

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Approval of Funding for the Grant
Application of Sunesys, LLC, (U-6991 -C),
from the California Advanced Services
Fund (CASF) in the Amount of \$11,028,245
for the Connected Central Coast Unserved
and Underserved Broadband Project.

Alternate Draft Res. T-17429
(Served March 17, 2014)

**COMMENTS OF THE CENTRAL COAST BROADBAND CONSORTIUM
ON ALTERNATE DRAFT RESOLUTION T-17429**

JOEL STAKER
Chair, Central Coast Broadband Consortium

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11. Mary Ann Leffel, President, Monterey County Business Council	
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I. Summary

The Central Coast Broadband Consortium (CCBC) enthusiastically endorses President Peevey's Alternate Resolution T-17429 which proposes to fund the Sunesys, LCC Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project (Sunesys project) in the amount of \$11,028,245 via the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF). CCBC is the CASF-funded consortium representing California's central coast region, which includes the Counties of San Benito, Monterey and Santa Cruz.

II. The Sunesys middle mile proposal exactly matches areas of the region with the greatest last mile needs

At the request of Communications Division staff, CCBC conducted an analysis of our three-county region in order to develop a priority list of areas that are eligible for CASF funding. This work was unrelated to the Sunesys project, although it relied on much of the same data that was used in developing that proposal.

Beginning with CASF eligibility criteria, we ranked 67 communities in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties on the basis of number of people, population density, percentage of community eligible for CASF support, household income and number of community anchor institutions.

The ten communities with the highest priority for CASF support, taking into account CASF eligibility, are all either directly served by the Sunesys proposal – Soledad, Gonzales, Chualar, Castroville – or are just south of its southern terminus – Greenfield, King City, San Lucas, San Ardo, Pine Canyon – or just to the east, in the case of Aromas.

In just these ten communities, 77,004 people live in 15,756 households according to the 2010 U.S. census. Excluding the Aromas area, which is more rural and sparsely populated than the nine Salinas Valley communities, population density exceeds 2,000 people per square mile, an average of five people live in each home and household income averages less than \$48,000 per year. These communities also suffer from high unemployment, high poverty levels and poor education.

III. Widespread community support confirms statistical analysis and dire need

Appendix A, attached below, contains more than 20 letters of support submitted by elected representatives, senior officials and members of the business community. Other organizations and individuals have submitted letters of support independently. Support for funding the Sunesys project at the 83% level proposed in President Peevey's Alternate Resolution T-17429 is unanimous.

Monterey County Supervisor Simon Salinas – who represents the large, broadband-deprived communities in the southern Salinas Valley that are at the top of the CCBC priority list – has worked with the Sunesys team to help create a proposal that addresses this unfair and unsustainable digital divide. Supervisor Louis Calcagno, who represents the priority communities to the north, has likewise endorsed the project, as have leaders from the incorporated cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King, and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments. These community leaders and organizations are on the front line of the battle to create jobs and improve health and public safety for all residents within the project area, a battle that modern broadband infrastructure can help win.

Monterey County Superintendent of Schools Nancy Kotowski has written of the disadvantages suffered by students in the project area: injustices that greater access to broadband infrastructure can help rectify. California State University Monterey Bay and its Institute for Innovation and Economic Development, which also serves students from the project area, eagerly await the educational and employment opportunities it will bring.

Business leaders and employers from organizations serving the project area – the Salinas United Business Association, the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Monterey County Business Council – have endorsed the proposal and look forward to the opportunity to use modern broadband infrastructure to create the kind of prosperity in the Salinas Valley that wealthier areas of our region take for granted. Their colleagues in the venture capital community and the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce are just as supportive, knowing that equitable economic development benefits all.

This realization that everyone's prosperity depends on social and economic equity and equal access to opportunity is universal in our region, as other letters of support amply attest. We are united in our support of the Sunesys project.

IV. CASF subsidy will make broadband service affordable and abundant in the

Salinas Valley

Alternate Resolution T-17429 provides that middle mile fiber and wholesale bandwidth from the Sunesys project will be available at rates comparable to those found in Silicon Valley for at least five years. Further, Sunesys has committed to limiting future

prices increases in Year 6 and beyond to the rate of increase of the Consumer Price Index¹.

We commend Sunesys for creating a level broadband playing field for the people of the Salinas Valley for many years into the future and we ask that Alternate Resolution T-17429 be amended to document this ongoing rate increase commitment as a vital and just public benefit that further supports its approval.

V. Conclusion

The Sunesys project is the cornerstone of our region's plans for improving broadband access and bringing the benefits of twenty-first century technology and prosperity to tens of thousands of people who live in the economically depressed Salinas Valley and in other unserved and underserved areas of California's central coast. We thank the Commission for its kind consideration and respectfully request the approval of President Peevey's Alternate Resolution T-17429.

¹ Email from Steve DeFranco, director of sales, western region, Sunesys LLC to Jim Warner, chair, Central Coast Broadband Consortium technical expert group, dated December 18, 2013.

Appendix A

Letters of support.

MONTEREY COUNTY



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ■ 168 West Alisal Street, 3rd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901
SIMÓN SALINAS, SUPERVISOR ■ District Three ■ Chief of Staff, Christopher M. Lopez
Telephone: (831) 755-5033 ■ Fax: (831) 796-3022 ■ District3@co.monterey.ca.us

March 13, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As a Monterey County Supervisor serving the residents of Chualar, Gonzales, Soledad, and all of the unincorporated areas in between, I endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. I urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not economically viable at this lower funding level. The draft resolution provides strong, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. My constituents face severe disadvantages when compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available. These are students that are competing for admission to schools against students who have had adequate access to these tools that are necessities in a fast moving technological world. There are people with ideas that could continue to fuel the fire of technological advancement in medicine, business, and law enforcement, but they lack the connectivity that you can provide. Can we really say we are giving them equal opportunity for advancement?

This project brings the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would allow them to close the skills gap and help to reduce the high unemployment rate that continues to plague our community.

My constituents who live and work in the Salinas Valley, providing nourishment to our nation through their hard work and sweat, deserve the same opportunities for a shot at a better life for themselves and their families. They may not live in Menlo Park, San Francisco or Cupertino, but they deserve the same access as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Simon Salinas
Monterey County Supervisor
Third District

MONTEREY COUNTY



The Board of Supervisors

Louis R. Calcagno, Supervisor, 2nd District
Henry M. Gowin, Principal Aide to the Supervisor
Claudia J. Link, Aide to the Supervisor
Diane Franciscovich, Community Relations

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Castroville, CA 95012
(831) 755-5022
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district2@co.monterey.ca.us
www.co.monterey.ca.us

February 21, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As the person elected to represent the residents of Castroville, Moss Landing, Elkhorn and Royal Oaks on the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, I enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

My community lacks the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

Many people live and work in Castroville, Moss Landing, Elkhorn and Royal Oaks. They deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. I respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Louis R. Calcagno

Louis R. Calcagno, 2nd District
County of Monterey, Board of Supervisors

LRC: hg



City of Gonzales

P.O. BOX 647
PHONE: (831) 675-5000

147 FOURTH ST.
FAX: (831) 675-2644

GONZALES, CALIFORNIA 93926
www.ci.gonzales.ca.us

February 26, 2014

Maria Orozco
Mayor

Scott Funk
Mayor Pro Tem

Liz Silva
Councilmember

Jose G. Lopez
Councilmember

Robert Bonincontri
Councilmember

René L. Mendez
City Manager

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Gonzales we enthusiastically endorse Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund which will significantly improve the level of broadband access to the residents of the City of Gonzales and the surrounding area. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

The over 8,000 people living and working in Gonzales and surrounding area deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maria Orozco
Mayor,
City of Gonzales

Gonzales will continue to be a safe, clean, family-friendly community, diverse in heritage, and committed to working collaboratively to preserve and retain its small town charm



City of Gonzales

P.O. BOX 647
PHONE: (831) 675-5000

147 FOURTH ST.
FAX: (831) 675-2644

GONZALES, CALIFORNIA 93926
www.ci.gonzales.ca.us

February 27, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker

Maria Orozco
Mayor

Scott Funk
Mayor Pro Tem

Liz Silva
Councilmember

Jose G. Lopez
Councilmember

Robert Bonincontri
Councilmember

René L. Mendez
City Manager

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

The City of Gonzales enthusiastically endorses the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. The City urges you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.


The City lacks the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

The residents of Gonzales, our businesses and industry and our work force deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


René L. Mendez, City Manager

Gonzales will continue to be a safe, clean, family-friendly community, diverse in heritage, and committed to working collaboratively to preserve and retain its small town charm



SOLEDAD CALIFORNIA

February 27, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

**RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the
Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project**

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As a municipality serving the residents of Soledad, we enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

Approximately 17,000 people live and work in Soledad. They deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services

Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adela P. Gonzalez', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Adela P. Gonzalez
City Manager



City of Greenfield

599 El Camino Real Greenfield CA 93937 831-674-5591
www.ci.greenfield.ca.us

March 13, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 - Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

On behalf of the City of Greenfield, I strongly support the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

The economically depressed Salinas Valley communities that would be served by this project lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Residents – including thousands of students attending K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, and their parents – face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available. Businesses and their employees are similarly handicapped and cannot effectively compete to bring their standard of living up to the levels the rest of us take for granted. Everyone in these hard hit communities suffers from a lower quality of health care and public safety because they, and the agencies they rely upon, cannot take full advantage of technological advancements.

The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California's otherwise prosperous economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan A. Stanton".

Susan A. Stanton, ICMA-CM
City Manager



February 27, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

We strongly support the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

The economically depressed Salinas Valley communities that would be served by this project lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Residents – including thousands of students attending K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, and their parents – face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

Businesses and their employees are similarly handicapped and cannot effectively compete to bring their standard of living up to the levels the rest of us take for granted. Everyone in these hard hit communities suffers from a lower quality of health care and public safety because they, and the agencies they rely upon, cannot take full advantage of technological advancements.

The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California's otherwise prosperous economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Powers
City Manager



Monterey County Office of Education

Dr. Nancy Kotowski
County Superintendent of Schools

March 14, 2014

Michael R. Peevey, President
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

SUBJECT: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83 Percent for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

The Monterey County Office of Education provides leadership, support, and service excellence needed to prepare nearly 74,000 students for academic success. Many of the communities we serve face severe disadvantages compared to other areas across the state where adequate levels of broadband service are available. Some of our most impacted communities include Chualar, Gonzales, Soledad, Castroville, and portions of Moss Landing, Elkhorn and/or Royal Oaks.

MCOE is pleased to endorse draft Resolution T-17429, which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We urge the Commission to increase the funding award level to 83 percent of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at only 55 percent, but the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

Increasing the funding level for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to these communities. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state allowing them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. Moreover, the project would allow residents to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate.

Our communities deserve access to services that put them on equal footing as communities across the state. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We ask for your support of draft Resolution T-17429 and increase the funding level to 83 percent for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kotowski, Ph.D.
Monterey County Superintendent of Schools



March 14, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As an organization serving the residents of the Salinas Valley, we enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better served regions of our state and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

64,362 people live and work in just in the 93905 zip code where our organization is based. More than 70% are low-income, 94% speak Spanish as the primary language at home, and 63% have less than a high school education. They deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jose Martinez-Saldaña". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jose Martinez-Saldaña
Executive Director



March 14, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As an organization serving the residents of the Salinas Valley, we enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

Over 150,000 people live and work in Salinas alone. They deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. We respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Farmer".

President & CEO
Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce

(831) 751-7725
www.SalinasChamber.com
119 E Alisal St, Salinas CA 93901



March 14, 2014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President

Mary Ann Leffel
Monterey Airport Board

Vice President

Ernie Lostrom
Lostrom & Company, Inc.

Treasurer

Wendy Sarsfield
PG & E

Secretary

Claude Hoover
Veritas Associates

Robert Bianchi

Bianchi, Kasavan & Pope

Joe De Ruosi

MCBERI

Hakan Erdinc

Rabobank

Christine Kemp

Noland, Hamerly
Etienne & Hoss

Tom Greer

Monterey Regional
Airport District

Hunter Harvath

Monterey-Salinas Transit

Rob Weakley

Coastal Luxury Management

Dawn Mathes

PG&E

Staff:

Brian Turlington

Executive Director

Trish Sullivan

Program Manager

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

We strongly support the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

The economically depressed Salinas Valley communities that would be served by this project lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Residents – including thousands of students attending K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, and their parents – face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

Businesses and their employees are similarly handicapped and cannot effectively compete to bring their standard of living up to the levels the rest of us take for granted. Everyone in these hard hit communities suffers from a lower quality of health care and public safety because they, and the agencies they rely upon, cannot take full advantage of technological advancements.

The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California’s otherwise prosperous economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Mary Ann Leffel
President



February 17, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As a concerned citizen and businessperson in the California communities that will benefit from the Central Coast Broadband Infrastructure Project, I am writing to express my strong support for the draft resolution to fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF), and urge you to increase the funding award level to 83%. The draft resolution, T-17429, only proposes to fund the project at 60%; however, the project is not viable at this lower threshold. I believe the draft resolution provides strong justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in the program requirements.

Homes and businesses in the areas targeted to be served by the application are without levels of broadband service identified by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as needed to participate in the digital world. Residents in these areas, including K-12 students and their parents, and community college and university students, are disadvantaged compared to counterparts living in areas where adequate levels of broadband are available. Businesses and their employees face similar disadvantages. All residents are disadvantaged when it comes to participating in the evolving delivery of healthcare via broadband. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that members of the affected communities are not disadvantaged compared to those living in other parts of California.

The economics and geography have not been favorable for adequate levels of broadband service in our communities. I applaud the CPUC for recommending to fund this project as it is critical in order for our communities to obtain minimal levels of broadband. However, I strongly urge you to increase the funding award level to 83%.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Bud Colligan
1840 41st Avenue
Suite 102 – 219
Capitola, CA 95010



2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BRET SILVESTRI
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BARRY KILZER
KILZER WEALTH MANAGEMENT

NICHOLAS M. PASCULLI
TMD - THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT, INC.

JODY HANSEN
MPCC PRESIDENT/CEO

30 RAGSDALE DRIVE, SUITE 200
MONTEREY, CA 93940
PH (831) 648-5350
FAX (831) 649-3502
WWW.MONTEREYCHAMBER.COM

March 12, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

The Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce – representing a diverse membership of 800 businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, and educational institutions – strongly supports the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

The economically depressed Salinas Valley communities that would be served by this project lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Residents – including thousands of students attending K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, and their parents – face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

Businesses and their employees are similarly handicapped and cannot effectively compete to bring their standard of living up to the levels the rest of us take for granted. Everyone in these hard hit communities suffers from a lower quality of health care and public safety because they, and the agencies they rely upon, cannot take full advantage of technological advancements.

The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California's otherwise prosperous economy.

Again, we urge a higher level of funding support. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jody Hansen
President and CEO



ASSOCIATION OF MONTEREY BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

February 25, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) strongly supports the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

The economically depressed Salinas Valley communities that would be served by this project lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available. Businesses and their employees are similarly disadvantaged and not competitive with those that have the basic level of access to broadband. This disadvantage effects the economic vitality of the Salinas Valley and is a major equity concern.

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Counties of Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz, AMBAG prepares the long range transportation plan for the tri-county area. That plan, or the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, contains policies and goals that aim to improve equity and advance the economic competitiveness of the region. Therefore the lack of broadband access greatly concerns AMBAG as it puts both residents and businesses within the Salinas Valley at an economic and information disadvantage thereby impacting our ability to meet regional goals. This lack of access to broadband also directly effects AMBAG's public outreach efforts by making it more difficult to reach all segments of the population. We ask that you consider supporting Resolution T-1749 and a 83% funding level in order to assist the region in meeting its goals of equity and economic competitiveness.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Maura F. Twomey
Executive Director

Planning Excellence!



February 28, 2014

Institute for Innovation and
Economic Development
100 Campus Center
Seaside, CA 93955-8001
831-582-3344
Fax 831-582-3344
innovation@csUMB.edu

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

We strongly support the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. We also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong and, we believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

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The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California's otherwise prosperous economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Eric Tao, PhD
Director

MONTEREY COUNTY

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



MONTEREY COURTHOUSE - 1200 AGUAJITO ROAD, SUITE 001, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940

DAVE POTTER
SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT FIVE
(831) 647-7755 - FROM MONTEREY
(831) 755-5055 - FROM SALINAS
(831) 667-2770 - FROM BIG SUR
(831) 647-7695 (FAX)
e-mail: district5@co.monterey.ca.us

KATHLEEN LEE
CHIEF OF STAFF

March 7, 2014

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Potter". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent capital "D" and "P".

Fifth District Supervisor
County of Monterey



MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

809 Center Street, Room 10, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • (831) 420-5020 • Fax: (831) 420-5011 • citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com

February 24, 2013

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As a local government serving the residents of the City of Santa Cruz as well as a member of the Central Coast Broadband Consortium, we enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. I also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong, and, I believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education, and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an

President Peevey and Commissioners
February 24, 2014
Page 2

equal footing with competitors in better-served regions of our State and allow them to realize the full value of their creativity, innovative spirit, and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

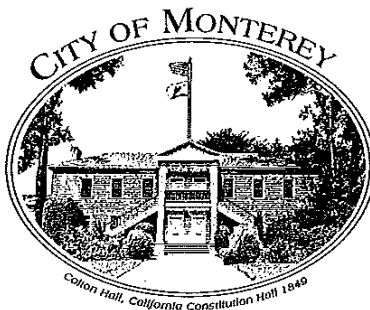
The Central Coast deserves the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. I respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lynn Robinson
Mayor



February 24, 2014

Mayor:
CHUCK DELLA SALA

Councilmembers:
LIBBY DOWNEY
ALAN HAPFA
NANCY SELFRIDGE
FRANK SOLLECITO

City Manager:
FRED MEURER

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioners Michael Florio, Catherine Sandoval,
Carla Peterman & Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

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The damage done is not limited to a few, specific areas of course. When one member of our regional community suffers, we all feel the pain – economically and emotionally. We must eliminate this unnecessary divide so that the people of the Salinas Valley have the same opportunity as we do to enjoy the benefits of California's otherwise prosperous economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Chuck Della Sala
Mayor



MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

809 Center Street, Room 10, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • (831) 420-5020 • Fax: (831) 420-5011 • citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com

February 24, 2013

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As Vice Mayor of the City of Santa Cruz, I enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. I also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong, and, I believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

We lack the level of broadband access that the commission has set as the minimum needed to participate in the digital world. Our residents face severe disadvantages compared to those who live in areas where adequate levels of broadband service are available.

This project would bring the benefits of 21st century health care, safety, education, and other public services to our community. It would also put local businesses and their employees on an equal footing with competitors in better-served regions of our State and allow them to realize the

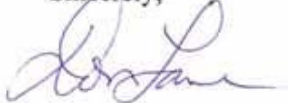
President Peevey and Commissioners
February 24, 2014
Page 2

full value of their creativity, innovative spirit, and hard labor. It would also allow them to close the skills gap and high unemployment rate that continues to make our residents fall further behind, generation after generation.

The unserved and underserved members of our community deserve the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. I respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don Lane", written in a cursive style.

Don Lane
Vice Mayor



MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

809 Center Street, Room 10, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • (831) 420-5020 • Fax: (831) 420-5011 • citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com

February 25, 2013

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

As a local government serving the residents of the City of Santa Cruz as well as a member of the Central Coast Broadband Consortium, we enthusiastically endorse the draft of Resolution T-17429 which would fund the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project out of the California Advanced Services Fund. I also urge you to increase the funding award level to 83% of the total project cost. As originally written, the draft proposes to fund the project at 55%, but as noted therein the project is not viable at this lower level. The draft resolution provides strong, and, I believe, sufficient justification to support a higher award amount than permitted in Decision 12-02-015.

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President Peevey and Commissioners
February 25, 2014
Page 2

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The Central Coast deserves the same chance at a better life for themselves and their families as those who live in affluent areas where service providers are willing to build modern infrastructure. The California Advanced Services Fund was created to bridge this divide. I respectfully ask you to invest it in a way that brings economic progress and social justice to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Mathews". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cynthia Mathews
Councilmember



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

809 Center Street, Room 10, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • (831) 420-5020 • Fax: (831) 420-5011 • citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com

February 24, 2013

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Michael Florio
Commissioner Catherine Sandoval
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution T-17429 – Increase Funding Level to 83% for the Connected Central Coast Unserved and Underserved Broadband Project

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President Peevey and Commissioners
February 24, 2014
Page 2

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martín Bernal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Martín Bernal
City Manager