

State Digital Equity Plan and Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Stakeholder Briefing

August 26, 2024



Broadband for All

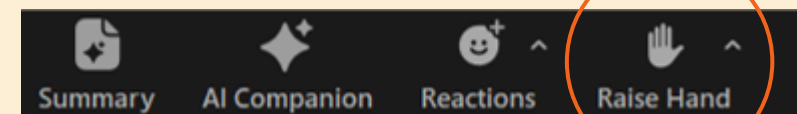
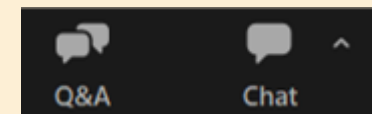
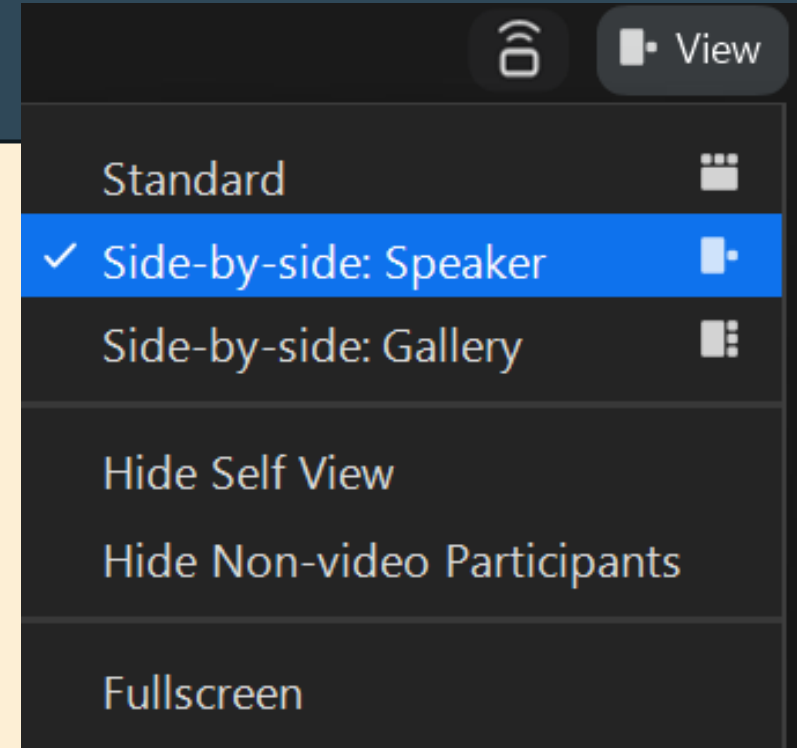
Housekeeping

Select Side-by-Side: Speaker Mode for the best viewing experience when slides are shared and visibility of the ASL interpreters

Closed Captions English closed captions are available. Choose "CC closed caption" on your toolbar and select "show subtitle".

Q&A Box Discussion after each agenda item. Please add your questions in the Q&A Box

Reactions Raise Hand feature or *9 if you calling into Zoom by phone





Agenda

Welcome & Recap

Insights from Device Program Questionnaire

Capacity Sub-Grant Program Design

NTIA Competitive Grant

Timeline & Closing



WELCOME & RECAP

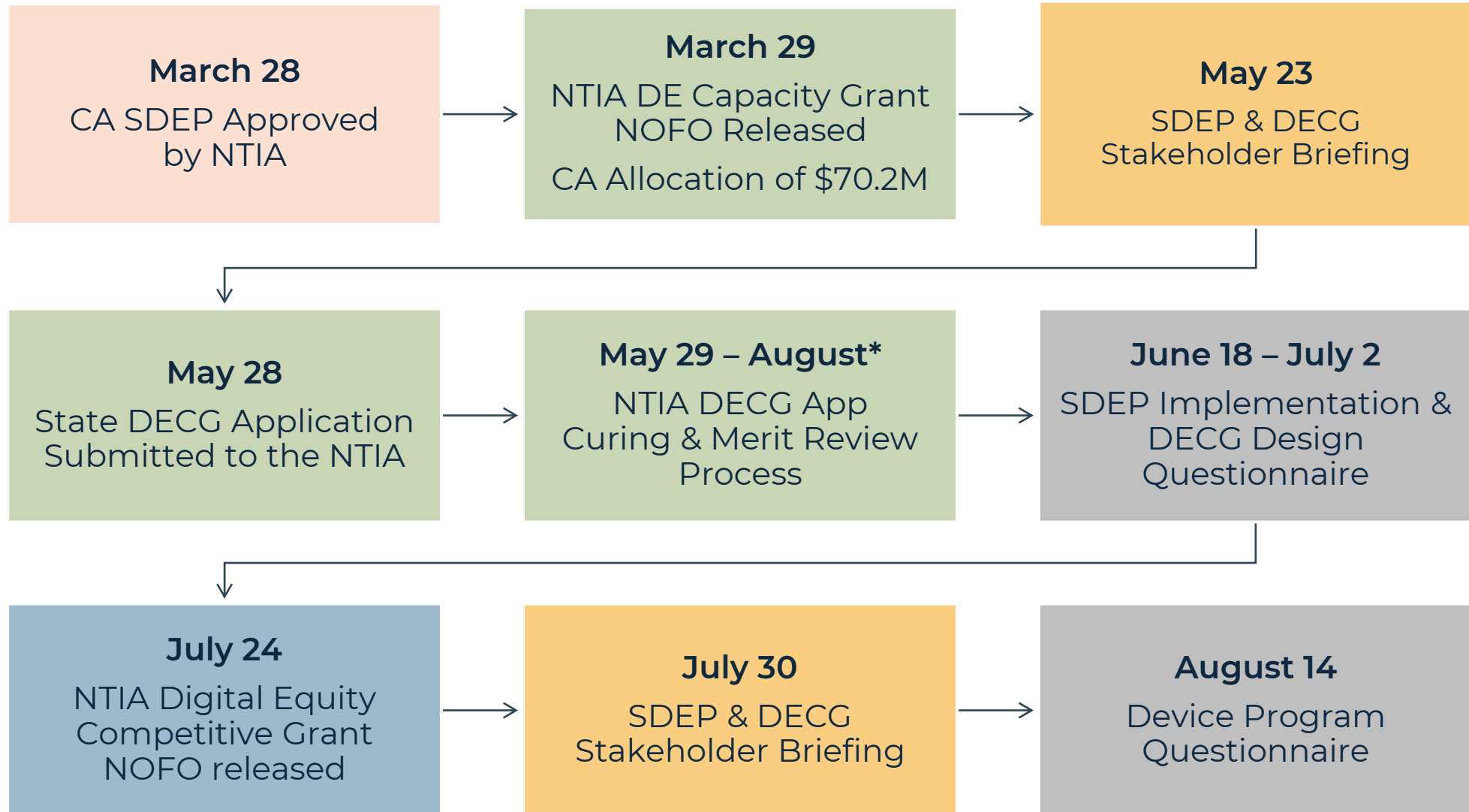
Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

SDEP IMPLEMENTATION & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

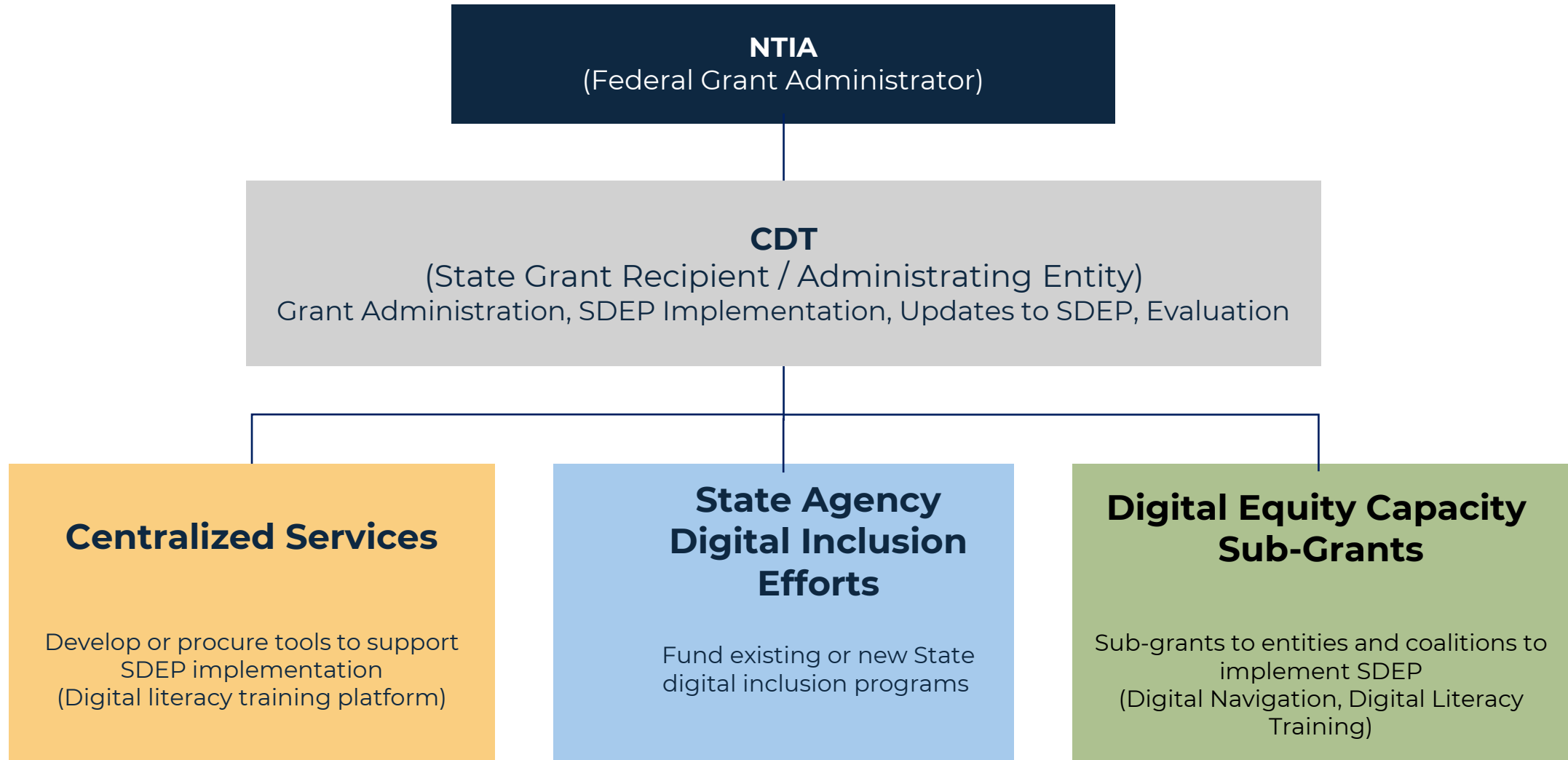
Recap



* Tentative Subject to Change

SDEP IMPLEMENTATION & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Capacity Grant Program Structure



NTIA COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Overview Recap

The Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program is a \$1.25 billion program for grantees to develop and implement digital equity projects.

Represents another pool of funding to support DE in CA.

Funding:

- Total current allocation \$750,000,000.
- Range of \$5,000,000 and \$12,000,000 per Eligible Entities.
- A minimum 10% match required.
- 10% cap on Administration and Evaluation.

Key Dates:

- Application portal opens on **August 14, 2024.**
- Complete applications due on **September 23, 2024.**
- NTIA expects to begin issuing awards by **Winter of 2024.**



SDEP IMPLEMENTATION & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Stakeholder Engagement

Large Group Presentations

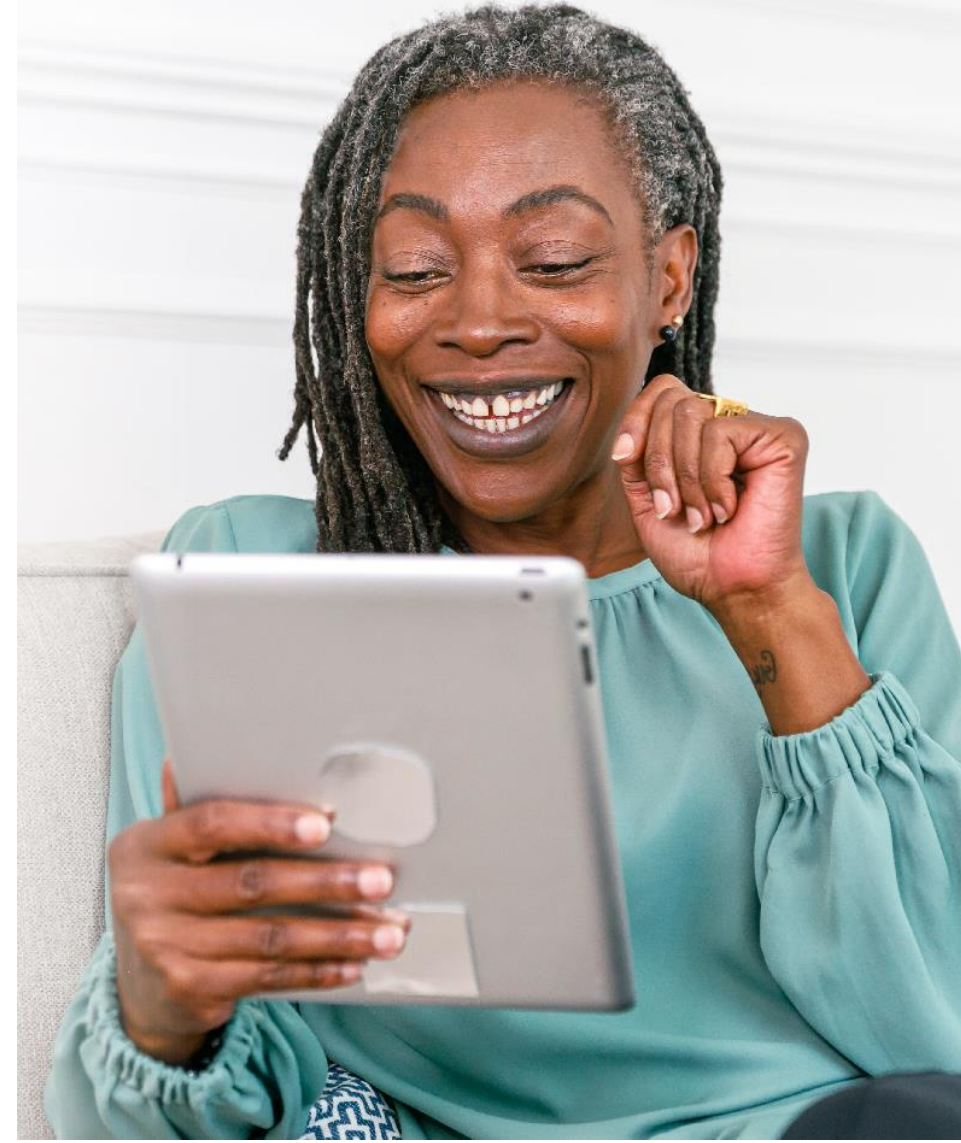
- 8/1 - Northeastern & Upstate CA Connect Broadband Consortia 6th Annual Broadband Summit
- 8/22 – SF Tech Council Bay Area Digital Equity Summit
- 8/23 – Central Coast Broadband Summit

Market Research & Listening Sessions

- State Agencies
- Broadband Consortia
- Local Governments
- Community Based Organizations
- Private Sector Entities

Competitive Grant Coordinating Meetings

- 14 Entities



Discussion



Broadband for All



INSIGHTS FROM DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

Shawn Daugherty

Director

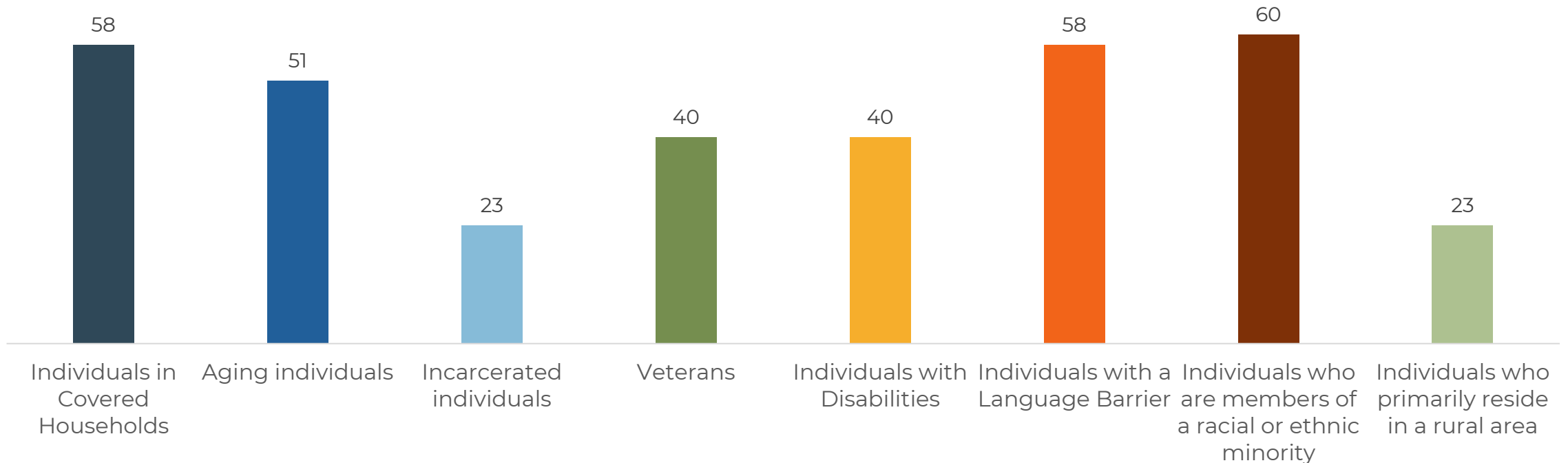
Broadband Equity Partnership

DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS

Summary of Responses

61 responses from subject matter experts who provide, or would like to provide, devices to their constituents and Covered Populations.

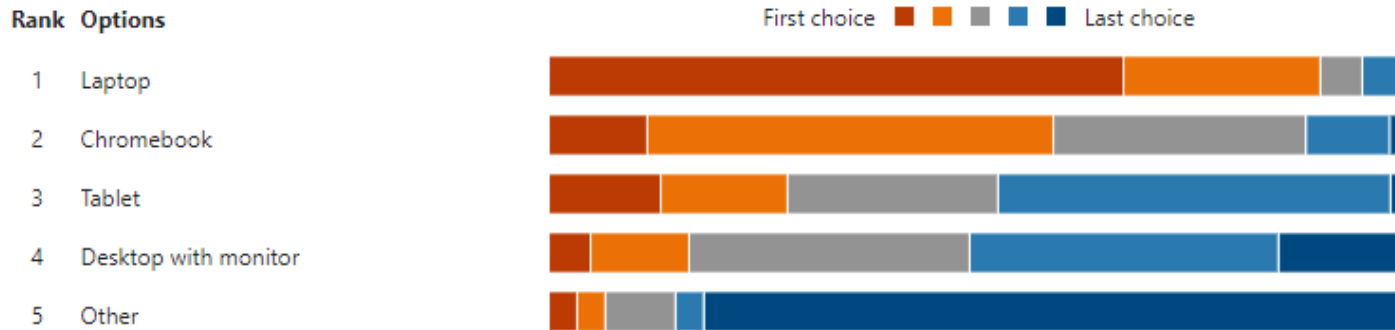
These respondents noted their organization primarily serves the following **Covered Populations**:



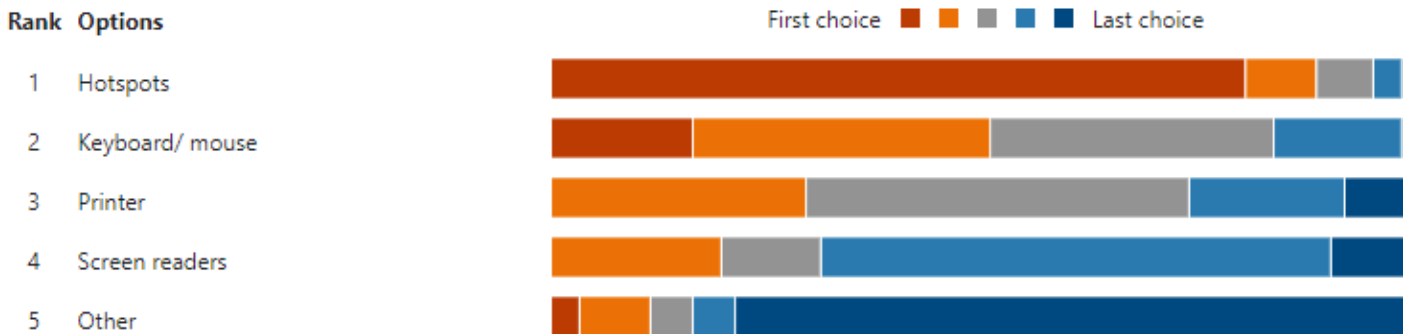
DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS

Ranking of Most Useful Devices

The plurality of respondents ranked **laptops** as the **most useful devices** for the Covered Populations they serve (41 responses, 67%).



The plurality of respondents ranked **hotspots** as the **most useful accessories** for the Covered Populations they serve (49 responses, 80%).



Additional Comments

“**Audio-visual equipment** is the most requested technology requested for training by our community-based organizations and campus departments.”

“**Speech-activated devices**, available in **Korean and Spanish**.”

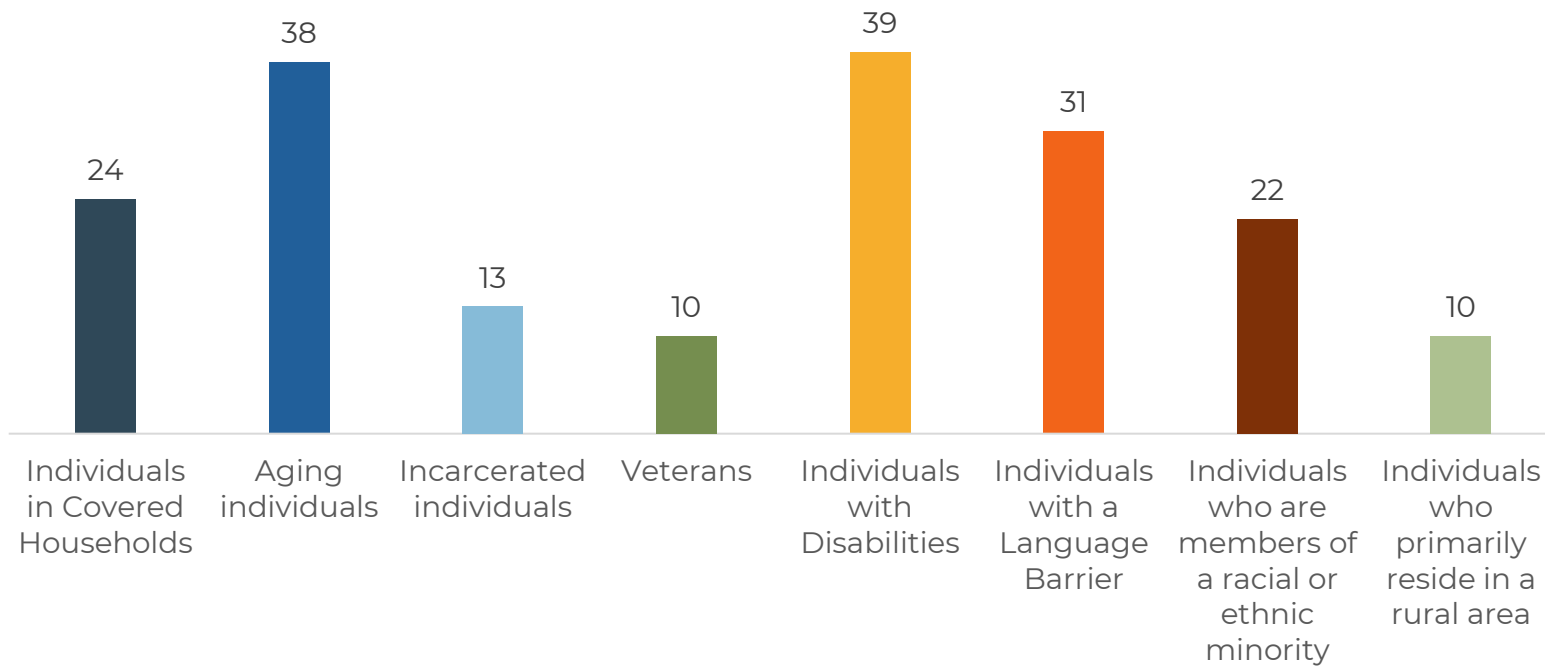
“**Assistive technology** lending programs are a good proxy for the types of accessories that would be most useful to **people with disabilities**.”

“**Stylus pens** for touchscreen devices and **Asian-language** handwriting tablet input pad”

DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS

Unique Device Needs for Covered Populations

In your experience, which of the Covered Populations have unique device and/or accessory needs?



Additional Comments

"We are an Adult Education program and 75 percent of our students are **language learners** and low income, and the others are **low income** and/or **justice impacted minorities**."

"In many cases - **unhoused individuals** have challenges keeping computers. Smaller devices like tablets can work better in these situations."

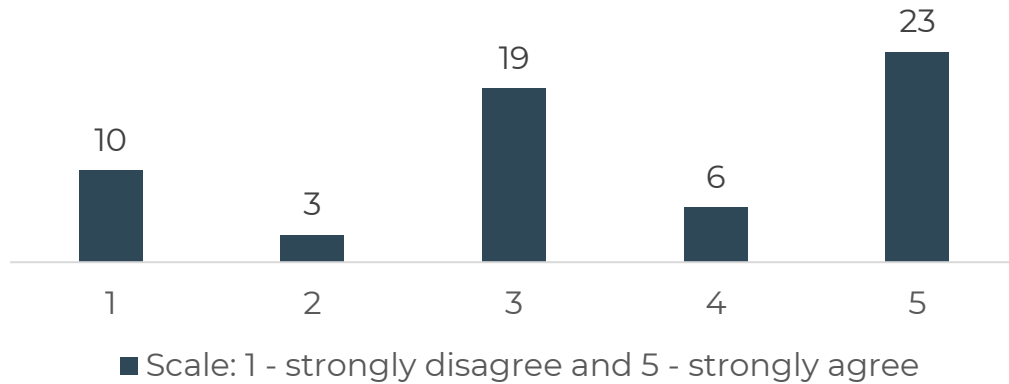
"**Aging individuals** often require simplified, accessible devices, **incarcerated individuals** need secure and durable technology, **veterans** may need devices that cater to physical and mental health needs..."

DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS

Preferences for New & Refurbished Devices

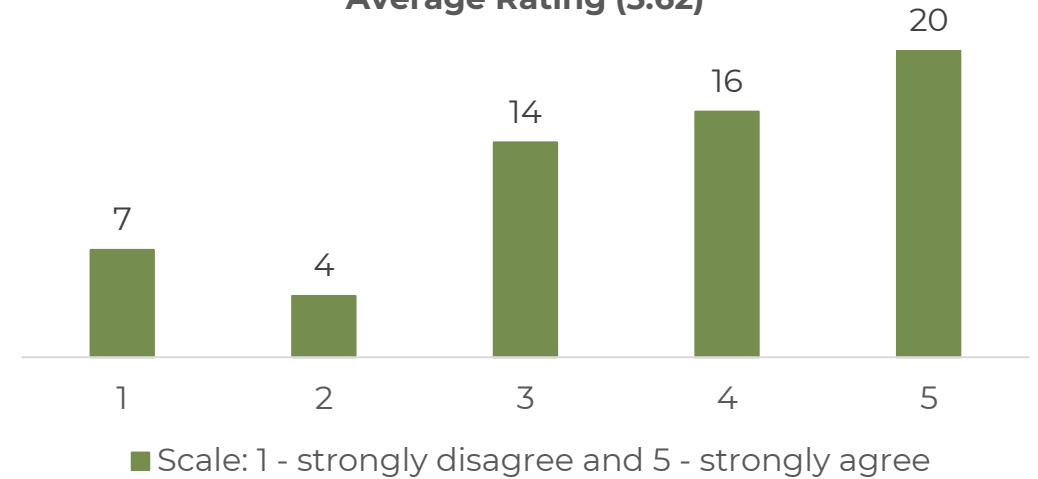
We have no preference between new vs. refurbished devices, as long as they meet the needs of our community

Average Rating (3.48)



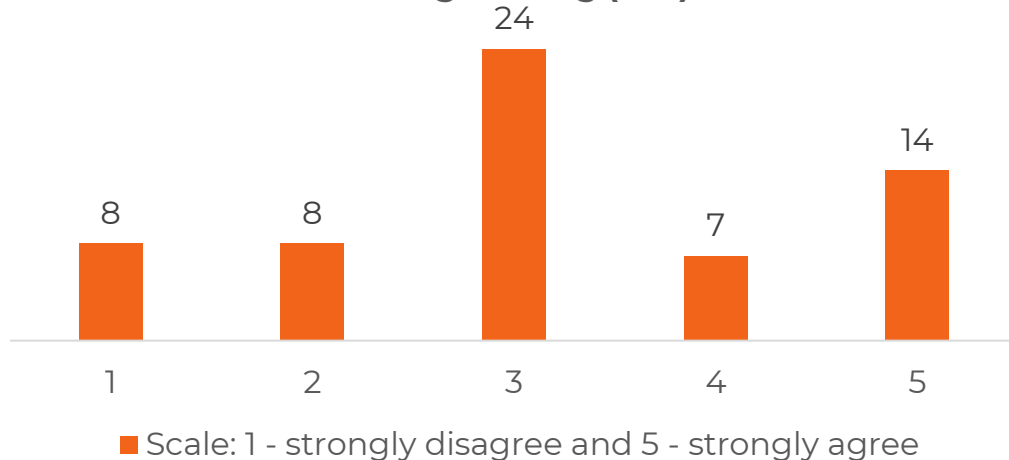
We prefer to distribute new devices

Average Rating (3.62)



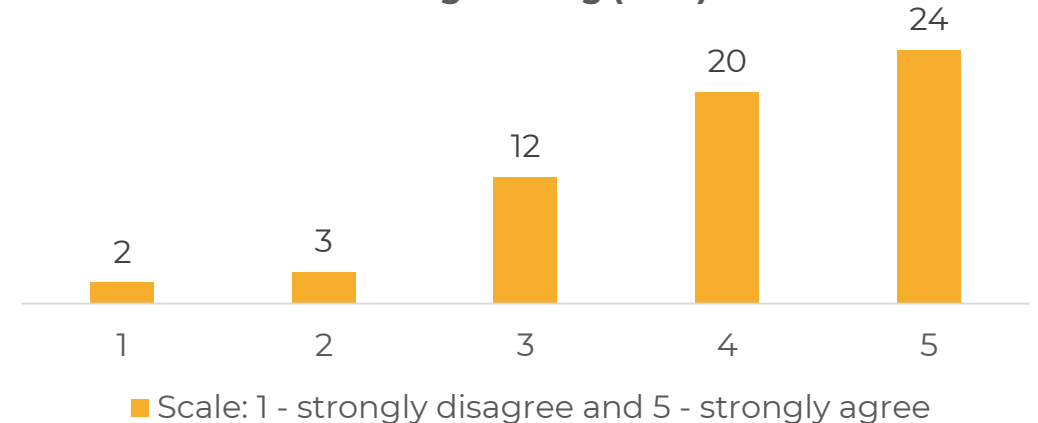
We prefer to distribute refurbished devices

Average Rating (3.18)



Our preference for new vs refurbished devices depends on their cost and availability

Average Rating (4.00)



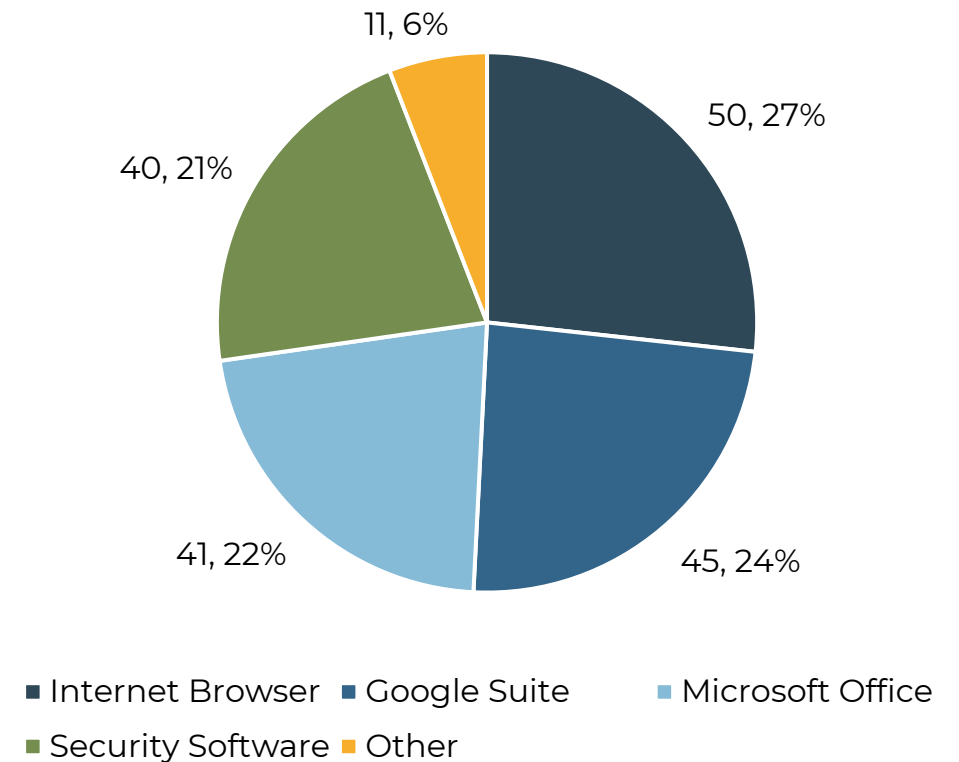
DEVICE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS

Pricing & Baseline Software

If Capacity Grants were to be provided for bulk purchasing to support the distribution of devices, what would be an appropriate **price point**?
(61 responses)

- Range from no to low-cost
- \$200-\$300/per device for tablets
- \$500-\$750/per device for laptops
- Many other variables to consider such as device purchase, device management, device warehouse

What baseline software should CDT consider?



Discussion



Broadband for All



CAPACITY SUB-GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Alex Banh

Principal

Broadband Equity Partnership

SDEP IMPLEMENTATION & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Framework for Defining Success

Goals	Example Activity	SDEP Target	Example Activity Output Metrics (KPIs)	Example Outcome Indicators
All	Local DE Planning	Local DE Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # regional local DE plans # assets mapped # DE survey responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # coalitions established # outcome area partners # philanthropic & private sector partners
All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices.	Digital Navigation	Reduce the % of CA households citing cost as the reason for not adopting internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # needs assessment completed # of CPs enrolled in low-cost offers & subsidies # of CPs connected to affordable devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # individuals (by CPs) referred to additional services for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telehealth • Job search • Education • Essential services
All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion.	Digital Literacy Training Programs	Expand the # of CA residents, esp. CP, who received digital literacy, cybersecurity, or digital skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Digital Navigators trained # individuals trained per CP # training modules completed # CPs trained in language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # vocational certifications earned # of jobs applications assisted % skill improvement (pre/post test)

SDEP IMPLEMENTATION & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Digital Equity Funding Context

	CPUC CASF Broadband Adoption	NTIA DE Competitive Grant	NTIA Native Entities Capacity Grant	CA DE Capacity Grant
Total Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$36m (annual)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$750m (one-time) \$37.5m Native set-aside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$45.3m (tranche 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$70.2m (tranche 1)
Grant Size and Match	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <\$100k - \$4m+ 15% match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$5m - \$12m 10%+ non-federal match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$500k - \$2 million No match required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD No match required
Focus & Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital literacy Broadband access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital inclusion & broadband adoption activities for Covered Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE planning & carry out digital inclusion activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement CA SDEP – local DE planning, broadband adoption, digital navigation, training, etc.
Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local gov, senior centers, schools, libraries, nonprofits, CBOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local/state gov, tribes, nonprofits, CAIs, LEAs, workforce programs, partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, Native Hawaiian Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local/state gov, tribes, nonprofits, CAIs, LEAs, workforce programs, partnerships
Geographic Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide or local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National, statewide, regional, local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual or consortia of Native Entities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide or local

*CPUC authorized to fund CASF up to \$150m annually through 2032. CASF Adoption Account allocation grew from \$20m (2023-24) to \$36m (2024-25)

CAPACITY SUB-GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN

Draft Sub-grant Design

Two funding tracks designed to focus on regional, local & targeted statewide **ecosystem development**.

	Track 1: Regional/Local Ecosystems	Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems
Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formula allocation per county geographic boundary• Encourage one lead applicant per area• Regional/Local Planning + Capacity Grant• Local capacity to be aided by centralized services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competitive grants for development of statewide ecosystems & innovation for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Targeted Outcome Areas○ Specific Covered Populations
Eligible Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leads: Eligible entity within each county geographic boundary (allow multi-county joint applications)• Subgrants: Funds may subsequently be allocated to other implementation partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nonprofits and digital inclusion providers with outcome area, covered population, or statewide reach• Tribes and Tribal consortia and associations

Track 1 Formula Considerations

Options for formula allocations per county geographic boundaries.

Digital Equity Act State Allocation Formula

50%: size of total population within the state

25%: size of total Covered Populations within the state

25%: comparative lack of broadband availability & adoption relative to other states

Every state is ensured a minimum allocation of **0.5%** of total funding pool.

Alternative Formula (informed by public input)

75%: size of total Covered Populations within county geographic boundary

25%: comparative lack of broadband availability & adoption relative to other county geographic boundaries

Every county geographic boundary is ensured a minimum allocation of **0.5%** of total funding pool.

Discussion



Broadband for All



NTIA COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Gladys Palpallatoc

Federal Program Officer - California

National Telecommunications and
Information Administration (NTIA)

Discussion



Broadband for All



TIMELINE & CLOSING

Scott Adams

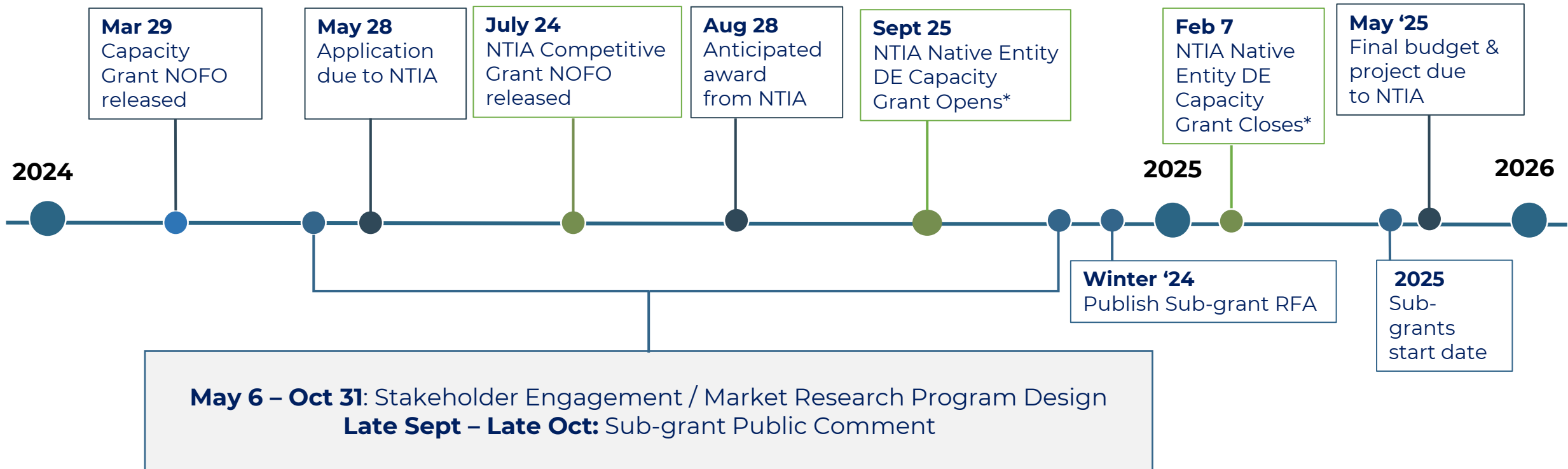
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

STATE DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM

Tentative Timeline

Approximation of important milestones for Capacity Grant Planning



THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

digitalequity@state.ca.gov



Broadband for All