California Broadband Council

January 24, 2025
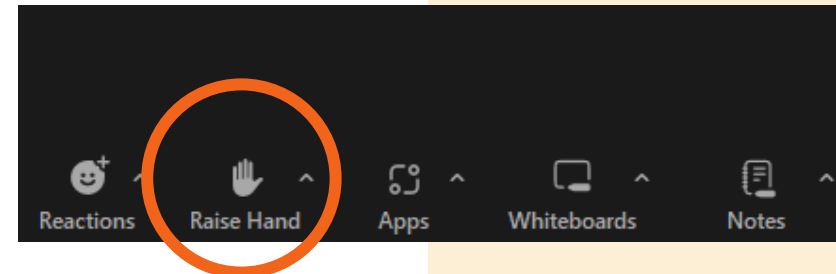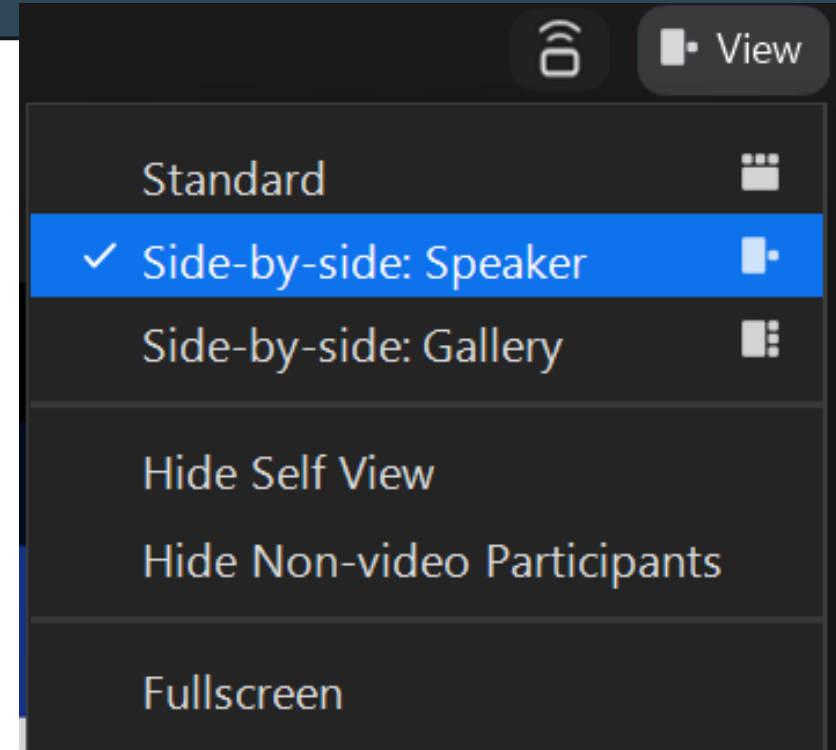
CALIFORNIA ALL | **Broadband for All**

Housekeeping

Select Side-by-Side: Speaker Mode for the best viewing experience when slides are shared

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

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

WELCOME

Jared Johnson

CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

California Department of Technology

Agenda

Welcome

Executive Report

Broadband for All Updates

Public Comment

Closing

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
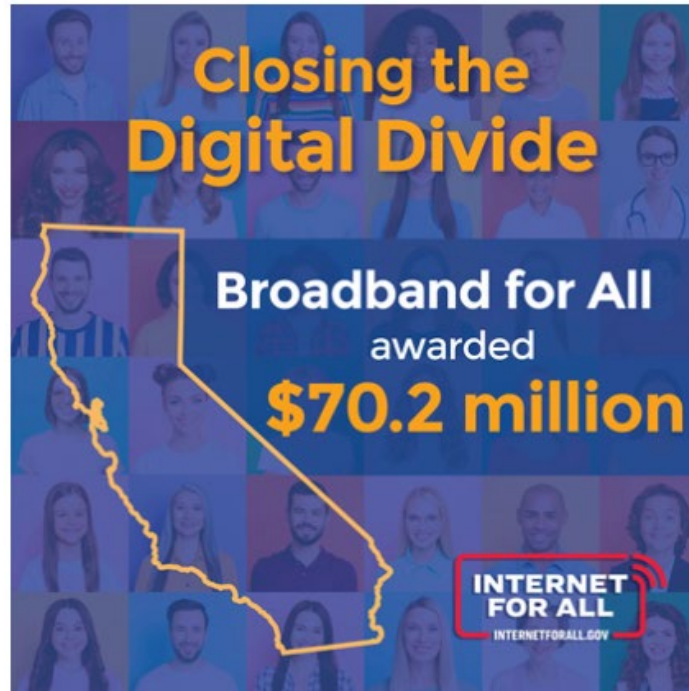California Department of Technology

Executive Report

- Annual Broadband for All Action Plan Review & Revision Process
- Partner & Stakeholder Engagement
- State Digital Equity Plan & Capacity Grant
- Other Federal Funding and Grants

State Digital Equity Capacity Grant

Closing the **Digital Divide**

Broadband for All awarded **$70.2 million**

INTERNET FOR ALL
INTERNETFORALL.GOV

"Digital equity isn't just needed, it's essential to all Californians and we are committed to ensuring access to the tools and resources they need to succeed. This funding will strengthen communities, enhance digital literacy, and give Californians an equal opportunity to thrive in today's digital world."

Liana Bailey-Crimmins
California State Chief Information Officer
California Department of Technology Director

NTIA Digital Equity Competitive Grant

NTIA recommended 13 California-serving entities be awarded a total of $129.8 million

Congratulations!

- Bay Area Council Foundation
- California Emerging Technology Fund
- City of Moreno Valley
- Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.
- County of Orange
- Hispanic Federation Inc
- Hmong American Partnership
- International Rescue Committee, Inc.
- Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network
- The Al Copeland Foundation
- The Center for Independent Living
- University of California, Davis
- WTIA Workforce Institute DBA Apprentice

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Round 2

6 California tribes were awarded a total of $12,096,686

Congratulations!

- Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California
- Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, California
- Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
- Riverside San Bernadino County Indian Health, Inc.
- Shingle Springs Bank of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract)
- Bishop Paiute Tribe

USDA 2024 Rural Development Broadband ReConnect Program

Congratulations!

Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.

Funded Service Area Households: 146

Award Amount: $11,685,645

This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 335 people, three businesses and four farms in Madera County in California.

USDA

Rural Development

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES
Broadband for All Workplan

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
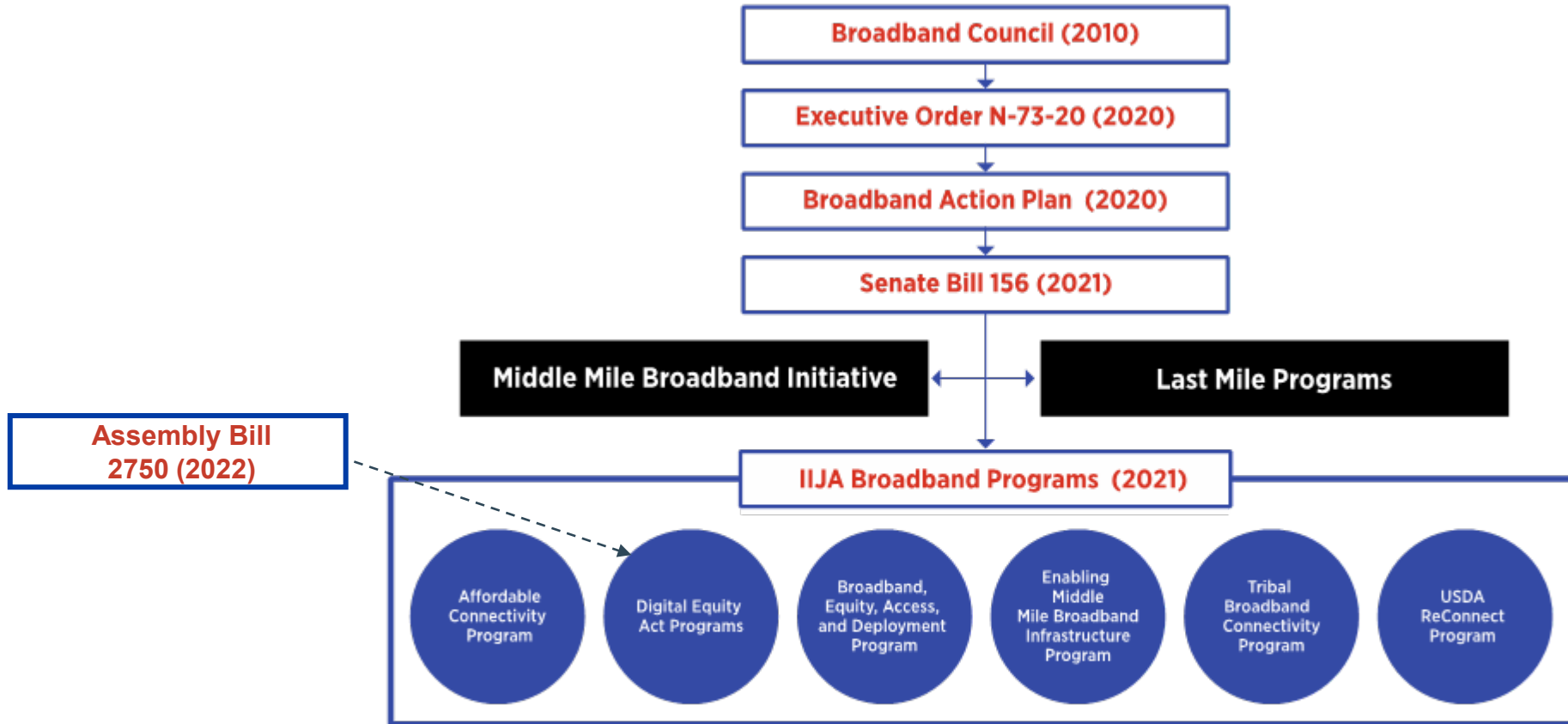California Department of Technology

BROADBAND FOR ALL WORKPLAN
2025 Focus and Highlights

Annual Action Plan Review & Revision

Broadband For All Initiatives

Coordination & Collaboration

Evolution of Programs

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┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│   Broadband Council (2010)      │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
                │
                ▼
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│  Executive Order N-73-20 (2020) │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
                │
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│  Broadband Action Plan (2020)   │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
                │
                ▼
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│    Senate Bill 156 (2021)       │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
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| Middle Mile Broadband Initiative | ◄──► | Last Mile Programs |

Assembly Bill 2750 (2022)

| IIJA Broadband Programs (2021) |

- Affordable Connectivity Program
- Digital Equity Act Programs
- Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment Program
- Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program
- USDA ReConnect Program

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES
Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative

Mark Monroe
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

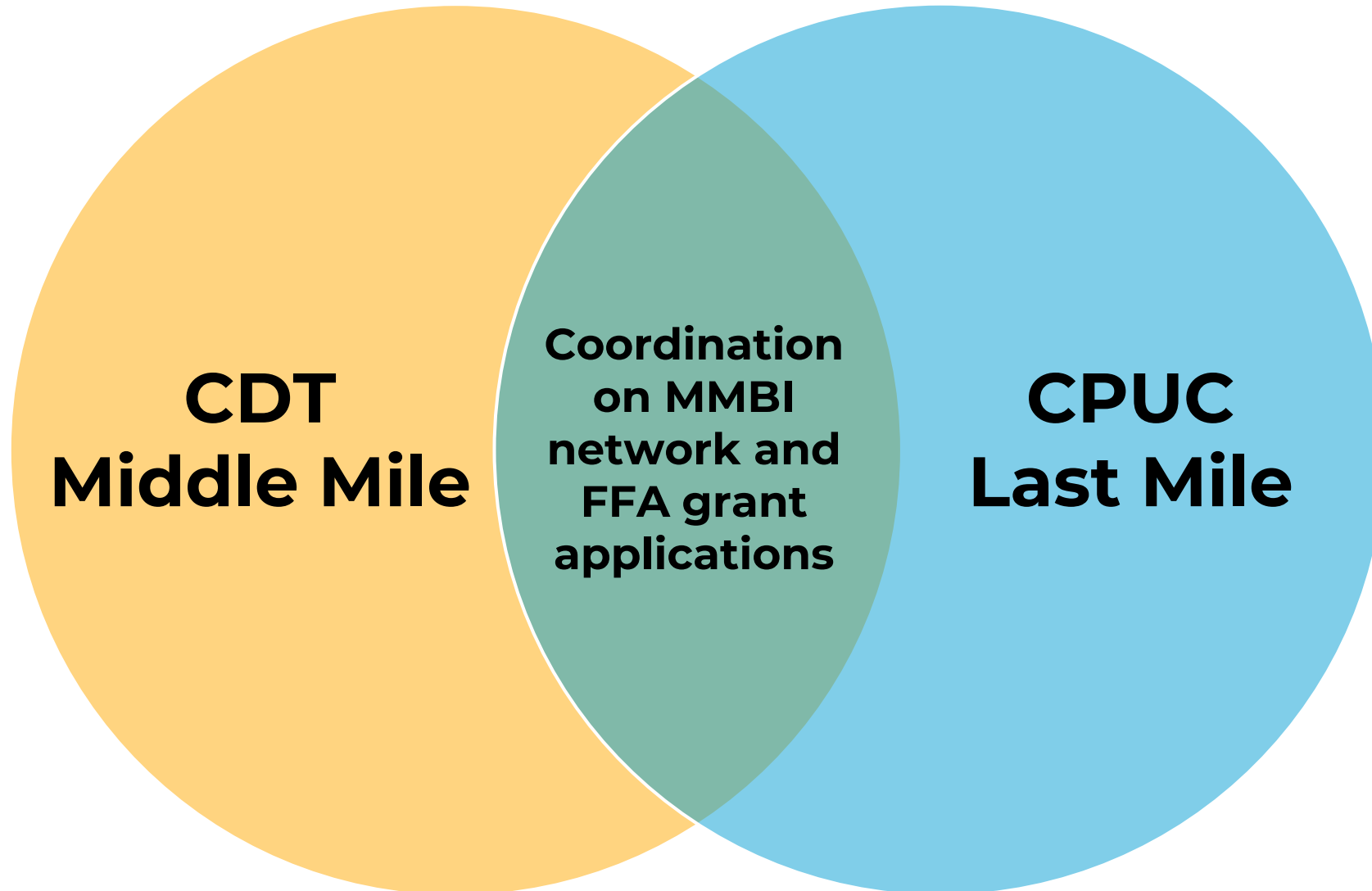Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative
California Department of Technology

121 Miles Since Last MMAC Meeting

- Karuk Tribe (46 miles)
- Gateway Cities (75 miles)

MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

FFA Grant Awardee Handoffs

**CDT
Middle Mile**

**Coordination
on MMBI
network and
FFA grant
applications**

**CPUC
Last Mile**
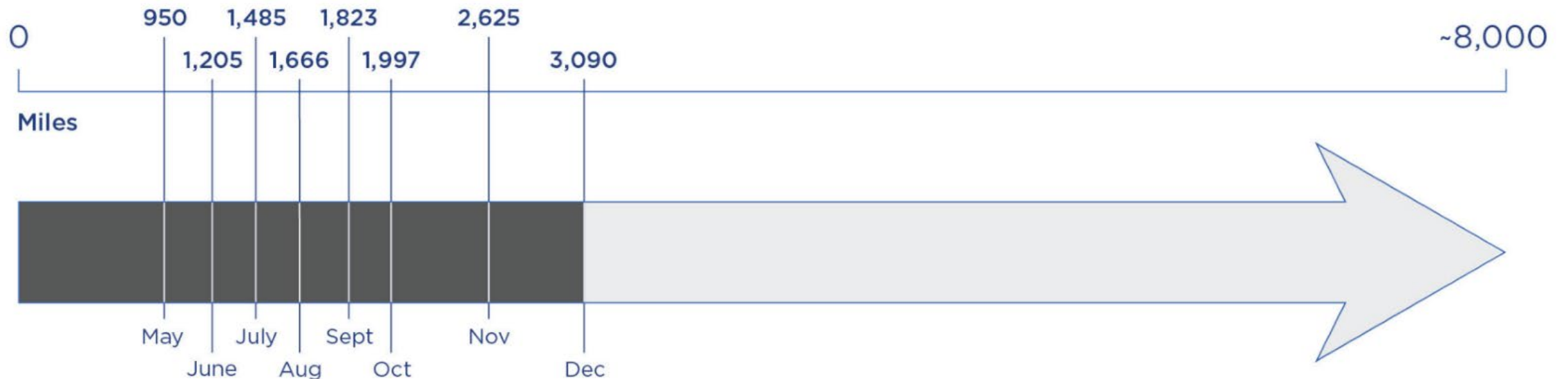
Continued Caltrans Partnership Role

Three Key Components:

- MMBN Fiber Installation
  - Preconstruction, 85% to 94%
  - Construction, 91 miles

- MMBN Hub Installation
  - Preconstruction, 54% to 75%
  - Construction

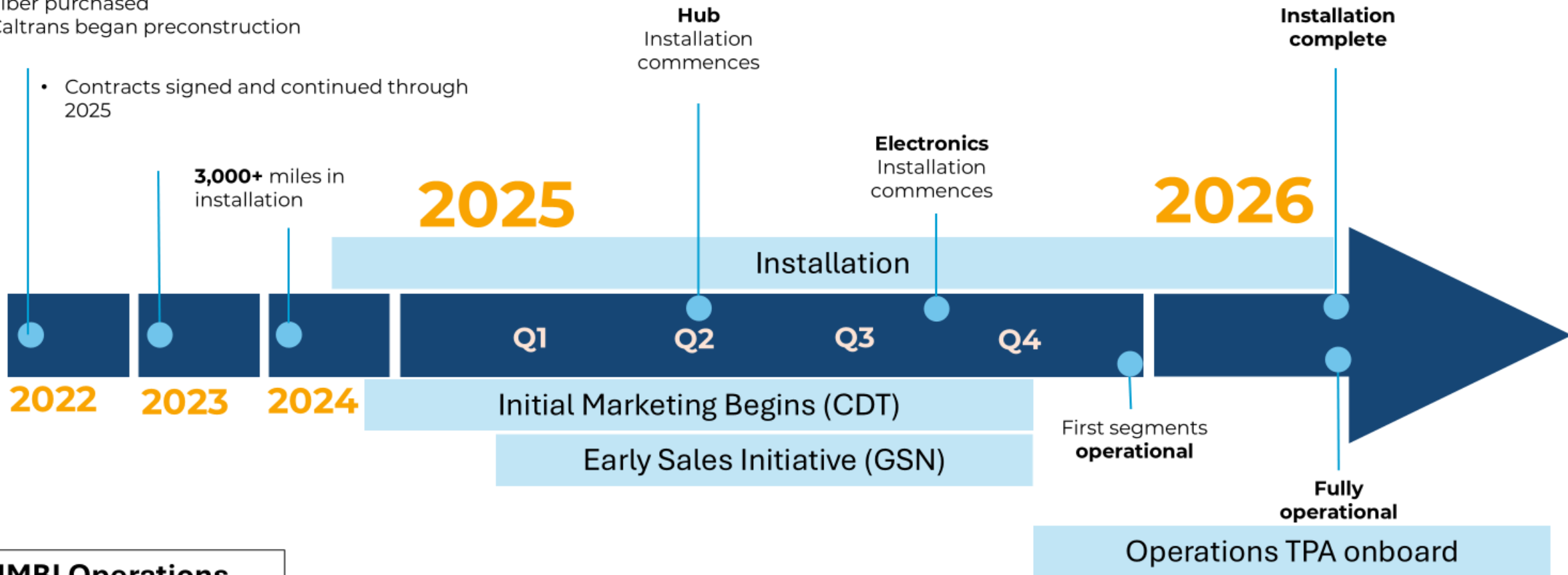- RFI[2] Installation Partner Encroachment Permits, 25% to 36%

Economics and Job Opportunities in Tribal Communities

Construction and Maintenance **Jobs**

Development of Professional **Expertise**

Revenue Opportunities for Tribes

Telecommuting for Jobs and Education

Physical and Mental **Health**

Events

Karuk Tribe and CDT Ceremonial Signing Event in Happy Camp
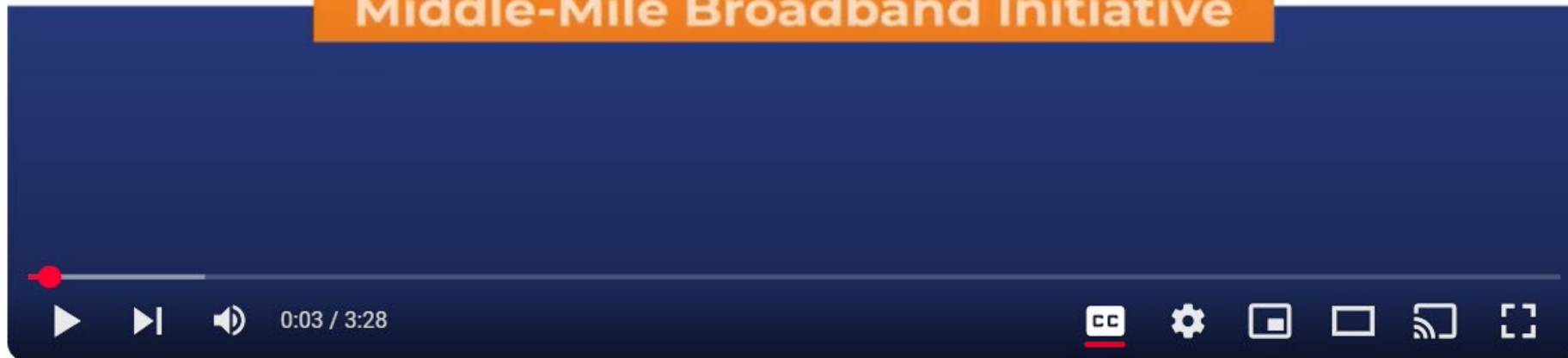
- Joint Build

- 45 miles

1. At A Glance

Miles in installation

May 2024	July 2024	September 2024	November 2024	8,118 total miles
950	**1,485**	**1,823**	**2,625**	

June 2024	August 2024	October 2024	December 2024	Est. time of completion
1,205	**1,666**	**1,997**	**3,090**	**2026**

Pre-Construction:

5,028 miles
(62% of the total miles)

Installation:

3,090 miles
(38% of the total miles)

Statewide Network Project Status
- Pre-Construction
- Installation
- Ready-to-Connect
- County Boundary

100 Miles

2. Network Development Activities

Caltrans Construction: 779 total miles
including SR 67 Dig Smart

687	miles in pre-construction
92	miles in installation
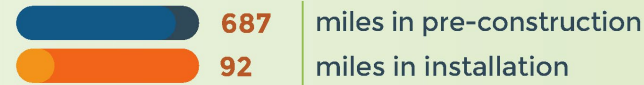
IRU/Lease Partners: 3,726 total miles
Boldyn, CVIN, Lumen, TPN-299, Ytel

2,546	miles in pre-construction
1,180	miles in installation
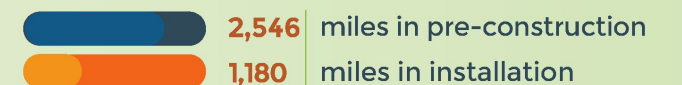
Joint Build Partners: 3,190 total miles
American Dark Fiber, Arcadian, Hoopa Valley, Lumen, Siskiyou Tel, Vero, Zayo, Karuk Tribe, Gateway Cities Council of Governments

1,795	miles in pre-construction
1,395	miles in installation
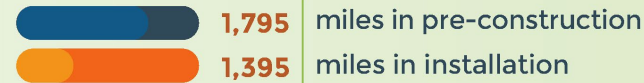
Purchase Partner: 423 total
milesDigital 395

423	total purchase miles

3. Spotlight

The California Department of Technology (CDT) and the Karuk Tribe have entered into a historic partnership to install and maintain approximately 46 miles of the Middle-Mile Broadband Network (MMBN) in Humbolt County and tribal lands. CDT also entered into a joint-build partnership with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments this month for approximately 73 miles of network in southeast Los Angeles County. These partnerships will pave the way for reliable and affordable high-speed internet access to rural, tribal, and urban communities.

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES
Last-Mile Program

Darcie Houck
COMMISSIONER
California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

CPUC LAST MILE SUMMARY
# Broadband Programs & Investments Overview

	Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)	California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)	Loan Loss Reserve Fund (LLR)	Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA)
Amount	**~$1.86 billion**	**$136 million for 2024-25**	**$50 million**	**~$2 billion**
Summary	**Funds for planning, infrastructure and adoption starting in 2024.**	**Funds broadband infrastructure and adoption in low-income housing, Tribal communities, and unserved areas.**	**Provides collateral to local government, Tribes, and nonprofits to finance their own broadband Infrastructure.**	**Funds for last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in every county.**
What's Next?	**Continue outreach and education with potential subgrantees.**	**Adoption, Public Housing, Line Extension and Tribal Tech Assistance application cycles in 2025.**	**Awarded**	**$ 1 billion recommendations and awards milestone**

Federal Funding Account Successes

100 projects awarded across California

- **Over $1 billion** in grants awarded
- **49** counties with issued grants
- **2 million** Californians benefiting from these investments
- **8 Tribal** broadband grants issued
- **42 public entity** and partnership broadband grants issued
- **63** grants serving majority disadvantaged and low-income communities

Additional awards are coming!
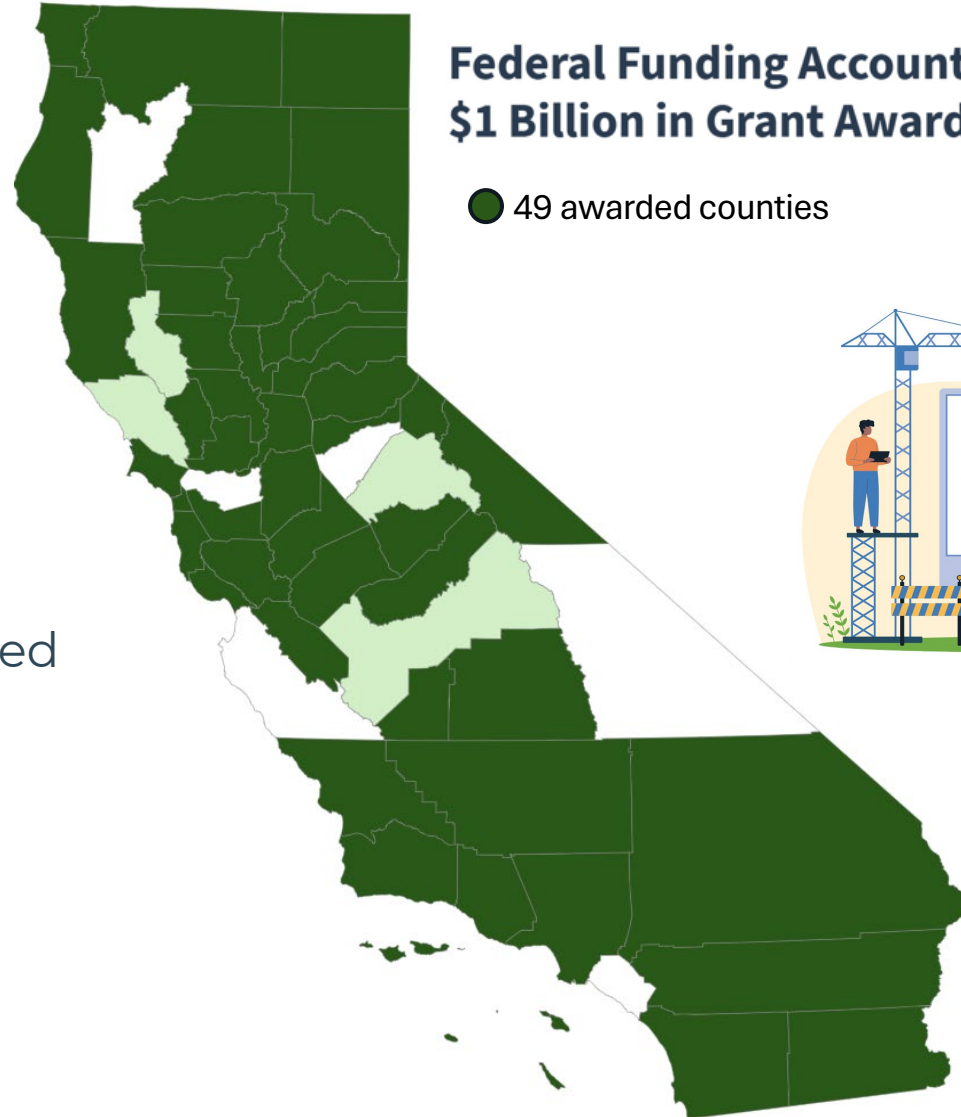
Federal Funding Account Issues $1 Billion in Grant Awards

⬤ 49 awarded counties
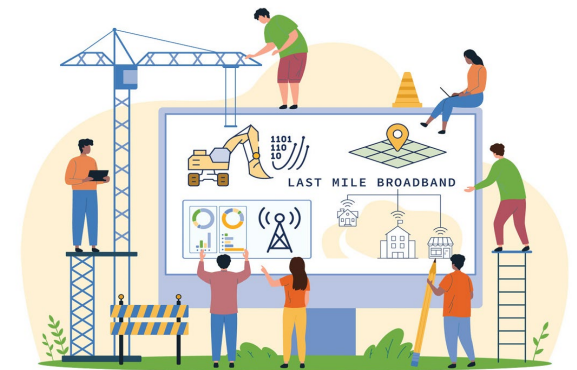
Broadband for All is California's commitment to closing the digital divide. We're connecting homes, schools, and businesses as quickly as possible to the internet.

As of January 16, 2025

Federal Funding Account Environmental & Social Justice Communities and MMBI

- **Humboldt County: Karuk Tribe Fiber-To-The-Home Project**
  - Amount Awarded: $27.4M
  - Estimated Benefiting Population: 800
  - 100 percent of the project area is considered low-income

- **Tulare County: VARCOMM Broadband Terra Bella Project**
  - Amount Awarded: $10M
  - Estimated Benefiting Population: 6,000
  - Broadband boost for local businesses, farmers, and suppliers.
  - 100 percent of the project area is considered low-income

- **Los Angeles County: City of Huntington Park Project**
  - Amount Awarded: $25.4M
  - Estimated Benefiting Population: 61,000
  - 100 percent of the project area is low-income/disadvantaged

The Federal Funding Account will make a difference in disadvantaged areas.

Federal Funding Account in the Field

What Grantees Are Saying:

"*Western Siskiyou County is one of the most remote regions in California, encompassing agricultural, tribal and multi-generational populations. This grant will ensure many California residents in our rural region will have access to one of today's most critical infrastructure, fiber broadband... Finally, this grant will also* **benefit from the California State Middle Mile Broadband Initiative Project as the MMBI will significantly reduce the last mile costs for this project by building through this project area.** "

\- Russell Elliott, Chief Executive Officer, Siskiyou Telephone Company

Federal Funding Account in the Field

Loan Loss Reserve Success

Commission ACTION 1	Commission ACTION 2	Commission ACTION 3
$50 Million Approved	$50 Million Awarded	Resolution or Letter
Implements SB 109. Resolution T-17841 approves at least $50 million in Broadband Lon Reserve Funding to be available to be awarded to applications, irrespective of cycles and tracks.	Awards up to $50 million in Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Funding to ready-to-award applications conditional upon submission of a finalized project and bond details, in Resolution T-17858.	Approving Final Projects and Bond Details.
Adopted by the Commission on September 12, 2024.	Adopted by the Commission on November 7, 2024.	Targeted for early 2025.

California Advanced Services Fund

CASF Account	In 2024		Since 2008	
	Total Projects	Total Awarded	Total Projects	Total Awarded
Infrastructure	5	$46,624,114	100	$344,621,327
Infrastructure Loan	0	$0	1	$40,997
Line Extension Program	0	$0	4	$2,071,101
Tribal Technical Assistance	7	$1,471,900	74	$7,291,650
Consortia	0	$0	62	$29,063,202
Adoption	99	$11,066,727	507	$56,099,260
Public Housing	45	$3,433,235	539	$20,236,576
Total:	156	$62,595,976	1,287	$459,424,113

The CASF Program continues to help bridge the digital divide.

https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/casf

California Advanced Services Fund

Broadband Adoption Account

- **Total Applications Submitted: 80 (January 2025)**
  - 76 Digital Literacy
  - 3 Broadband Access
  - 1 Call Center
- **Total Requested Funds: Over $13.4 Million**
- **Coverage: Over 35 Counties in California**
- **Projected Participants: 35,686**

California Advanced Services Fund

Broadband Public Housing Account

- **Total Applications Submitted: 32 (January 2025)**
  - 22 Infrastructure Projects (981 projected units)
  - 10 Extension Projects
- **Total Funding Request: Over $3.4 Million**
- **Counties Involved:**
  - Fresno
  - Kern
  - Los Angeles
  - San Bernardino
  - San Luis Obispo
  - Santa Cruz

Broadband Equity, Access, and Development (BEAD)

For deployment of last-mile service to unserved and underserved locations

Key Milestones in 2024

✓ *Five Year Action Plan accepted by National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)*

✓ *Approval for Initial Proposal Volume 1 received April 4, 2024*

✓ *Approval for Initial Proposal Volume 2 received October 3, 2024*

✓ *Received Approval of Challenge Process Data from NTIA on Jan. 17*

❑ Conduct Subgrantee Selection Process—Q1-Q3 2025

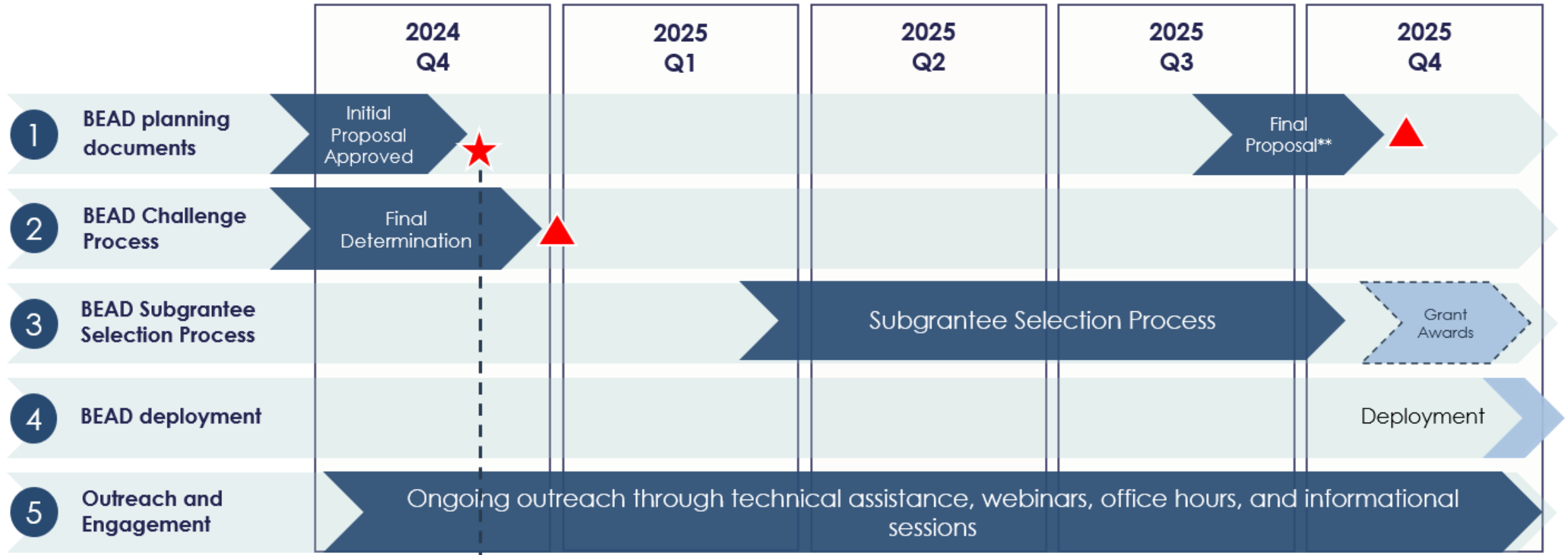❑ CPUC and NTIA approval of proposed grant awards– Q4 2025

All activities subject to NTIA review and approval

CPUC LAST MILE UPDATE
Broadband Equity, Access, and Development (BEAD)

Specific dates and timelines will be published and communicated as soon as they have been determined

	2024 Q4	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3	2025 Q4
1 BEAD planning documents	Initial Proposal Approved ★			Final Proposal**	▲
2 BEAD Challenge Process	Final Determination	▲			
3 BEAD Subgrantee Selection Process		Subgrantee Selection Process			Grant Awards
4 BEAD deployment					Deployment
5 Outreach and Engagement	Ongoing outreach through technical assistance, webinars, office hours, and informational sessions				

Subgrantee Selection rules approved Final Determination submitted to NTIA

California Public Utilities Commission

▲ Indicates requirement for NTIA approval in advance of further steps
*Timeline approximate. Exact timeline dependent on NTIA approval.
**Final Proposal must be approved by NTIA before grants can be awarded.

Subgrantee Selection Process Outreach

CPUC is hosting webinars and office hours to educate stakeholders on the BEAD application process.

- Webinars will continue in 2025 (next one on January 28th).

- Office Hours will continue in 2025 every Thursday starting January 16th.

Webinar Topics:

- BEAD and Prequalification Overview (Dec 3)
- Program Design (Dec 10)
- Program Evaluation (Dec 17)
- Financial Requirements (Jan 9)
- Program Application (TBD)

- Technical Requirements (Jan 14)
- Matching Funds (Jan 28)
- Other BEAD Requirements (TBD)
- BEAD Environmental Compliance (Feb 4)
- BEAD Portal Demonstration (TBD)

Listing of upcoming webinars, registration links and past recordings are available here.

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES
Broadband Adoption
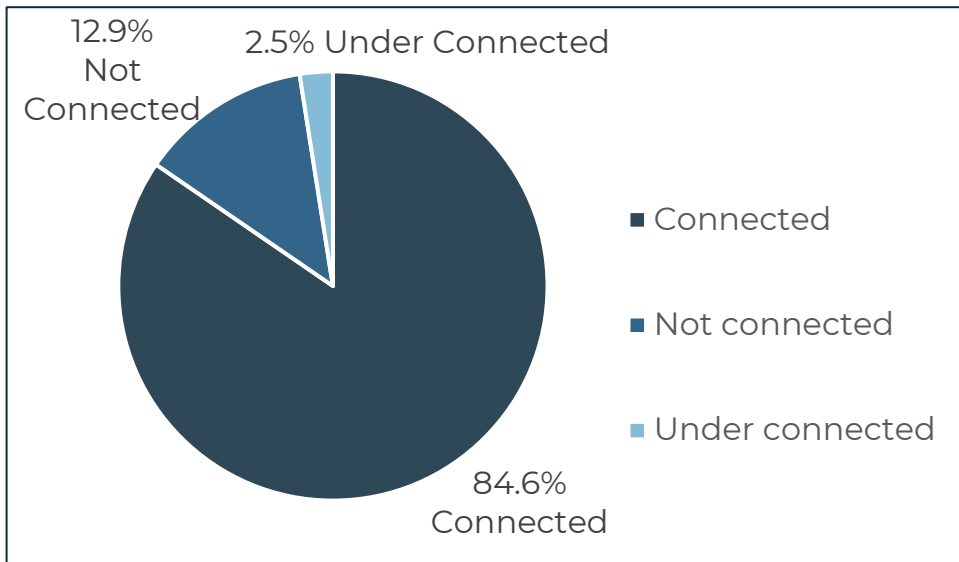
Sunne Wright McPeak
President and CEO
California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)

BROADBAND ADOPTION
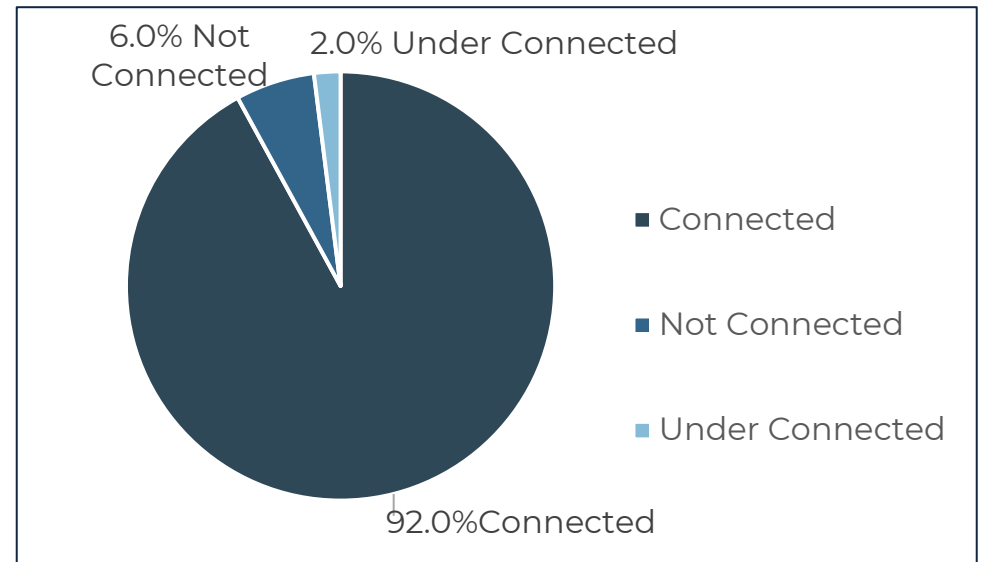# CETF Broadband Adoption Survey

Connection Status Comparison
2023 Survey 544 Low-Income Covered Households
2024 Follow-Up Survey 201 Participating Covered Households
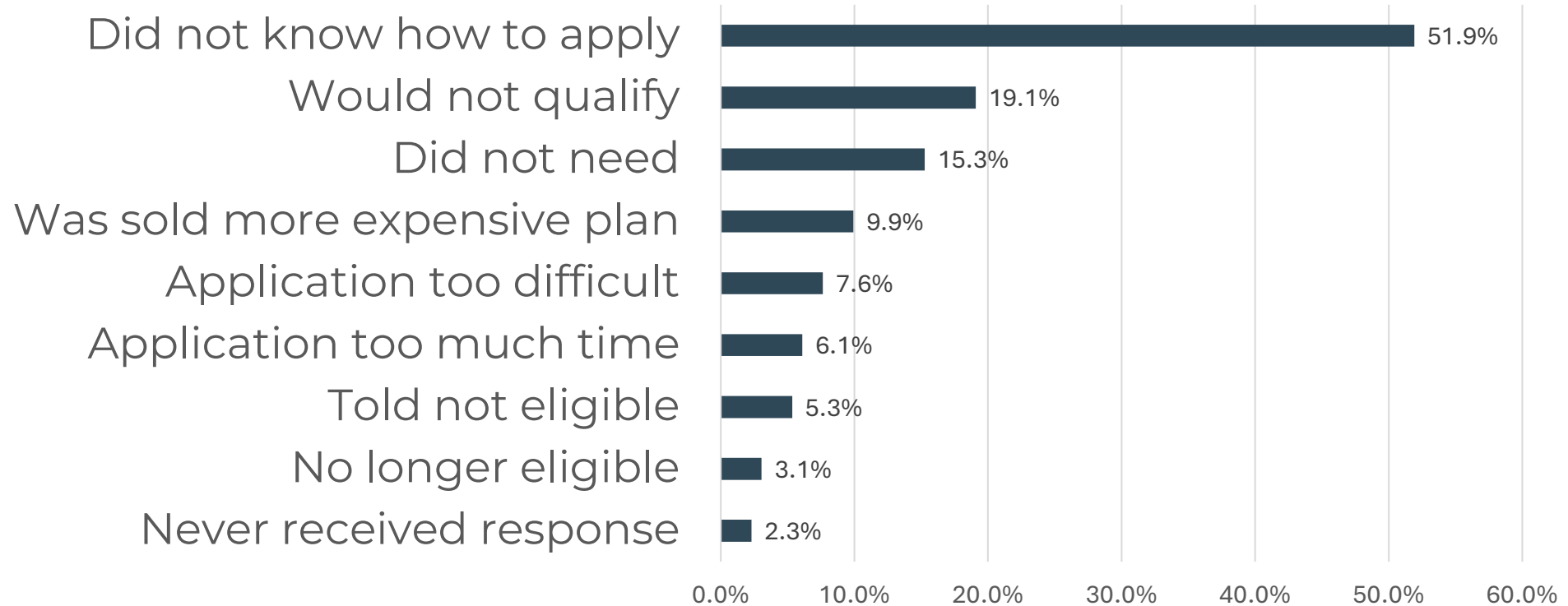
2023 Connection Breakdown

12.9% Not Connected
2.5% Under Connected

- Connected
- Not connected
- Under connected

84.6% Connected

2024 Connection Breakdown (Follow Up 201)

6.0% Not Connected
2.0% Under Connected

- Connected
- Not Connected
- Under Connected
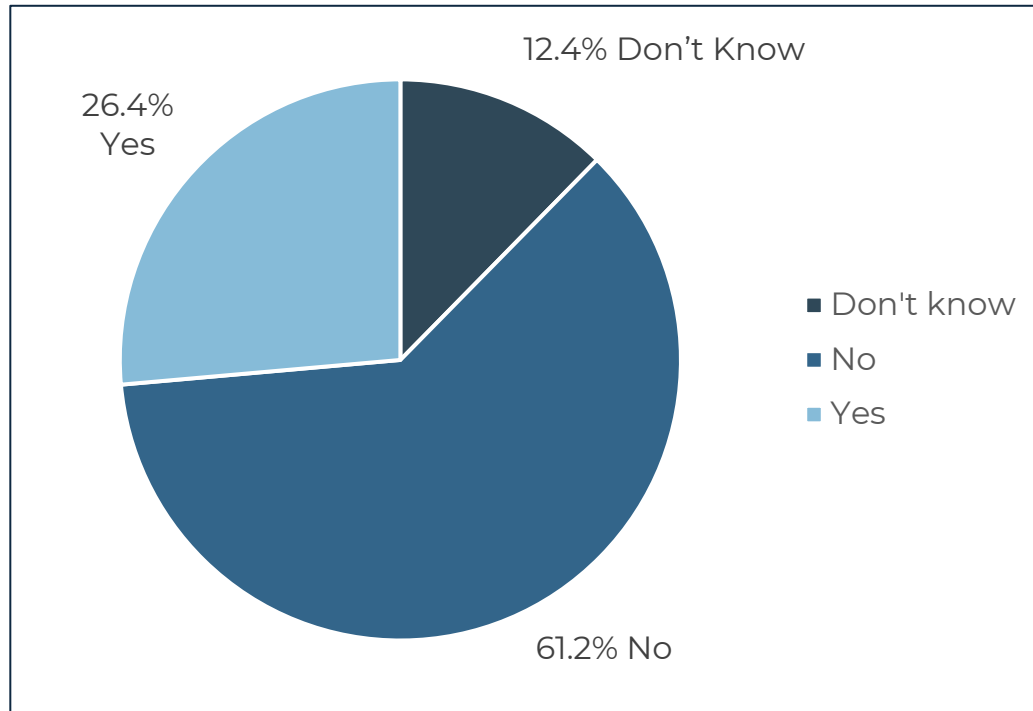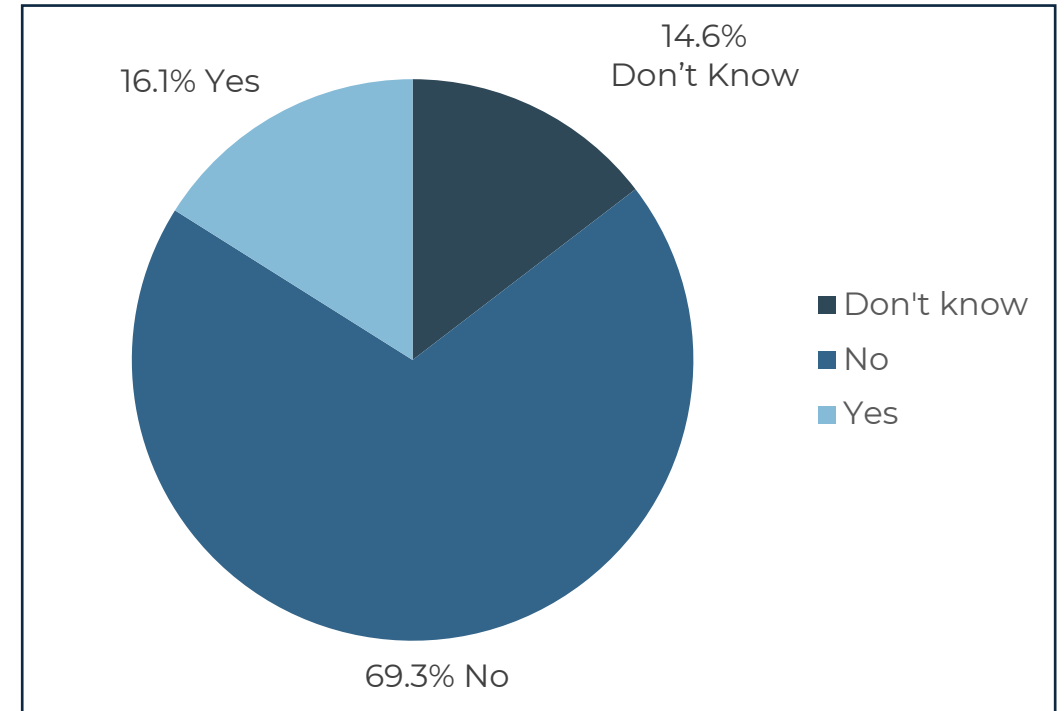
92.0% Connected

Direct Notifications & Direct Mail Efforts

Increasingly Challenging in Reaching Low-Income Unconnected HHs

- Direct notification remains most effective outreach strategy
- Outreach requires greater effort
- Repetition of notification
- No central place to self-enroll

BROADBAND FOR ALL UPDATES

State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP) and Capacity Grant Program Implementation

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
Digital Equity Capacity Grant Milestones

March 29

NTIA DECG NOFO released

CA Allocation of $70.2M

May 28

State DECG Application submitted to NTIA

May 29 – Oct. 24

NTIA DECG App Curing & Merit Review Process

Nov. 4

Receipt of State Award

(Period of Performance start Date 12/01/24)

Digital Equity Capacity Grant Purpose

The Digital Equity Capacity Subgrant Program will focus on:

- Fund entities to implement the Statewide Digital Equity Plan.

- Address digital equity barriers at local, regional, and state level.

- Develop regional ecosystems and increase capacity.

- Provide digital inclusion funding to trusted messengers.

- Allocate funding across every county.

- Encourage statewide innovation.

Metrics of Engagement

7 SDEP Implementation and Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Stakeholder Briefings

2 Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Design Surveys and Questionnaires

121 Market Research Meetings & Listening Sessions

20 Presentations at Stakeholders' Convenings, Conferences, and Summits

Public Comment Summary

66
Public
Comments
Received by
Organization
(192 comments
by section)

Public
Comments
Received from
Organizations
Representing
49
Counties

79% (52)
Commenting
Organizations
Interested in
Applying

SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
Public Comment Overall Themes

Program Design

Application Structure	Application Timelines	Covered Populations

Funding & Costs

Funding Allocation	Allowable Costs	Cost Caps

Related Programs & Services

Centralized Services & Data Collection	SDEP & Capacity Grant	Technical Assistance (TA)

SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
Tentative Timeline

		2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3
1	NTIA State DECG Administration		DECG NOFO	Curing and merit review				
2	Stakeholder Engagement	Program Design: market research, questionnaires, webinars, and public comment					Communities of Practice & SIG	
3	Post-Award NTIA State DECG Requirements				All subgrants, procurements, and contracts must be completed within 9-months award date (12/01/24)			
4	Subgrant Application & Award Process					RFA: 60 days	Review Apps: 90 days / Awards: 30 days	
5	Subgrant Technical Assistance					Webinars Office Hours Q&A		

Period of Performance began on 12/01/2024

Today

Note: Tentative timeline subject to revision and change

SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
Next Steps

> **January SDEP & DE Capacity Grant Stakeholder Briefing**
>
> **Virtual via Zoom**
> **01/31/2025**
> **1:00 – 2:00 PM**
>
> **Register**
> **here**

> **Native Entity Digital Equity Capacity Grant**
>
> **Application Period**
> **09/25/2024 – 02/07/2025**
>
> **Find additional information here**

PUBLIC COMMENT

CALIFORNIA ALL | Broadband for All

THANK YOU!

Sign up:
Broadband for All Email Update

Next CBC Meeting:
Friday, April 25, 2025
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Website:
BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:
CABroadbandCouncil@state.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA ALL | **Broadband for All**