

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

February 26, 2025



Broadband for All

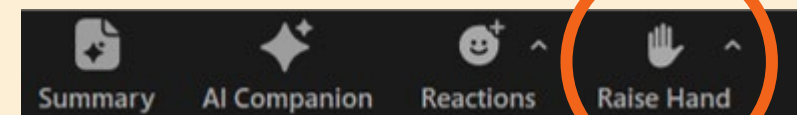
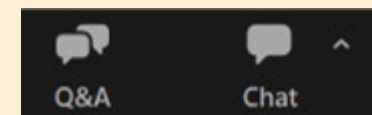
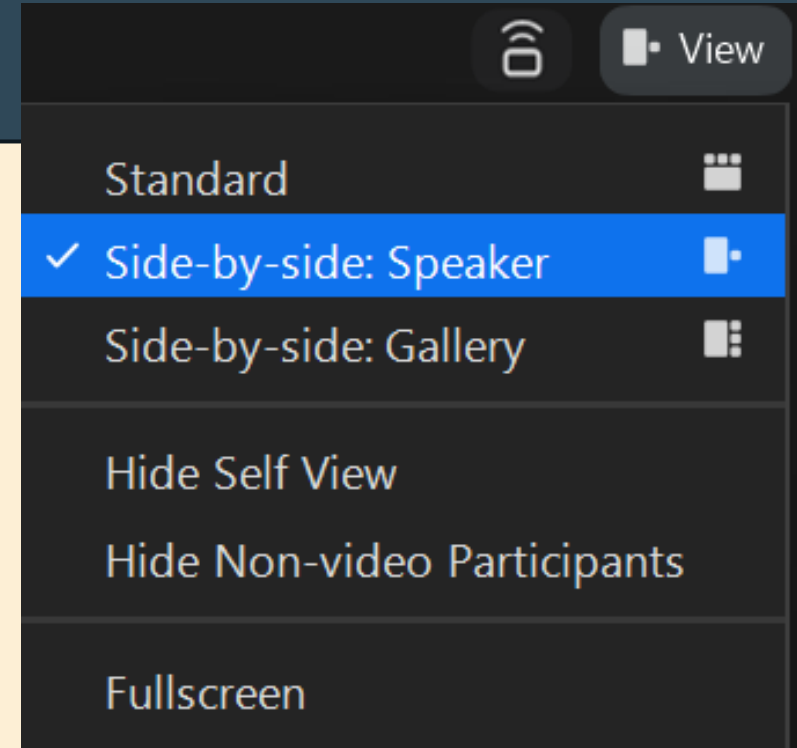
Housekeeping

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

**SDEP & Capacity Grant Program Design
& Federal Expectations**

**Modifications to CalDEP Guidelines /
Public Comment**

CalDEP Technical Assistance Program

Timeline & Next Steps



WELCOME & RECAP

Scott Adams

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

WELCOME & RECAP

Our Journey: SDEP & CalDEP Milestones



2022

Application and Receipt of \$4M State Digital Equity Planning Grant



2023

Planning and Development of the State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP)



Q2 2024

State Digital Equity Capacity Grant (DECG) Application submitted to NTIA



**Q2 2024 –
Q1 2025**

SDEP implementation & CalDEP Program Design

**Receipt of State Award of \$70.2M DECG
(Period of Performance start Date: 12/01/24)*

Stakeholder Engagement

WELCOME & RECAP

Metrics of Engagement



8

SDEP Implementation and Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Stakeholder Briefings



2

Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program Design Surveys and Questionnaires



124

Market Research Meetings & Listening Sessions



22

Presentations at Stakeholders' Convenings, Conferences, and Summits



Discussion



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SDEP & CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM DESIGN & FEDERAL EXPECTATIONS

Shawn Daugherty

PRINCIPAL

Broadband Equity Partnership

State Digital Equity Plan: Focus

Covered Populations

1. Individuals living in covered households (at or below 150% FPL)
2. Aging individuals (60+)
3. Incarcerated individuals
4. Veterans
5. Individuals w/ disabilities
6. Individuals w/ language barriers
7. Members of racial or ethnic minority groups
8. Individuals who primarily reside in rural areas

SDEP 7 Key Activities

1. Complete BB4All infrastructure investments
2. Convene digital equity stakeholders
3. Refine digital equity data and maps
4. Develop a digital equity capacity subgrant program
5. Fund State-managed digital inclusion programs
6. Develop digital inclusion tools & best practices
7. Promote low-cost service offers & subsidy programs

Outcome Areas

1. Education
2. Health
3. Digital Literacy and Inclusion
4. Essential Service, Accessibility, & Civic Engagement
5. Workforce & Economic Development
6. Tribal Collaboration

Purpose & Principles

NTIA State Digital Equity Capacity Grant's Overarching Goal

Support State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP) Implementation through:

- Focus on Covered Populations
- Measurable Implementation Strategies
- Long-lasting & Meaningful Change
- Stakeholder Engagement

California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

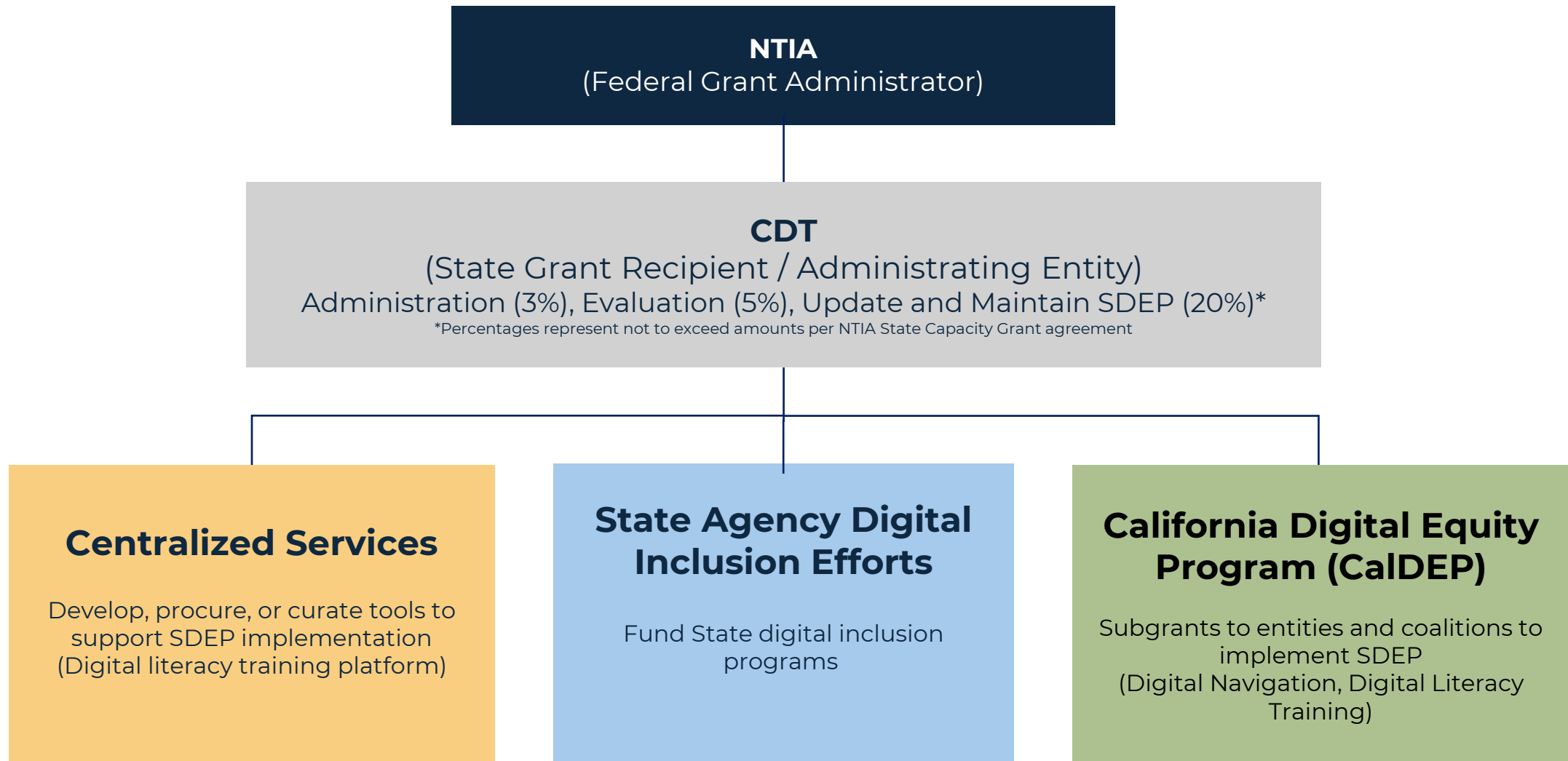
Advancing **SDEP Goals 2 & 3 + State Policy Outcomes**

SDEP Goals

- **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.

*Goal 1 and its corresponding objectives will be addressed through the continued build-out of existing Broadband for All investments and Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD)-funded projects.

Capacity Grant Program Structure



DE Capacity Grant Centralized Services

- 1. Develop:** State will develop resources that can be utilized by all Californians.
 - Ex.: Build the statewide asset inventory as a common resource (page 141, SDEP); Collaborate closely with the CPUC to promote workforce development efforts (page 79, SDEP)
- 2. Procure:** State will utilize is bulk purchasing power to procure service(s).
 - Ex.: Fund and make available a statewide digital literacy training platform (page 141, SDEP)
- 3. Curate:** State will work with digital inclusion practitioners to share best practices and resources.
 - Ex.: Expand and promote statewide digital inclusion resources (page 140, SDEP)

DE Capacity Grant State Agency Digital Inclusion Efforts

“The State will continue to work to improve and expand the myriad digital inclusion programs and services offered by State agencies and other statewide partners...also support and complement local and regional efforts.” (page 140, SDEP)

California Digital Equity Program 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">◦ Outcome Areas◦ 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

Allowable Uses of CalDEP



- Develop local digital equity plans
- Broadband adoption campaigns
- Digital navigation services
- Digital literacy and skills training
- Targeted device distribution
- Workforce development training and apprenticeships

Discussion



Broadband for All



MODIFICATIONS TO CALDEP GUIDELINES / PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Banh

PRINCIPAL

Broadband Equity Partnership

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Grant Administration and Eligibility

Theme	Description	Status
Advanced Payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Subgrantees cannot receive advance payments. Per NTIA, disbursement of federal funds is dependent on the completion and documentation of an allowable activity.	Modify (NTIA)
Lead Applicant & 2nd-Tier Subgrantee Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Both Lead Applicant and second-tier subgrantees must:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Belong to statutorily defined Eligible Entity categoryHave an active Unique Entity ID (UEI) number assigned by SAM.govHave an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS	Modify (NTIA)
Lead Applicant & 2nd-Tier Subgrantee Eligibility Requirements: Native Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Only federally-recognized Tribes are eligible for funding through the "Indian Tribe" or "Native Entity" categoryState-recognized Tribes may be eligible for funding if they belong to one of the other Eligible Entity categories (e.g., a not-for-profit entity, community anchor institution, entity that carries out a workforce development program, etc.)	Modify (NTIA)

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Program Details

Theme	Description	Status
<p>Period of Performance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum end date of period of performance is August 31, 2029 • Subgrantees may propose flexible timelines within the maximum period of performance. 	<p>Modify (PC)</p>
<p>Track 1: Regional/Local Digital Equity Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional/local DE plans should identify barriers using SDEP barriers as a baseline. • Implementation strategy & activities should align with SDEP measurable objectives & strategy. • Multi-county applications: must submit a local DE plan for each county in the partnership. • If pre-existing regional/local DE plan meets all minimum requirements, Subgrantee may proceed with implementation activities. 	<p>Clarify</p>
<p>Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track 2 Subgrantees must focus on one targeted Covered Population or one Outcome Area. • Track 2 Subgrantees must include a plan to support, coordinate, and share best practices with Track 1 Subgrantees and participate in communities of practice established by CDT. 	<p>Clarify</p>
<p>Partnership Roles and Application Attachment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner: entities that will participate in, collaborate on, or contribute to the proposed activities. Partners may or may not receive funding (those that will are considered 2nd-Tier Subgrantees). Partners must submit a Letter of Intent. • Supportive Stakeholder: entities that express general support or endorsement for the application. Supportive stakeholders must submit a Letter of Support. • All applications must contain at least one Letter of Intent or Letter of Support. 	<p>Clarify</p>

MODIFICATIONS TO SUBGRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Allowable Costs

Theme	Description	Status
Coalition-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coalition-building activities in support of DE planning may be eligible costs.• However, CalDEP funding should be prioritized for implementation of activities to achieve SDEP measurable objectives.	Modify (PC)
Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be selected through a competitive process• Lead Applicants may propose specific contractor(s) on the application if they have existing agreement with the contractor(s) as result of a competitive selection	Clarify
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only in-state travel for programmatic purposes are permitted	Clarify
Devices & Broadband Subsidies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device distribution must be paired with broadband adoption assistance and digital literacy training• Broadband subsidies must be paired with digital literacy training	Clarify
Funding Prohibitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certain website upgrades or accessibility projects otherwise required by law• Profit or fees above actual cost• Support or oppose collective bargaining• Lobbying and political activities	Modify (NTIA)
Funding Prohibitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction and infrastructure projects	Clarify

Discussion



Broadband for All



CALDEP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

James Spencer

BROADBAND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Program Components



Written Resources

Written resources to assist in the application development process



Webinars and Video Content

Presentations on specific topics regarding the RFA and the application process



Partnership Coordination

Resource webpage for applicants to identify potential partners



Office Hours

Opportunities to ask the CDT team generalized questions about the RFA and the application process



Q&A Cycles

A dedicated email inbox for submitting written questions and a regular schedule for posting responses

CalDEP Landing Page

California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Related Contents

- [Partnership Coordination Resource](#)

On This Page

- [Program Overview](#)
- [Eligible Applicants](#)
- [Funding Tracks & Description](#)
- [Get Ready Resources](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)



Program Overview

The California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP) builds upon the existing work accomplished by the Broadband for All Initiative, California's commitment to closing the digital divide. CalDEP provides subgrants to Eligible Entities to support the achievement of goals and measurable objectives of California's State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP). CalDEP will help members of Covered Populations overcome digital equity barriers and will support digital inclusion and outcomes related to education, healthcare, career development, and access to essential government benefit programs.

[California Digital Equity Program \(CalDEP\) Grant Guidelines & Request for Application \(Coming Soon\)](#)

CalDEP is funded through the [California Department of Technology's State Digital Equity Capacity Grant](#) from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and will be awarded to selected applicants in the form of subgrants.

Below are helpful materials and links to reference as you develop and submit your application. We will continue adding materials, so bookmark this page and check back frequently for updates.

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Search this website

On This Page

- [Program Overview](#)
- [Eligible Applicants](#)
- [Funding Tracks & Description](#)
- [Get Ready Resources](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

Eligible Applicants

Both Lead Applicants and second-tier subgrantees for CalDEP must be located and operate in the State of California and have an active Unique Entity ID (UEI) number assigned by SAM.gov. Lead Applicants and second-tier subgrantees must come from the following Eligible Entity categories:

- A local political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality of the State of California.
- An Indian Tribe or a Native Hawaiian organization.
- A foundation, corporation, institution, or association that is:
 - a not-for-profit entity; and
 - not a school.
- A community anchor institution.
- A local educational agency.
- An entity that carries out a workforce development program.
- A partnership between any of the entities listed above.
- A Regional Broadband Consortia (as long as they or their fiscal agents belong to an Eligible Entity category as listed above and have an active UEI).

Funding Tracks and Description

Funding Track	Program Description
Track 1: Regional/Local Ecosystems	Subgrants to (1) develop and refine regional and local digital equity plans, and (2) provide capacity to implement digital equity activities directly or through second-tier subgrants to local Eligible Entities.
Track 2: Targeted Statewide Ecosystems	Subgrants to support ecosystem development, planning, and innovation for a specific State Outcome Area or Covered Population which may be served more effectively in statewide, rather than regional or local, ecosystems.

Get Ready Resources

Get tips on how to prepare for the upcoming funding opportunity. More resources will be provided once they are available.

Partnership Coordination Resource

Broadband for All

About ▾
Initiatives ▾
Partners ▾
Residents ▾
Monthly Update ▾
Contact us

Partnership Coordination Resource for California Digital Equity Program (CalDEP)

Related Content

- [California Digital Equity Program \(CalDEP\)](#)

In response to public comment and other stakeholder input requesting partnership facilitation, the California Department of Technology (CDT) has created this [Partner Coordination Resource](#) to enable potential lead grant applicants and interested partner entities to find and connect with each other prior to the CalDEP Request for Application period open to identify and form potential partnerships.

The Partnership Coordination Resource is a tool that applicants may use to identify other organizations they might wish to partner with on an application. Organizations share their information in the Partnership Coordination Resource by completing the form below.

Participation is completely optional. Submitting information to the Partnership Coordination Resource, and the contents of the information submitted, have no effect on an application.

**Fields marked with an asterisk are required, and all other fields are optional.*

Organization Name *

Partnership Preference *

Funding Track *

Track 1 – Digital Equity Activities

- Local/Regional Digital Equity Planning
- Broadband Adoption
- Digital Navigation Services
- Device Distribution
- Digital Literacy Training
- Public Computer Labs
- Workforce Development
- Ecosystem Building
- Implementation of State Efforts
- Other

Track 2 – Digital Equity Activities related to Covered Populations

- Individuals in households at or below 150% of the federal poverty line
- Aging individuals
- Incarcerated individuals
- Individuals with disabilities
- Veterans
- Individuals with a language barrier
- Individuals who are members of a racial or ethnic minority group
- Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area

Track 2 – Digital Equity Activities related to Outcome Areas

- Education
- Healthcare access
- Workforce development
- Essential services
- Tribal collaboration
- Digital literacy and inclusion

Which county(s) will your organization serve? *

<input type="checkbox"/> All 58 Counties	<input type="checkbox"/> Alameda	<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine
<input type="checkbox"/> Amador	<input type="checkbox"/> Butte	<input type="checkbox"/> Calaveras
<input type="checkbox"/> Colusa	<input type="checkbox"/> Contra Costa	<input type="checkbox"/> Del Norte
<input type="checkbox"/> El Dorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresno	<input type="checkbox"/> Glenn
<input type="checkbox"/> Humboldt	<input type="checkbox"/> Imperial	<input type="checkbox"/> Inyo
<input type="checkbox"/> Kern	<input type="checkbox"/> Kings	<input type="checkbox"/> Leke
<input type="checkbox"/> Lassen	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	<input type="checkbox"/> Madera
<input type="checkbox"/> Marin	<input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mendocino
<input type="checkbox"/> Merced	<input type="checkbox"/> Modoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Mono
<input type="checkbox"/> Monterey	<input type="checkbox"/> Napa	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	<input type="checkbox"/> Placer	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumas
<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	<input type="checkbox"/> San Benito
<input type="checkbox"/> San Bernardino	<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego	<input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco
<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin	<input type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo	<input type="checkbox"/> San Mateo
<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Barbara	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Clara	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Cruz
<input type="checkbox"/> Shasta	<input type="checkbox"/> Sierra	<input type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou
<input type="checkbox"/> Solano	<input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Stanislaus
<input type="checkbox"/> Sutter	<input type="checkbox"/> Tehama	<input type="checkbox"/> Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/> Tulare	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuolumne	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura
<input type="checkbox"/> Yolo	<input type="checkbox"/> Yuba	

Organization Email *

Organization Phone

Please ensure that you are comfortable with this disclosure before submitting any information. After the 120-day period, the information will no longer be accessible to the public unless otherwise stated. *

I acknowledge that by submitting information on this website, the details provided may be shared publicly for a period of 120 days.

Submit

Discussion



Broadband for All



TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS

Anh Nguyen

ENGAGEMENT & OPERATIONS MANAGER

Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Next Steps



**Quarterly Public Meetings
(California Broadband Council &
Middle-Mile Advisory Committee)**



Stakeholder Briefings and Webinars



Statewide Implementation Group (SIG)



Outcome Area Communities of Practice



Broadband for All Portal



Broadband for All Email Monthly Update



Call for Submissions: Community Spotlight

The Michelson 20MM Foundation Announces Three 2024 Digital Equity Spark Grantees



Kudos to the Michelson 20MM Foundation for naming three 2024 Digital Equity Spark Grantees: City Heights Community Development Corporation (City Heights CDC), Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA), and Destination Crenshaw.

Given the size of our state and its digital equity needs, federal and state grants will need to augment by philanthropic and private sector funding. These projects funded by Spark Grants serve as inspiring examples of how public-private partnerships support the efforts to make Broadband for All a reality in California.

Read more about the **2024 Digital Equity Spark Grantees** [here](#).

Valley Vision Launches Digital Equity Project in Sacramento



Kudos to Valley Vision, a civic leadership organization dedicated to improving the livability of the Sacramento region, who this month launched a digital equity project at Sacramento City Unified School District's Leataata Floyd Elementary. The project is funded by a \$50,000 grant from AT&T to purchase 133 new laptops, primarily for families of students who reside at Marina Vista/Alder Grove public housing.

The school has used a portion of funds to set up a community resource room for digital literacy access and training and for a laptop lending program. This project complements an initiative by the City of Sacramento and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency to provide free Wi-Fi to residents of Marina Vista Alder Grove for five years through a community Wi-Fi pilot project funded through the City's American Rescue Plan Act funding.

San Francisco launches new digital equity plan for older adults & people with disabilities.



Kudos to the SF Tech Council and a broad-based coalition of partners for developing a new digital equity plan for older adults and people with disabilities. The Digital Equity Plan for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities in San Francisco . These include enhancing internet infrastructure and accessibility, developing a robust device ecosystem, investing in digital literacy and support, ensuring inclusion in design and access, raising awareness, fostering collaboration and partnerships, and securing sustainable funding for ongoing efforts.

To learn more, please go [here](#).

CDT Attends Oakland Connect Digital Equity Press Conference

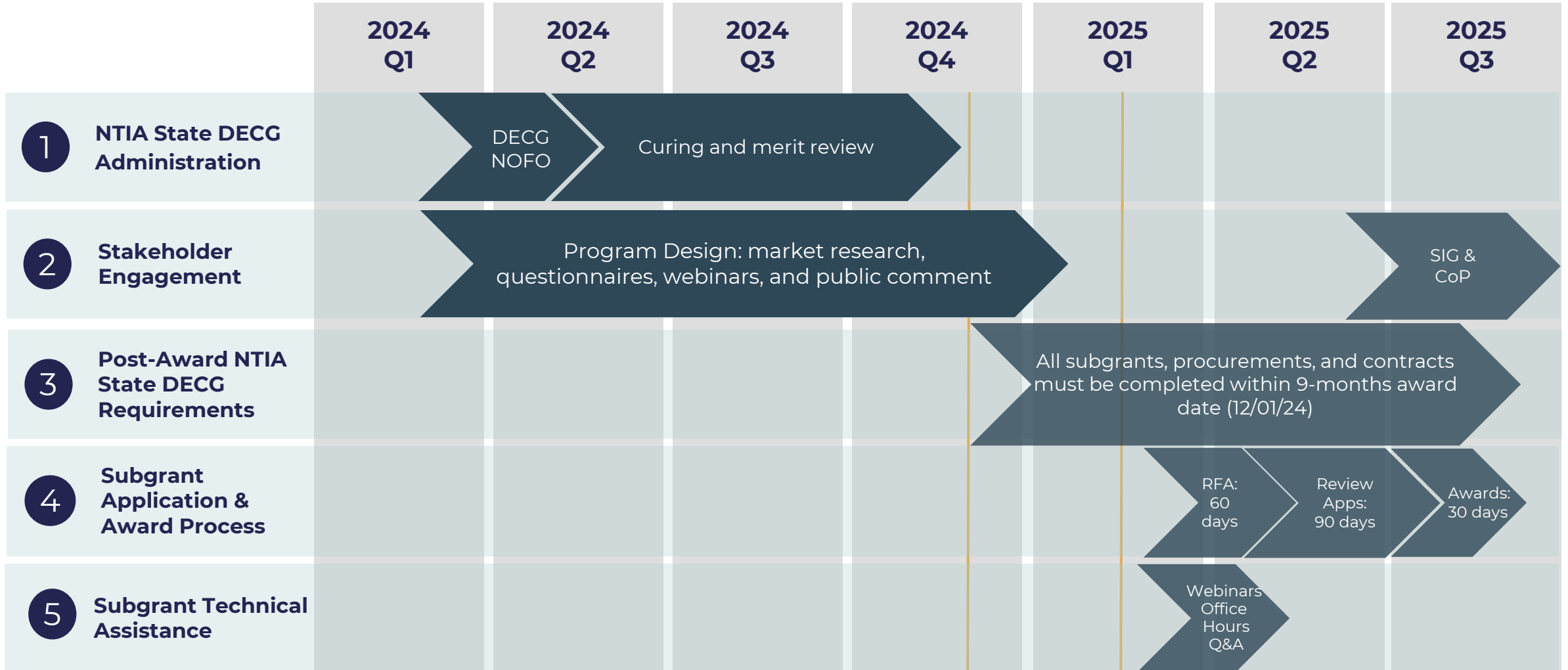
On Thursday, October 3, city, state, and nonprofit leaders convened at Palo Vista Community Gardens, a public housing community in East Oakland, to announce a series of complementary investments in broadband infrastructure and digital access, including an FFA grant award from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and CDT's middle-mile network installation along Interstates 580, 880, and 980, aimed at bridging the digital divide in Oakland's most underserved communities.

CDT is proud of its partnership it has developed with #OaklandUndivided and is happy to be able to participate in this key milestone for the city.



SDEP & DECG PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Tentative Timeline



Note: Timeline subject to change pending federal guidance

Period of Performance began on 12/01/2024

Today

Discussion



Broadband for All

THANK YOU!

Sign up:

Broadband for All Email Update

Website:

BroadbandForAll.cdt.ca.gov

Contact:

DigitalEquity@state.ca.gov

