SPECIAL MEETING

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE

Remote Participation Only
Thursday, October 29, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

To Participate on Your Computer:
https://scag.zoom.us/j/941139378

To Participate by Phone:
Call-in Number: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 941 139 378

Please see next page for detailed instructions on how to participate in the meeting.

PUBLIC ADVISORY

Given recent public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's recent Executive Order N-29-20, the meeting will be held telephonically and electronically.

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Peter Waggonner at (213) 630-1402 or via email at waggonner@scag.ca.gov. Agendas & Minutes are also available at: www.scag.ca.gov/committees.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. SCAG is also committed to helping people with limited proficiency in the English language access the agency's essential public information and services. You can request such assistance by calling (213) 630-1402. We request at least 72 hours (three days) notice to provide reasonable accommodations and will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.

Detailed Instructions for Participating in the Meeting

SCAG is providing multiple options to view or participate in the meeting:

To Join By Zoom
1. Click the following link: https://scag.zoom.us/j/941139378.
2. If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click "download & run Zoom" on the launch page and press "run" when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically.
3. Select "Join Audio via Computer."
4. The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, "Please wait for the host to start this meeting," simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

To Join By Phone
1. Call **(669) 900-6833** to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue calling until you connect successfully.
2. Enter the **Meeting ID: 941 139 378**, followed by **#**.
3. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing **#** to continue.
4. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.

Email Public Comments to: ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov

The public is encouraged to submit comments by sending an email to: ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov All written comments received before and during the Public Comment period will be read by SCAG staff (up to 3 minutes) and included as part of the official record of the meeting. The Chair has the discretion to reduce the time limit based upon the number of e-comments received and may limit the total time for all public comments to twenty (20) minutes.

To view past meeting videos: http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/

OUR MISSION
To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION
Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES
Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous

ETC - Emerging Technologies Committee
Members – October 2020

1. **Sup. Curt Hagman**
   Chair, San Bernardino County

2. **Hon. Sean Ashton**
   Downey, RC District 25

3. **Hon. Drew Boyles**
   El Segundo, RC District 40

4. **Hon. Margaret Clark**
   Rosemead, SGVCOG

5. **Ms. Leslie Daigle**
   Government Relations, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member

6. **Hon. Margaret Finlay**
   Duarte, RC District 35

7. **Hon. Jan C. Harnik**
   RCTC Representative

8. **Hon. Steve Manos**
   Lake Elsinore, RC District 63

9. **Mr. Paul Marquez**
   Caltrans District 7, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member

10. **Hon. Carol Moore**
    Laguna Woods, OCCOG

11. **Hon. Frank Navarro**
    Colton, RC District 6

12. **Ms. Pam O'Connor**
    CA Road Charge TAC, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member

13. **Sup. Luis Plancarte**
    Imperial County

14. **Hon. David Pollock**
    Moorpark, RC District 46

15. **Hon. Jim Predmore**
    ICTC Representative

16. **Hon. Deborah Robertson**
    Rialto, RC District 8

17. **Hon. Paul Rodriguez**
    Chino, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)

18. **Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker**
    El Centro, RC District 1

19. **Hon. Alan Wapner**
    SBCTA Representative

20. **Hon. Edward Wilson**
    Signal Hill, GCCOG

21. **Hon. Frank Zerunyan**
    Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG

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Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
Thursday, October 29, 2020
10:00 AM

The Emerging Technologies Committee may consider and act upon any of the items on the agenda regardless of whether they are listed as Information or Action items.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
(The Honorable Curt Hagman, Chair)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
The public is encouraged to submit comments by sending an email to: ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov. All written comments received before and during the Public Comment period will be read by SCAG staff (up to 3 minutes) and included as part of the official record of the meeting. The Chair has the discretion to reduce the time limit based upon the number of e-comments received and may limit the total time for all public comments to twenty (20) minutes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Item

1. Minutes of the Meeting - August 27, 2020

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. OntarioNet Municipal Broadband   60 Mins.
(Jimmy Chang, Broadband Operations Director, City of Ontario)

3. Resolution to Address the Digital Divide   60 Mins.
(Roland Ok, Senior Regional Planner)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S

ANNOUNCEMENT/S

ADJOURNMENT

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Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
October 29, 2020

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE (ETC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Emerging Technologies Committee (ETC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting telephonically and electronically given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's recent Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Hon.	Sean Ashton	District 25
Hon.	Margaret Clark	SGVCOG
Ms.	Leslie Daigle	Government Relations, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member
Hon.	Margaret E. Finlay	District 35
Sup.	Curt Hagman **(Chair)**	San Bernardino County
Hon.	Jan Harnik	RCTC
Hon.	Steve Manos	District 63
Hon.	Carol Moore	OCCOG
Hon.	Frank Navarro	District 6
Ms.	Pam O'Connor	CA Road Charge TAC, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member
Hon.	David Pollock	District 46
Hon.	Deborah Robertson	District 8
Hon.	Paul Rodriguez	Member-at-Large
Hon.	Cheryl Viegas-Walker	District 1
Hon.	Alan Wapner	SBCTA/SBCOG
Hon.	Edward H.J. Wilson	GCCOG
Hon.	Frank Zerunyan	SBCCOG
Mr.	Paul Marquez	Caltrans District 7, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member

Members Not Present:

Hon.	Stacy Berry	Cypress, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member
Hon.	Drew Boyles	District 40

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Packet Pg. 6

Hon.	Luis Plancarte	Imperial County
Hon.	James Predmore	ICTC

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public requested to comment.

INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

1.   Telemedicine and Other Remote Services

Norman Tisdell, AMD Global Telemedicine, reported on telemedicine and remote services. He noted AMD has worked in this area for 29 years and utilizes 40+ devices for their end user customers such as rural clinics and hospitals, correctional facilities, retail pharmacy and urgent care facilities. He reported that COVID-19 has brough forth practices such as social distancing and research indicates the number of office visits will be decreasing. Mr. Tisdell demonstrated the telemedicine process with a video showing a telemedicine home visit and the equipment used to establish a diagnostic teleconference between the doctor and patient at home.

Waseem Shannam M.D., Telehealth Solutions, continued the presentation and stated his company has been working for 5 years on telehealth and noted the emerging trend is in hospital diversion medicine instead of using an emergency room visit. He noted some places in the country experience a medical vacuum and the default action is to go to the emergency room which makes the emergency room the primacy care provider. The practice of telemedicine seeks to provide service in this space. For example, doctors can consult with patients outside their geographic area and the service model can achieve greater efficiency than traditional medical service.

Victor Gonzalez continued the presentation and reported on school-based telemedicine. He reported on Gage Middle School in Los Angeles' development of school-based telemedicine. He noted the service included a search for grant funding. Mr. Tisdell concluded by reviewing the different service features offered by telemedicine such as seamless medical device integration, patient resources and multiple payment processing models.

Hon. Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, stated SCAG can play a part in developing policy

actions to improve efficiency of medical services particularly in the area of jurisdictions' agreement with providers of ambulance services and other contracted services. He provided examples of telemedicine being tested in his county.

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, asked if access to an emergency medical record is essential in using the system. Mr. Tisdell responded that the system can operate without access to EMR and it is designed to operate independent of other data should that be needed.

2.   Opportunities for Broadband Deployment in Southern California

David Stone, Ernst & Young, reported on broadband deployment opportunities in Southern California. Mr. Stone stated the effort began with assessing broadband service regionally. He noted telecommunications travel through a series of pathways of wireless and wired channels before reaching its intended recipient. Wired lines often involve fiber, cable or copper. Wireless infrastructure can involve Wi-Fi, antenna and satellite. He noted broadband networks consist of long-haul, middle mile and access/last mile. Long-haul is a superhighway connection to a distant destination such as another city, state or country. Middle mile aggregates demand from last-mile or other communication sources before sending to the long-haul channel. Last mile is the end user of residential, business, government and others. Further, availability is often driven by population density in urban, suburban and rural geographies.

Mr. Stone stated most of the region has availability to at least one high speed broadband provider and he reviewed the region's competitive intensity. He noted there is a network of long haul and middle mile fiber in the region although there are several large areas without easy geographic access to the network. Further, he reviewed commercially attractive regional areas. He noted the public sector can be a partner to private industry to expand broadband reach by developing policies and practices to expedite build out in under-served areas.

Hon. Alan Wapner, Ontario, stated that years ago Ontario identified that the private sector was not moving quickly enough in providing the city with high speed broadband and stepped forward to invest in and develop the infrastructure for their city. He noted there was a partnership with the private sector and this vision and investment has benefitted the city's residents and businesses greatly as they are able to position themselves as a smart city.

Mr. Stone responded that EY is currently working with several efforts currently based on the Ontario model and this type of public/private sector partnership.

Hon. Sean Ashton, Downey, asked what actions cities can take to promote greater broadband competition in their communities. Mr. Stone offered that cities can consider shaping the business opportunity in association with complimentary districts to offer a greater business opportunity as an incentive to the private provider.

3.   Potential Model Ordinance or Policy to Increase Broadband Access

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, stated that more aspects of daily life are shifting to the broadband environment and many residents either have no access or they can't obtain speeds useful and this gap creates an imperative for the public sector to act. He noted policies can look at how to incentivize the expansion of broadband and explore regional policies so providers do not have to face different requirements for each jurisdiction which is also reflected in the Governor's Executive Order. Additionally, with COVID it has become clear that broadband is a technology that is now essential across society.

Hon. Frank Zerunyan, SBCCOG, supported comments by Mr. Ajise stating there is an obligation for better positioned communities to uplift those less affluent and broadband provides this opportunity.

Hon. Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, stated broadband access can be viewed as an infrastructure necessity as more societal services are being shifted there. Those without proper access to broadband will have lesser access to healthcare, government, education and financial services, driving greater societal inequity. Additionally, he encouraged that each street construction project ought to include tubing for future fiber lines. Further, private broadband providers can become frustrated by cumbersome permitting processes in some cities. Cities can assist by making it easy for providers to do business there. Further, SCAG can be useful in procuring grant funding as well as legislative cooperation.

Steve PonTell, CEO and President of National Community Renaissance, reported on his current activities. He noted their effort seeks to bring together a coalition of teleeducation, telehealth, facility designers, cable and others. He noted a meeting will be held with county supervisors to explore investment areas needed to close the digital divide.

4.   Governor Newsom's "Broadband for All" Executive Order

Executive Order N-73-20 was provided in the committee's agenda packet and discussed under item 3.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EMERGING TECHNOLOGY]

Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
October 29, 2020

To:	Emerging Technologies Committee (ETC)	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL**
From:	Thomas Bellino, Associate Regional Planner, Transit and Rail, (213) 236-1830, bellino@scag.ca.gov	*Kome Ajise*
Subject:	OntarioNet Municipal Broadband	

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only – No Action Required

STRATEGIC PLAN:
This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians. 2: Advance Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy. 4: Provide innovative information and value - added services to enhance member agencies' planning and operations and promote regional collaboration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The City of Ontario is partnering with Inyo Networks to build a fiber optic gigabit network, OntarioNet, to provide low-cost, high-quality broadband service to the city. Ontario's fiber network is a major step toward making telework, distance learning, Smart City integration, public safety improvements and more accessible to all in the city. Jimmy Chang, Ontario's Broadband Operations Director, will provide a presentation to the committee about how Ontario is working with Inyo Networks to help meet their goal to close the digital divide in their city.

BACKGROUND:
While it has existed for decades, the ramifications of the digital divide – the gap between broadband access for those who can afford it and those who can't – have been made strikingly clear in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who have broadband access can work, learn, receive healthcare, recreate and more, all from home. Those without access have fewer options and sometimes must put their health at risk to receive basic services.

SCAG and its member agencies are looking for ways to help close the digital divide so that everyone in the SCAG region has safe access to basic services and economic opportunity. One of the ways often discussed is the provision of municipal broadband. Many cities around the country and world – such as Chattanooga, TN; Longmont, CO; and Amsterdam, the Netherlands – provide broadband

to their residents at lower cost than traditional service providers.

Ontario has embarked on a version of this, partnering with a private network to build fiber infrastructure around the city. This infrastructure and its use enable more people in Ontario to access state of the art broadband internet than would be possible in other cities. Ontario's program can serve as a model for other cities, and perhaps even larger jurisdictions, in the SCAG region to find innovative solutions for the challenge that is the digital divide.

FISCAL IMPACT:
None.

ATTACHMENT(S):
1.   PowerPoint Presentation - OntarioNet's Journey

ONTARIONET'S JOURNEY
October 29, 2020

Jimmy Chang
Broadband Operations Director

ONTARIONET
THE GATEWAY TO THE 21ST CENTURY

History of Smart Ontario

Model Colony

City of Ontario has always been a Smart City. Since its founding as a model colony, the City of Ontario has time and again embraced new technology to improve quality of life for its citizens.

Telephone

Ontario was among the first to be wired with long distance telephone lines.

Water

The San Antonio Water Co. in Ontario used a new, innovative method to drive a tunnel into the head of the canyon to tap the underground flow of water.

Transit

In 1887, a new transportation invention, the mule car, began transporting residents up and down Euclid Avenue.

Electricity

The need for electric power to lift water from deep wells led to the establishment of the Ontario Power Co.

Internet

OntarioNet brings California's fastest fiber Internet to residents, businesses, and community institutions.

What is OntarioNet?

- **The City of Ontario and its strategic partners are building a fiber optic gigabit network, OntarioNet, to provide low-cost, high-quality broadband service to our community.**

- The City views the fiber network as a vital step toward enabling:
  - Telework, Distance Learning & Digital Inclusion
  - Affordable Access to Broadband Services
  - Smart City Integration & Public Safety Improvements
  - Becoming the Premiere City of the Inland Empire

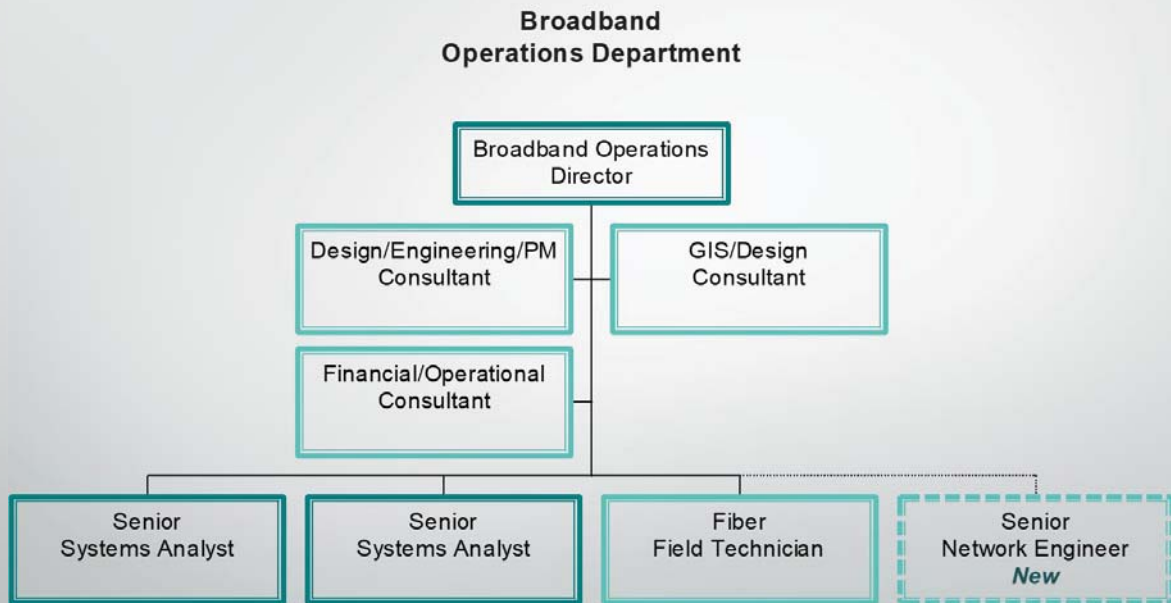# One of California's First Municipally-Led Broadband Initiatives – Key Partners

- **Ontario Ranch Developers**
  - Primary Strategic Partners in Development of OntarioNet infrastructure in the Ontario Ranch Community

- **City Staff**:
  - Infrastructure Construction, Project Management
  - Design, Engineering, GIS (Consultants)
  - Financial, Operational, & Technical Support (Consultants)
  - Regulatory & Legal Support (BB&K)

- **Inyo Networks Staff:**
  - Lease City Fiber as <u>Service Provider</u> and Shares Revenues with City
  - Deliver Home & Business Internet, Phone, & TV Services

5

OntarioNet Staff: Funding Plan, Infrastructure Construction/Operations & Project Management

Inyo Networks Staff: Leases City Fiber for Home & Business Internet, Phone, & TV Services & Markets Services

City Team

Broadband Operations Department

```
                  Broadband Operations
                        Director
                           |
        +------------------+------------------+
        |                                     |
  Design/Engineering/PM              GIS/Design
      Consultant                     Consultant
        |
  Financial/Operational
      Consultant
        |
  +-----------+-----------------+-----------------+- - - - - - - -+
  |           |                 |                 :               :
 Senior      Senior           Fiber            Senior
 Systems     Systems      Field Technician    Network Engineer
 Analyst     Analyst                               New
```

Timeline

- **2001 – 2002:** First Fiber Study Conducted by Hewlett-Packard

- **2003:** Telecommunications Master Plan Based on FTTX was Adopted by Council

- **2003 – 2007:** New Model Colony (Ontario Ranch) Developers Install Telecommunications Conduit p Specific Plans & Engineering Conditions

- **2008 – 2011:** Economic Recession / Housing Slowdown

- **2012:** Ontario Fiber Vision Relaunched
  - Engineering and Information Technology Collaboration

Timeline

- **2013:** Council Approves (Updated) Fiber Optic Master Plan (FOMP)

- **2014 - 2015:** Ontario Broadband Operations Department Created
    - Develop Build-Out Strategies
- **2015:** Proof-of-Concept for Park Place (FTTH) / Through a Competitive Bid Process, Lease Agreement w Service Provider Executed with Inyo Networks
    - First Residential Customer Connected Dec. 2015 (KB Homeowner) at $59.95/Month for 1Gbps Fiber Internet

- **2016:** Phase 1A of Primary Backbone Completed
    - First Business Customer Connected Dec. 2016 (Mills Welcome Center)

- **2016 - 2017:** OntarioNet Changed Build/Operate Process
    - Hired Design/Engineering Consultant, Procured Direct On-Call/Standby Cable & Conduit Contractors to Reduce Costs, Increased Operational Efficiency, & Created Continuity in Fiber Optics Network Construction.
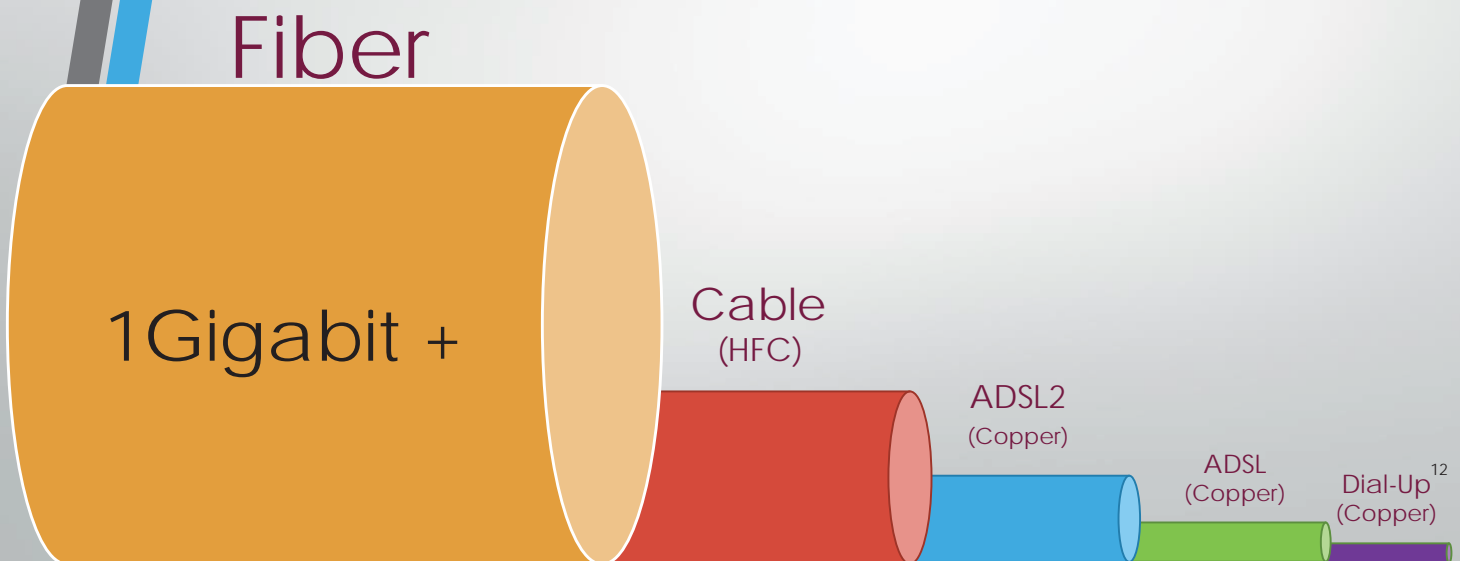
Timeline

- **2018 - 2020:**
    - 120+ Miles of Fiber Installed & City Facilities Connected (City Hall, Toyota Arena, Convention Center, Museum, OMUC/Revenue, Police, Fire Station 3/6/8, DAQ, HNP)
    - 80+ Traffic Cabinets Connected with OntarioNet Fiber, Resulting in $605,000+ Telecom Saving
    - 2 Telecom/Internet Grade "POP" Centers (Toyota Arena and OMUC), 3rd POP at Creekside Pa under construction
    - Connected Ontario International Airport and Tenants, Prominent Commercial Buildings, Large Club Warehouse, Global Shoe Warehouse
    - Inyo Networks has 1200+ Residential Customers and 100+ Business Customers
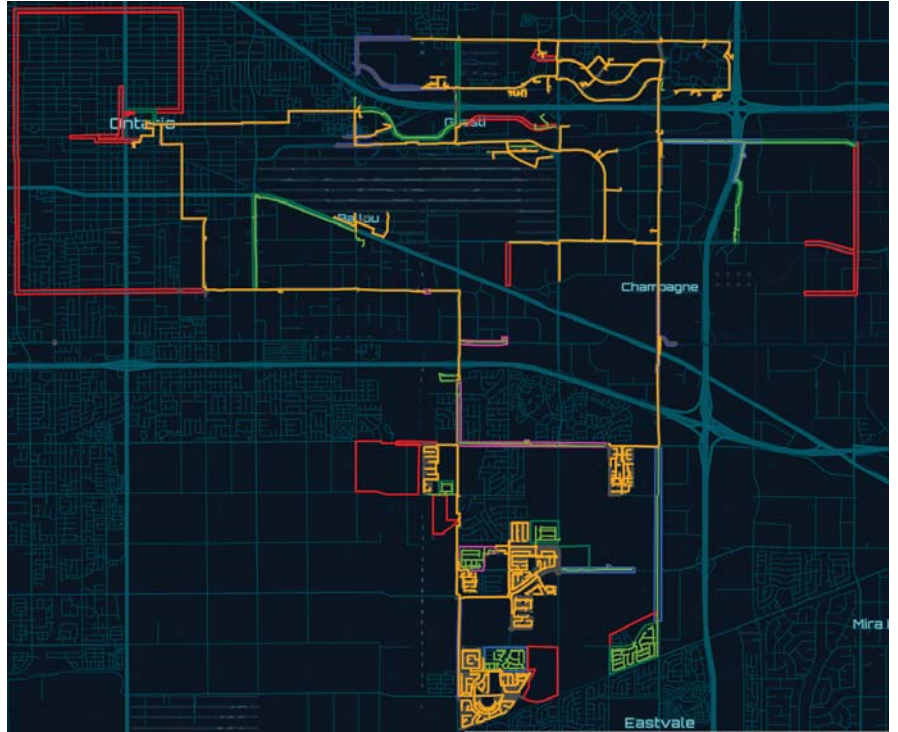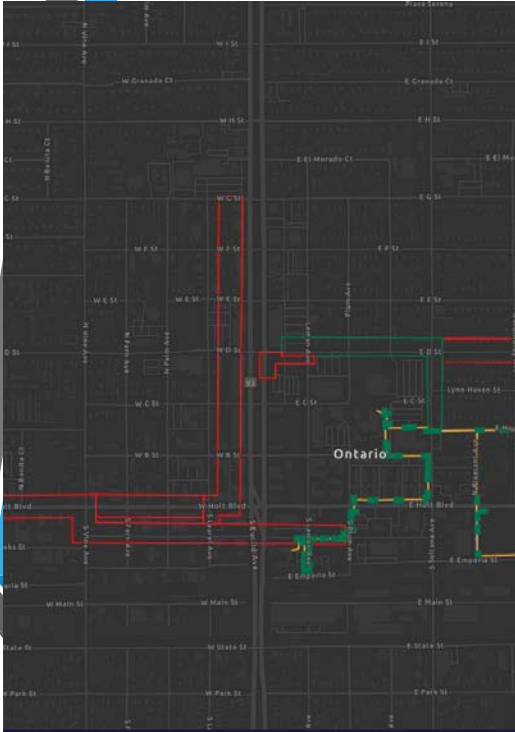   - Toll-Free Number 844-ONT-FIBER / Website www.ontariofiber.com

Timeline

- **2020 and Beyond**
    - Interconnect Add'l City Facilities – Library, Fire Stations, Recreation Centers, Add'l Traffic Signals, Well Sites, Streetlights
    - Planned Services to Future Ontario Ranch Communities
    - Planned Growth in Business Sectors in OMC & New Business Centers in Ontario Ranch
    - Wireless Connections to Small Businesses in Downtown Ontario
    - Overbuild Study for OMC
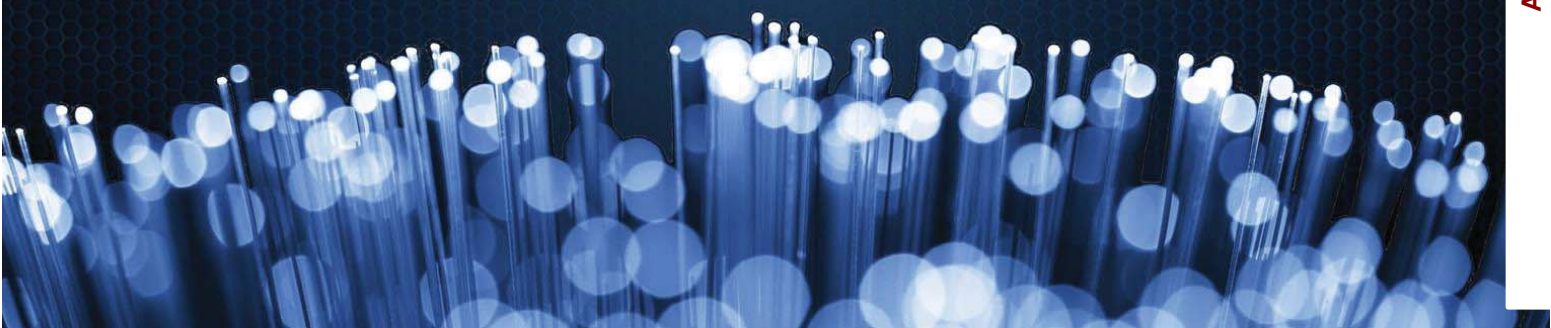   - Enhance Community Access to the Internet and Data Information
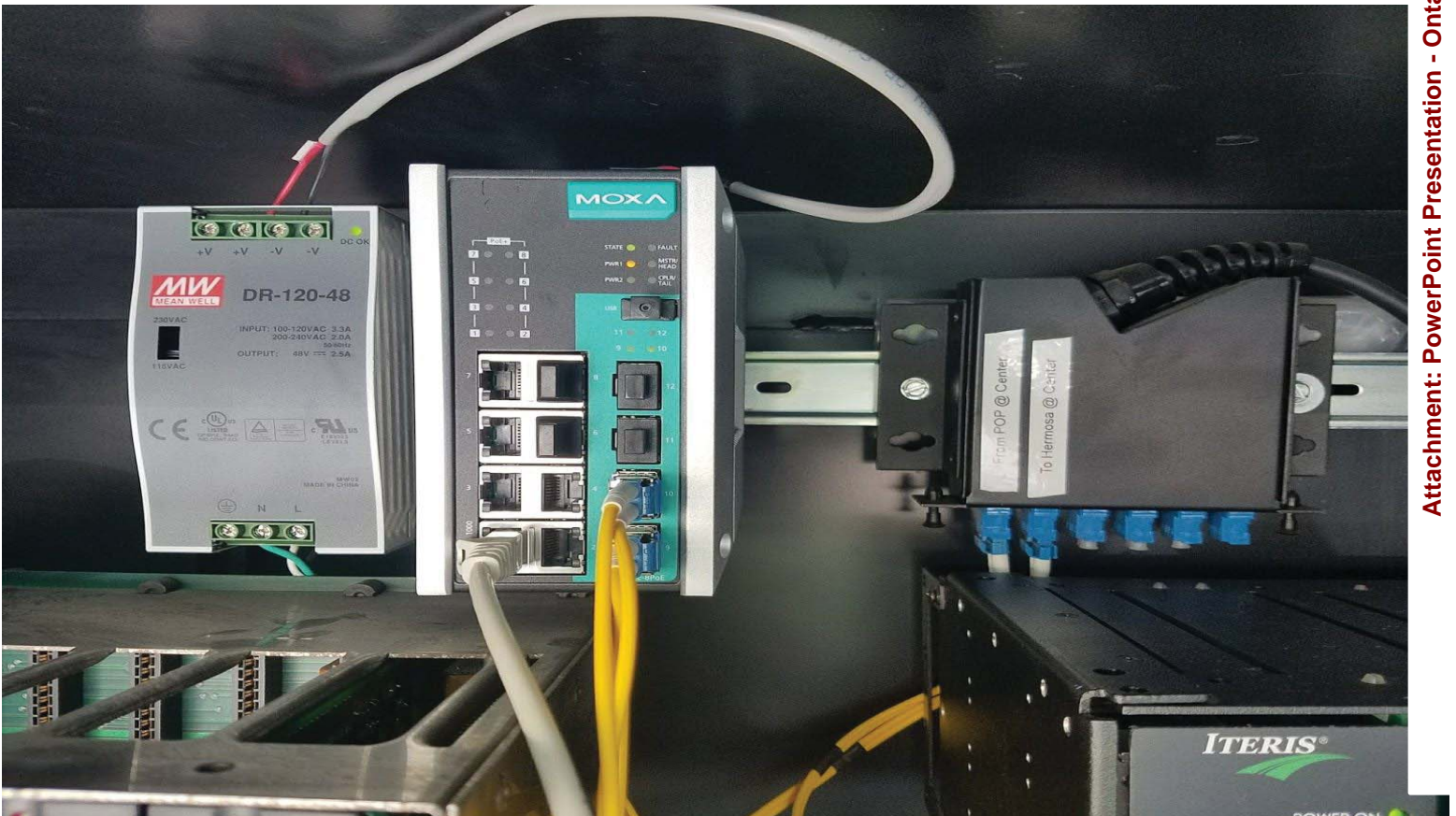
FIBER vs. Everything Else

Fiber

1Gigabit +

Cable
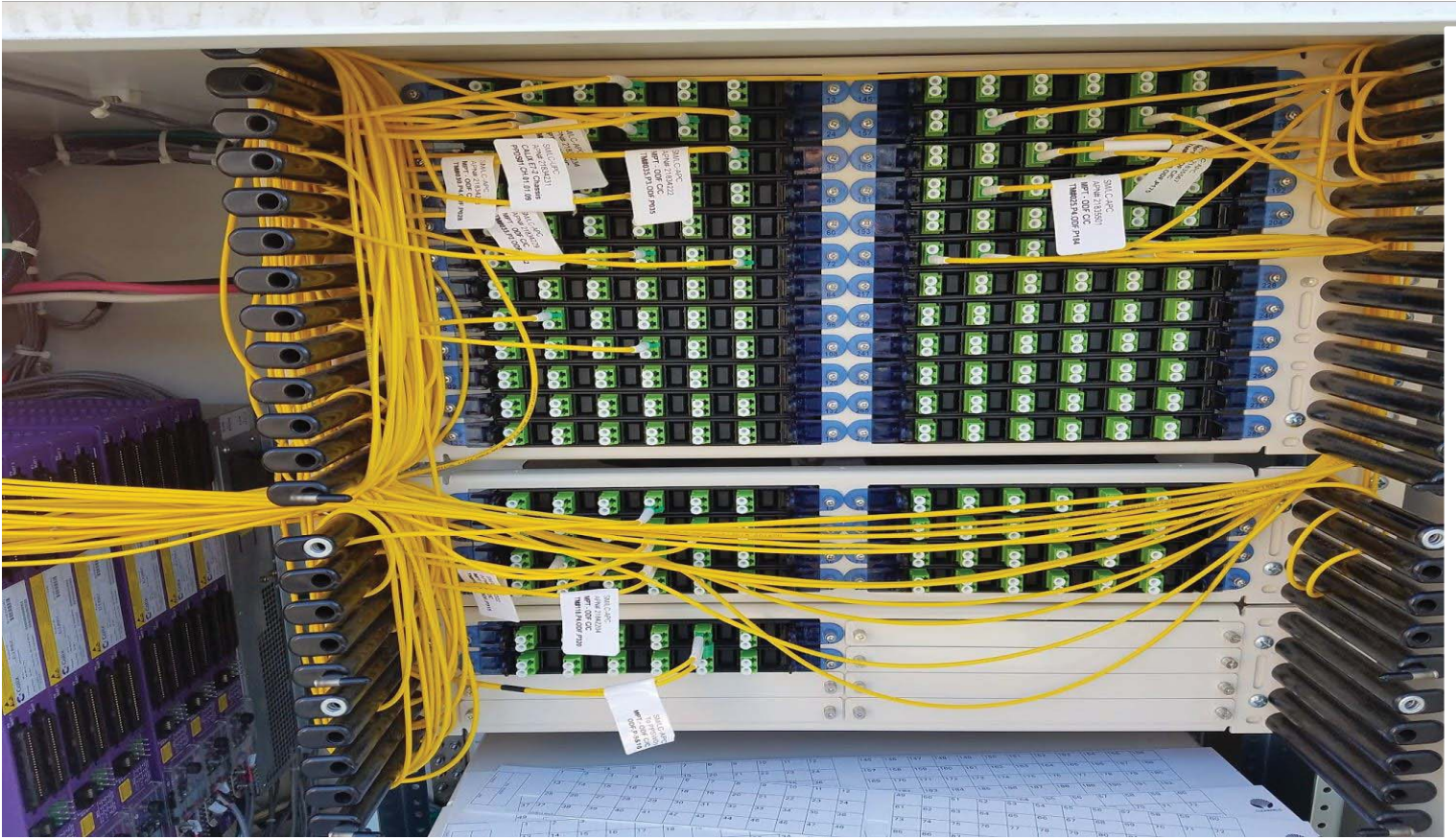(HFC)

ADSL2
(Copper)

ADSL
(Copper)

Dial-Up [12]
(Copper)

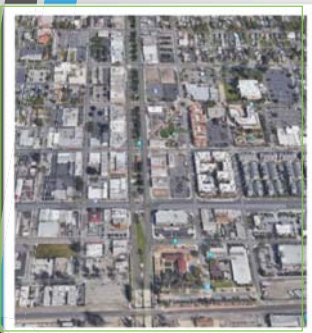# OntarioNet Network

WE THINK FIBER
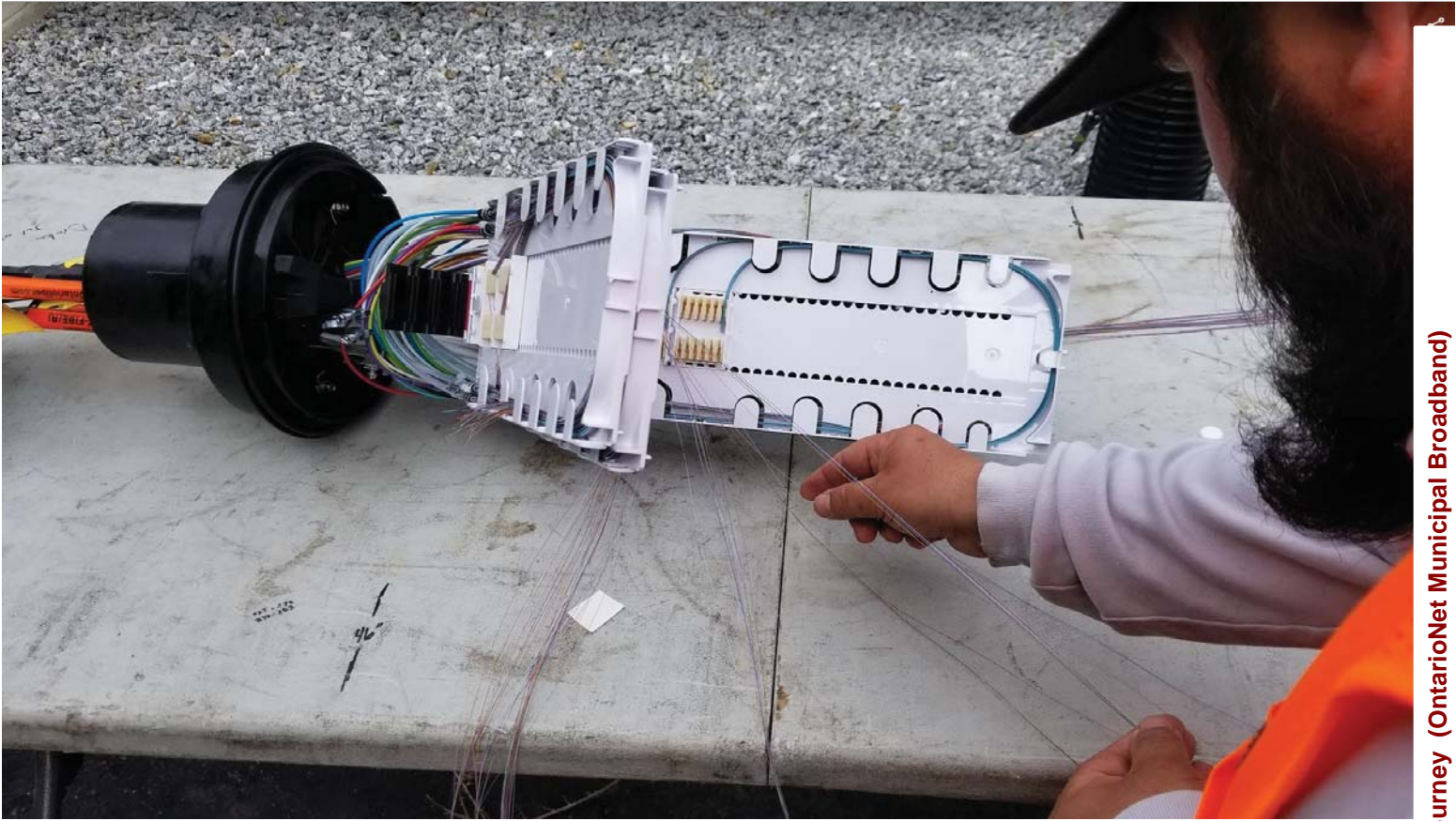
LOOKING AHEAD

- *Explore Opportunities with Smart City, Connected Communities, Smart Street Lights and Multi-Departmental Grant Programs Initiatives, Address Digital Divide*

- *Additional Review of Downtown Ontario Development with Opportunity Zones, TCC Grant, Climate Action Plan, SCAG FCPP and Advance Mobility Programs*

Ontario Smart City Rapid Validation Hub

A collection of integrated pilot projects engaging community stakeholders to accelerate Ontario's transition to the future

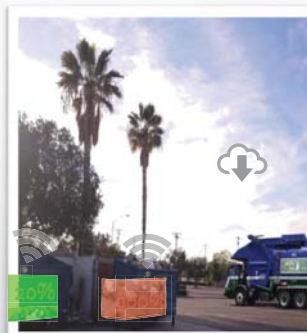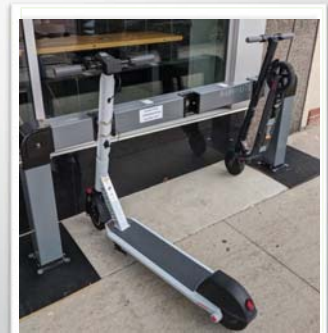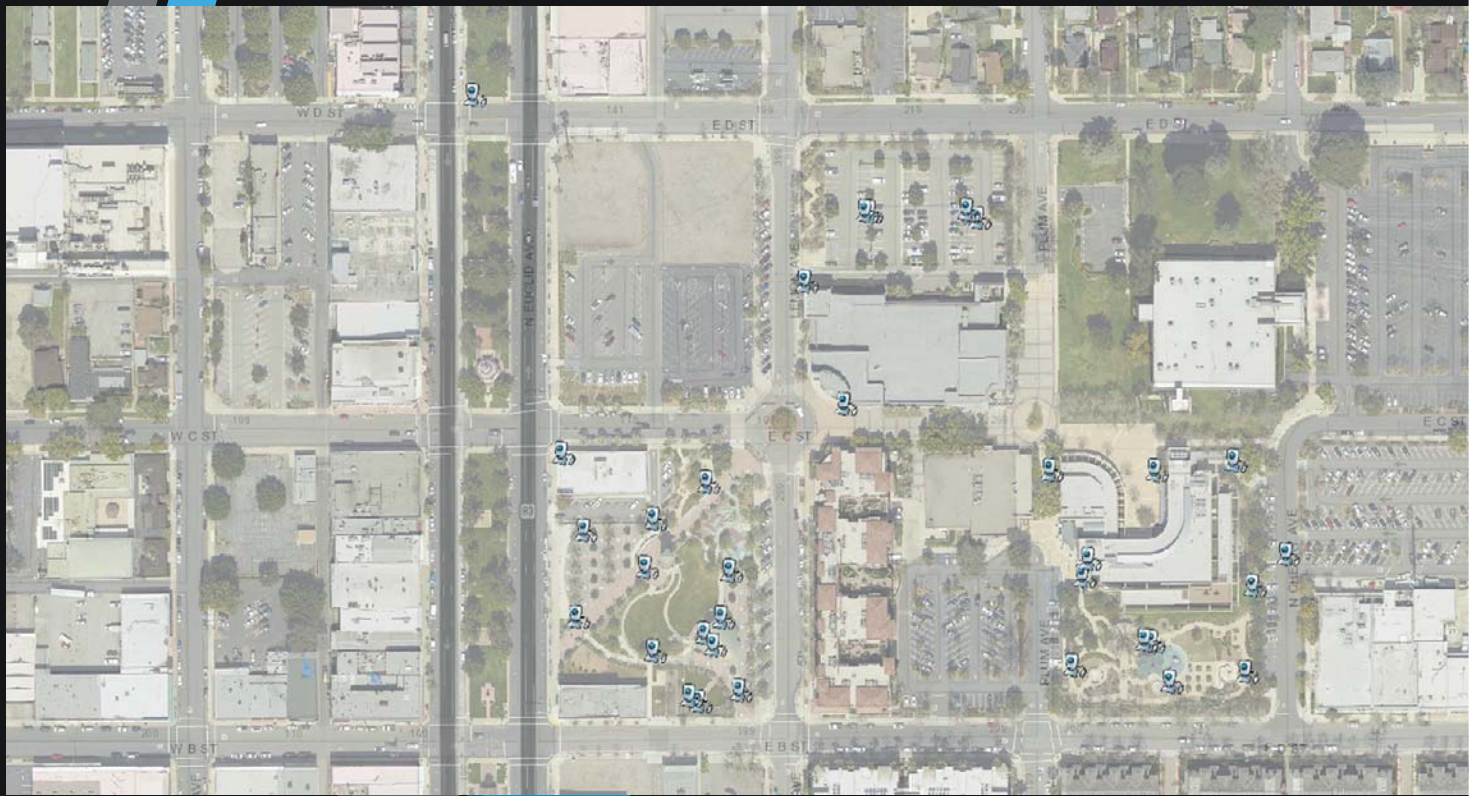| 1	2	3	4
Centralized and accessible Smart City hub	Smart City corridor in historical downtown	Intelligent collection of commercial refuse pilot	Final mile mobility and incentives pilot

Providing SCAG communities maximum learning using a comprehensive and proven innovation framework

RSU with AI-based camera

Traffic hazard warning
AI -based camera detects a hazard on the right lane and alert other cars on the road; via precise positioning other cars avoid the lane with the hazard

RSU with AI-based camera

Pedestrian alert
Traffic light detects a pedestri crossing the street and alert oncoming cars via I2V;

Also, possible via direct V2P communication

Road Safety
V2V/V2I: Intersection management assist

Send updated 3D HD map with the hazard via 5G NR C-V2X

I2V

V2P

Shaping the future of automotive and smart transportation

Edge AI
E.g. for detecting pedestrians or hazards

C-V2X (I2V)
E.g. send 3D HD map updates or hazard warning

Localization
E.g. for lane-level warning, and navigation

"A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality." – John Lennon

To Gigabit and Beyond!

CITY OF ONTARIO

For additional information please contact Jimmy Chang at (909) 395-2033 or Jchang@OntarioCA.gov

Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
October 29, 2020

To:	Emerging Technologies Committee (ETC)	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL**
From:	Thomas Bellino, Associate Regional Planner, Transit and Rail, (213) 236-1830, bellino@scag.ca.gov	*Kome Ajise*
Subject:	Resolution to Address the Digital Divide	

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only - No Action Required

STRATEGIC PLAN:
This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians. 2: Advance Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Roland Ok , SCAG staff, will present for information to the ETC a draft, model resolution and policy for counties in the region to consider, which sets forth support to increase broadband access throughout Southern California. Subsequent to the ETC members' discussion, staff plans to present the draft, model resolution and policy for information to the Regional Council in January 2021. The draft documents are concurrently being discussed by the County Board of Supervisors in each of the six counties in the SCAG region and San Diego County. On October 13, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis to establish pathways to equitable access to high speed internet and bridge the digital divide. SCAG will ensure that the draft, model resolution and policy are designed to complement existing initiatives throughout the region.

BACKGROUND:
At the Committee's previous meeting on August 27, 2020, staff presented Governor Newsom's "Broadband for All" Executive Order N-73-20 calling for a State Broadband Action Plan to deploy affordable and reliable broadband networks statewide, to support public safety, public health and economic resilience.

Additionally, SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise discussed with the Committee an effort led by Steve PonTell, CEO and President of National Community Renaissance, and involving SCAG and its sister metropolitan planning organization, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG),

County Supervisors and other public and private sector leaders, to ensure a more resilient region that is well prepared for future pandemics or similar emergencies. One of the key aims of this effort is to create a model framework across all jurisdictions to streamline deployment of broadband infrastructure, embodied in the draft, model resolution and policy being presented to the Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:
None.

ATTACHMENT(S):
1. Draft Model Broadband Resolution
2. Draft Model Policy for Local Governments

MODEL RESOLUTION NO. 2020-XXXX
SETTING FORTH SUPPORT TO INCREASE BROADBAND ACCESS TO UNDERSERVED
COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, closing the digital divide is important and provides long-term community benefits that include the ability to fully engage in the digital economy, access existing and emerging services, expand economic opportunities and bridge the economic divide;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the need for available, reliable and affordable broadband services in all communities;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused schools to shift to distance learning;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has made the digital divide within low-income and rural communities more apparent;

WHEREAS, we recognize that cost and household income is a primary barrier to broadband access;

WHEREAS, all residents, businesses and institutions need high speed broadband services where they work, live, learn and play;

WHEREAS, high speed broadband enables working from home and remotely , enhances business efficiencies, drives job creation throughout the region, and connects customers and partners worldwide to goods and services;

WHEREAS, high speed broadband is a "green technology" that reduces our impact on the environment, shrinks our regional carbon footprint, offsetting vehicle trips and use of resources;

WHEREAS, high speed broadband greatly expands the ability of residents to access medical, behavioral, oral health services and the capacity of public health officials to monitor and respond to health threats such as COVID-19 and other diseases;

WHEREAS, high speed broadband enables greater civic participation and brings communities together, helps improve public safety, and makes our transportation systems more resilient and efficient; and

WHEREAS, effective emergency services require using high speed broadband to integrate data in real time from all available sources, so decision markers have access to the information necessary for the protection of lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this XX day of XXXXX 2020 that the XXXXXX the County Board of Supervisors does hereby as follows:

1. Support United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) rules, regulations, programs and funding opportunities that support broadband deployment opportunities to bridge the digital divide;

2. Support Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-73-20 signed August 14, 2020 that seeks to accelerate work towards closing gaps in access to reliable broadband networks throughout California;

3. Support collaboration with [Los Angeles, Orange, Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura Counties], broadband providers, school districts (K-12), community college districts, universities, community and business stakeholders, Regional Broadband Consortiums, California Emerging Technology Fund, the State of California and other federal and regional organizations that have similar goals to increase broadband access throughout Southern California;

4. Determine that closing the digital divide is important and provides long-term community benefits;

5. Support the request for grant funding from the State and/or Federal government for a regional program that provides funding for free internet access for qualifying residents that bridges the economic digital divide;

6. Support a minimum broadband speed capability of 100 megabits per second today and 1 gigabit per second by 2030 for all residential and business customers within the urban, suburban and rural communities of our region;

7. Support working with collaborating jurisdictions to affect the deployment decisions of broadband providers by lowering permitting fees to a reasonable level, reduce the cost of entry and operation of broadband systems in our communities, reduce the risks of delays during the planning, permitting and construction phases, provide opportunities for increasing revenue, and creating new avenues for competitive entry;

8. Support working with collaborating jurisdictions to identify broadband opportunity zones in underserved communities;

9. Upon identifying broadband opportunity zones, supports the adoption of an emergency ordinance which would allow local jurisdictions to develop specific rules to expedite low cost broadband deployment such as: waivers for microprojects, deployment of broadband infrastructure in underserved communities and fixed wireless or other broadband technologies in rural communities;

10. Support the adoption of consistent fees and expedited broadband permitting processes within collaborating jurisdictions; and

11. Support the concept of 'Dig Once' whereby conduit is installed for future or immediate use for wireless towers, fiber optic or other comparable broadband network installation, whenever underground construction occurs in a roadway.

Findings and Declarations

The [Name of Local Government] hereby finds that the COVID-19 pandemic has forced residents of [Name of City/County] to completely restructure the way we live, work and, learn and access to "broadband" (which includes both wireline and wireless technologies) has become essential advancing public health, education and equity. However, not everyone has equal access to high-speed broadband and the pandemic has exposed the vast and damaging effects of the "digital divide." Families left between are concentrated among low-income and rural households. As such, 2020 is demanding that local governments address persistent differences in who has high quality internet access at home.

The [Name of Local Government] finds and declares that broadband is an essential 21st Century infrastructure in a digital world and global economy. It is vital to the economic prosperity and quality of life for residents in [Name of Local Government] and throughout California. And, it can enable [Name of Local Government] to mitigate economic, educational and health disparities within underserved communities. During and beyond the current COVID-19 crisis, [Name of Local Government] need to develop long-term and short-term solutions that redress persistent inequalities in broadband access in an expedited manner.

The ability to be "connected" instantly through the Internet to information, services and digital tools is increasingly critical for access to and success in education, jobs, and economic opportunities. The deployment and adoption of broadband is a major strategy to spur economic development because it improves productivity, which attracts more capital investment and generates jobs, while saving both time and money for consumers.

Although California is home to a wellspring of innovation that has given rise to the evolution of information technologies and broadband, the use of broadband technology by California residents is only approximately equivalent to the national average and there is a significant Digital Divide that must be closed to remain globally competitive.

In addition, broadband is a "green technology" that can significantly reduce impacts on the environment, shrink the carbon footprint, and decrease dependence on foreign oil by offsetting vehicle trips, decreasing the use of resources, and saving energy, and assists in solving key environmental justice issues (reducing environmental and health impacts in low-income communities).

[Name of Local Government] is committed to helping families and children be healthy, productive and self-sufficient. And, it is recognized that the use of broadband can save both time and money for residents while helping them bridge the economic divide. Therefore, it is important that all residents within [Name of Local Government] have high-speed Internet access, particularly those living in lower-income and rural households and those living in publicly supported housing.

[Name of Local Government] also is committed to helping students obtain the highest-quality education possible and understands that the ability to learn and prepare for higher education is significantly enhanced if schools incorporate digital literacy and high-speed Internet connectivity into curriculum. The availability of computing devices both at school and at home are critical teaching and learning tools for academic achievement.

Attachment: Draft Model Policy for Local Governments [Revision 1] (Resolution to Address the Digital Divide)

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Therefore, it shall be the policy of the [Name of Local Government] to facilitate the rapid deployment and adoption of broadband to provide our residents with opportunities, quality of life, and convenience. Further, it is recognized that consumers need sufficient speeds of data transmission capability for the applications that they perceive as relevant to their daily lives and expect broadband networks to keep pace with those needs over time. Thus, it also shall be the policy of the [Name of Local Government] to encourage and facilitate upgrades to existing broadband infrastructure to ensure that the public and private sectors have access to sufficient broadband speeds to support consumer demand for new and evolving applications that save time, money and resources.

Responsibilities and Roles: Opportunities to Promote Broadband

The [Name of Local Government] recognizes that it has many responsibilities that affect deployment (supply) and adoption (demand) of broadband technologies and applications, including the following roles: (1) policy leader; (2) planner; (3) regulator (of land use); (4) consumer; and (5) service provider. As a policy leader, [Name of Local Government] may promulgate policies and ordinances to advance and protect the public interest or implement state and national laws that promote and accommodate high-speed Internet access. As a planner, [Name of Local Government] identifies opportunity areas, develops ordinances and permit streamlining. As a regulator, [Name of Local Government] approves permits which can encourage, promote and/or require rapid deployment of infrastructure and facilities to underserved communities within our jurisdiction. As a consumer, [Name of Local Government] purchases telecommunications and information technology equipment and services which, in turn, drives demand and improvements in these technologies and services. And, as a service provider, [Name of Local Government] has the ability to expand e-government functions by providing more information and access to public services online, thus encouraging broadband adoption. It shall be the policy of [Name of Local Government] in all of its roles and responsibilities to work with neighboring jurisdictions, service providers, and other stakeholders to actively identify opportunities to implement policies, programs and actions to encourage broadband deployment and adoption.

Implementation

[Name of Local Government] shall adopt strategies and implement provisions and ordinances that will expedite broadband deployment to underserved and rural communities, as well as promote economic development and improve security within the community:

Broadband Opportunity Zones:

- Collaborate with neighboring cities, county, MPOs, school districts, community college districts, universities, the state of California, the federal government, broadband providers and stakeholders to identify locations without broadband access.

- Develop and conduct multi-lingual surveys specifically targeting households in low-income and/or rural communities, focusing on access, usage, and barriers to internet adoption.

  Quantify and describe [Name of Local Governments] level of digital engagement, digital divide, and level and source of digital inequality (city/county-wide and by qualified census tracts).

- Participate in the Federal Communications Commission's Digital Opportunity Data Collection broadband access map crowdsourcing initiative.

- Develop and disseminate information to support the development of local broadband infrastructure deployment and digital equity plans.

- Develop a public outreach campaign to educate residents in [Name of Local Government] on the science behind new and emerging technologies and try to address potentially unfounded concerns as they become integrated into society.

Promote existing programs and develop new programs for short term and temporary use:

- Promote existing programs from broadband providers that offers subsidies or covers the cost of internet for low-income internet access.

- Promote existing state and/or federal government programs that offers subsidies for broadband access.

- Collaborate with broadband providers, community outreach groups, school districts, community colleges, universities and the business community to develop programs to cover the cost of broadband subscriptions for low-income students.

- Promote the use of public buildings, such as libraries, parks and convention centers, as broadband "hot spots" to allow residents affordable [or free] high-speed Internet access.

Adoption of an Emergency Ordinance for underserved communities

- Adopt an emergency ordinance to allow for rapid deployment of broadband in identified opportunity areas.

- Require a minimum broadband speed capability of 100 megabits per second today and 1 gigabit per second by 2030.

- Where feasible, exempt broadband opportunity areas from community character ordinances or local jurisdiction design guidelines.

- Where feasible, allow aerial fiber and other broadband infrastructure to be installed on pre-existing infrastructure such as existing powerlines to minimize impacts to aesthetics.

- When aerial fiber or other aboveground broadband infrastructure is not viable for last-mile solutions, allow for micro trenching in suitable areas as a viable short-term option.

- Should underground installation near a roadway occur, require the use of "dig-once" practices whereby conduit is installed for future immediate use for broadband installation.

Streamline permitting

- Develop a streamlined permitting process that lowers the cost of entry and operation of broadband systems, reduce the risks of delays during the planning, permitting and construction phases, provides opportunities for increasing revenue, and creating new avenues for competitive entry.

- Allow for cost/permit waivers for broadband "microprojects".

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- Permit grouping multiple projects under one permit to expedite the planning and construction phase.

- Collaborate with local jurisdictions to determine and agree upon a uniform permitting fee throughout the Southern California region.

- Identify local public rights-of-way and public facilities that can be used for broadband deployment and promulgate procedures to streamline the approval of easement encroachment permits consistent with principles of fairness and competition for all providers.

- Ensure a level playing field for all broadband providers—private and public (or government-led), wireline and wireless—making the use of public assets available to all providers on a competitive basis, commensurate with adopted policies regarding public benefits.

Smart and Affordable Housing

- Require all new residential subdivisions to be served with state-of-art broadband infrastructure with sufficient transmission rates to support applications relevant to residential consumers.

- Require all publicly subsidized housing development projects to provide an independent "advanced communications network" to drive economies of scale that can result in a significantly reduced cost basis for the lower-income residents. An "advanced communications network" is broadband infrastructure that, at a minimum, makes available affordable market-comparable high-speed Internet access service to all units via the aggregation and consolidation of service across the property. It is infrastructure in addition to the standard cables, wiring and other infrastructure required for power, television and telephone service.

- Request the housing authority (authorities) to adopt policies to promote and support smart affordable housing with advanced communications networks whenever their public funds are used to subsidize the construction and provision of housing for lower-income residents.

Interagency Cooperation

- Request that the chief executive officer [County Administrative Officer or City Manager] outline a process for ensuring inter-agency and inter-jurisdictional cooperation which shall include: sharing this policy with other jurisdictions in the region; meeting with them to explore common needs for infrastructure; exploring opportunities to collaborate on broadband applications, such as telemedicine, or regional projects, such as library networks; and notifying neighboring jurisdictions about major infrastructure projects, such as transportation improvements along shared corridors.

- Explore opportunities to work with other public and private entities, such as schools, special districts, utilities, and private health and medical providers, to cooperate and joint venture on broadband deployment projects and adoption programs.