



California  
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

# Broadband for All and Digital Equity Update

Insure the Uninsured Project Statewide Broadband Stakeholder Workgroup

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**October 6, 2022**

**Scott Adams, CDT Deputy Director, Broadband and Digital Literacy**

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

# Digital Divide

## COVID-19 amplified lack of equity:

- 83% of Californians have access to broadband
- Only 52% of Californians have broadband at modern speeds of 100 Mbps
- 51% rural households have no network offering 100 Mbps
- 28% tribal lands also lacking this service level
- Millions the lack internet service, devices, and skills to access your services, and realize other social and economic benefits



- Policy
- Coordination
- IT Oversight
- Information security
- Technology service delivery
- Advocacy

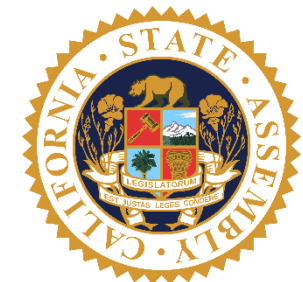
# Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy

- Statewide ecosystem dedicated to closing the digital divide
- California Broadband Council
- Broadband Executive Order and Broadband For All Action Plan
- Statewide Open-Access Middle-Mile Network
- State Digital Equity Plan

# California Broadband Council

Multi-agency collaboration

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# Executive Order N-73-20

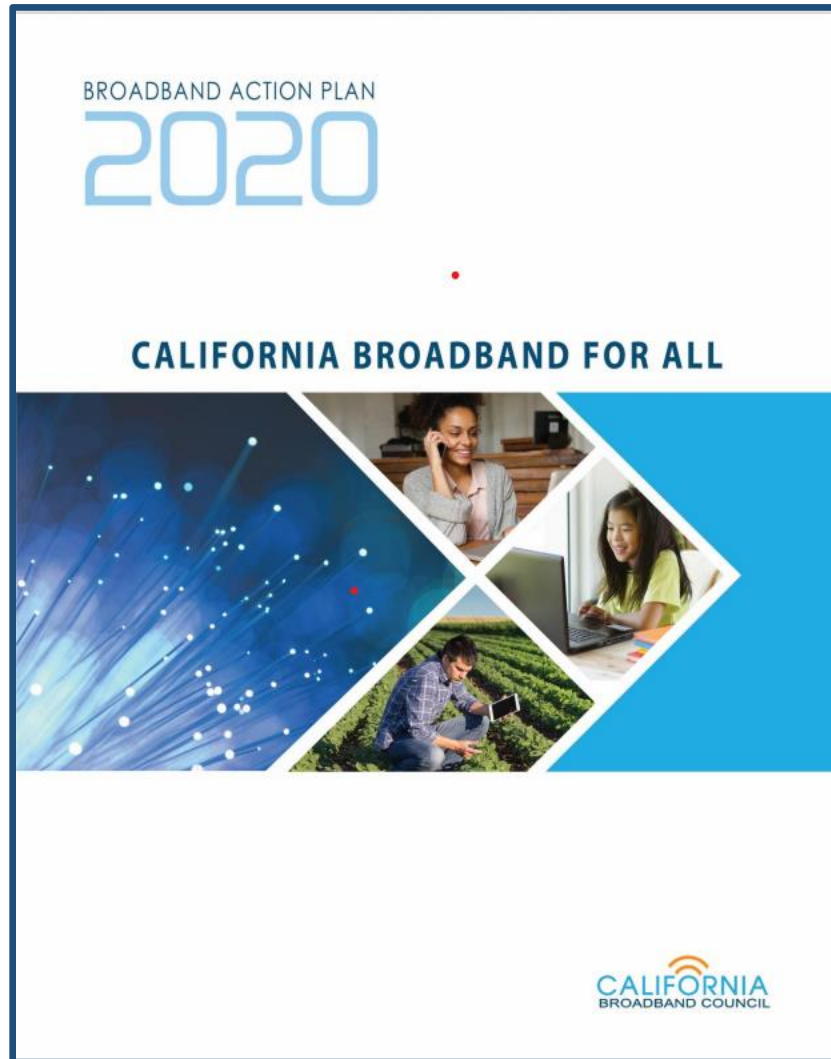
Required the development of a California State Broadband Action Plan.



## Specific direction on 15 items:

- Data and Mapping
- Funding
- Deployment
- Adoption

# Broadband 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.



# 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 oversees the acquisition and management of contracts for the development, acquisition, construction, maintenance, and operation of statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network

# Middle-Mile 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



Third Party  
Administrator

- Manages the development, acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network



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

# Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act Broadband Programs

The Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA) sets forth a \$65 billion investment into broadband, of which \$48.2 billion will be administered by the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA).

- Affordable Connectivity Program (Federal Communications Commission)
- Digital Equity Programs
- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)
- Enabling Middle-Mile Infrastructure Program
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program
- ReConnect Program (USDA Rural Utility Service)

These programs will provide critical funding to expand on the state's Broadband for All program and goals.

# State Digital Equity Plan

- CDT will develop the State Digital Equity Plan with a planning grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration
- Develop in consultation with the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Broadband Council
- Extensive engagement and collaboration with state, regional and local entities
- Final plan will shape how state allocates Digital Equity capacity funds to implement the plan

# Digital Equity Plan Objectives

California will a State Digital Equity Plans (SDEP) to identify barriers to digital equity and solutions.

Includes measurable objectives for promoting:	Assesses how digital inclusion impacts outcomes in:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access to fixed and wireless broadband</li><li>• Online accessibility and inclusivity of public resources</li><li>• Digital literacy</li><li>• Awareness and use of measures to secure online privacy and cybersecurity</li><li>• Access to devices and technical support</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education</li><li>• Healthcare / Access</li><li>• Digital Literacy</li><li>• Economic and workforce development</li><li>• Civic participation / Essentials services</li><li>• Tribal Outcomes</li></ul>

# Digital Equity Plan

**The State Digital Equity Plans (SDEP) will prioritize engagement and outcomes for eight covered populations.**

1. Low-income individuals
2. Aging individuals
3. Incarcerated individuals
4. Veterans
5. Individual with disabilities
6. Members of racial or ethnic minority groups
7. Individuals residing in a rural area
8. Individuals with literacy barriers

# Digital Equity Planning Process

- Statewide Planning Group
- Outcome Area Working Groups
- Statewide Survey (s)
- 20 Local/Regional Engagement Events
- Stakeholder Engagement



# Upcoming Meetings

October 12: Broadband Council Meeting

October 21: Middle-Mile Advisory Council Meeting

October 24: Fall Broadband for All Summit and  
Digital Equity & BEAD Kickoff

[Summit Registration link](#)

# Resources

[Broadband for All Portal](#)

[California Broadband Council](#)

[California Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative](#)

[CPUC Broadband Implementation](#)

**Thank you!**