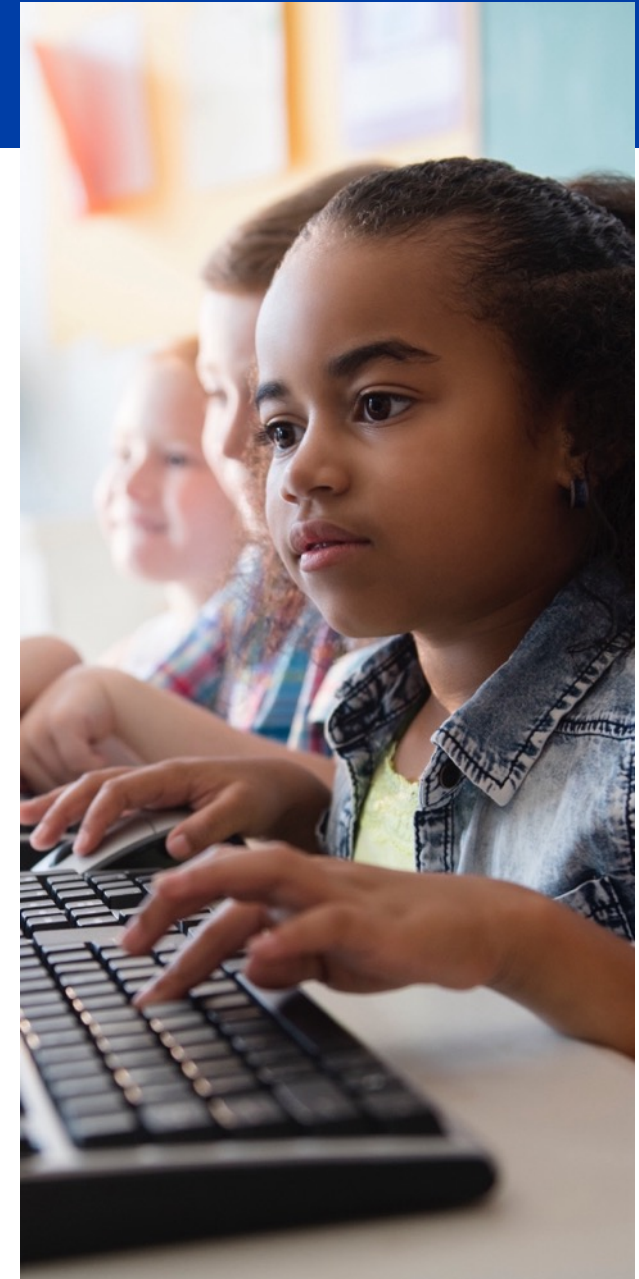
# Digital Equity Barriers and Challenges for Covered Populations

- 1. Identify** barriers for Covered Populations and gaps to address in the Digital Equity and BEAD Plans.
- 2. Develop** strategies to address challenges and explore opportunities for collaboration.
- 3. Report** out strategies.



## Six Policy Outcome Areas

- 1. Identify barriers** lead to disparate outcomes in education, health, digital literacy, workforce and economic development, essential services and civic participation, and tribal collaboration) and address gaps in the Digital Equity and BEAD Plans.
- 2. Develop strategies** to address challenges and explore opportunities for collaboration.
- 3. Report out** strategies.





# Calls to Action

## Anh Nguyen

Engagement & Operations Manager  
California Department of Technology

## Maria Ellis

Deputy Director for Broadband  
California Public Utilities Commission



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HOW TO TAKE ACTION

# Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) Tool

## THE DEEM ISP TOOL IS LIVE!

The Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) ISP tool tracks **Digital Equity** programs, plans, services, and resources throughout California. The mapping tool identifies:

- What programs are being offered, where they're being offered and to whom, and what is missing in each region.
- Barriers to achieving digital equity in every California county.



Scan the QR code using your mobile device or visit us at [bit.ly/DEEMSurvey](https://bit.ly/DEEMSurvey)



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Responses to date

# Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) Tool



	DEEM	DEEM ISP
Total Reach	511	70
Total Responses	174	22
Completed Responses	102	16

Scan the QR code using your mobile device or visit us at [bit.ly/DEEMSurvey](https://bit.ly/DEEMSurvey)



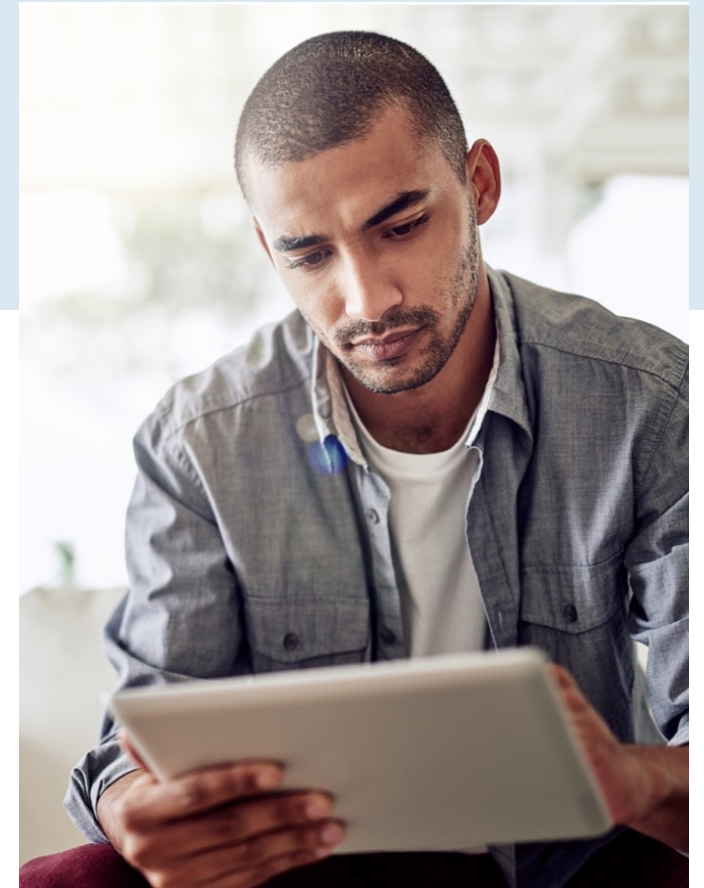
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# Share the Digital Equity Public Survey

The State is distributing a statewide **Digital Equity Public Survey in 14 languages** to residents of California to identify barriers to digital equity, especially for Covered Populations.

The survey captures information about internet access, internet affordability, and internet adoption for residents in California households.



Scan the QR code using your mobile device or visit us at [bit.ly/CADigitalEquitySurvey](https://bit.ly/CADigitalEquitySurvey)



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# Public Comment

The CDT invites you to follow, and to participate in, the public comment process

- A 30-day public comment process will be held in mid to late summer





# Upcoming State Digital Equity Planning & BEAD Virtual Events

## Statewide Digital Planning Group Meetings

- Wednesday, July 26, 2023
- Wednesday, October 25, 2023

## Outcome Area Working Group Meetings

- May 16 – Education
- May 16 – Tribal Collaboration
- May 17 – Digital Literacy & Inclusion
- May 17 – Workforce and Economic Development
- May 18 – Health
- May 18 – Essential Services, Accessibility, and Civic Engagement

To RSVP, visit  
[bit.ly/CADigitalEquityPlanEvents](https://bit.ly/CADigitalEquityPlanEvents)



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**#DigitalEquity**



# BREAK



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# Concurrent Working Sessions

## Working Session A:

Broadband Infrastructure  
Deployment  
(CDT, GSN, CPUC, GO-Biz)

## Working Session B:

Affordability and Adoption  
(CETF)



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**THANK YOU!**



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