



## SAN BENITO COUNTY AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Peter Hernandez  
District No. 3  
Chair

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District No. 4

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District No. 5

**Item Number: 2.8**

**MEETING DATE:** 09/13/2022

**DEPARTMENT:** COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** Gracie Rodriguez

**DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR:** Ray Espinosa

**SUBJECT:**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - R.ESPINOSA**

Adopt resolution designating the County Administrative Officer or designee to execute documents on behalf of the County of San Benito to request and obtain financial and/or technical assistance for facilitating broadband network and infrastructure projects in San Benito County.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 119

RESOLUTION NO.: 2022-108

**AGENDA SECTION:**

CONSENT AGENDA

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) established the Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) grant program for eligible pre-construction work facilitating broadband network projects to areas in need. The program has a \$50 million budget for eligible local agencies and tribal entities in California, including a \$5 million set aside for tribes.

Technical assistance grants support tribes and local agencies to expand broadband to communities lacking sufficient internet. Grant recipients are reimbursed for eligible pre-construction expenses to provide last-mile connections to unserved and underserved communities. Examples of reimbursable expenses:

- Consultant or staff time for conducting needs assessments, environmental and engineering studies, network design, and strategic broadband plans.
- Cost incurred in forming a joint powers authority to bring broadband to areas needing significant internet connections.

In collaboration with Barbara Hayes, Chief Economic Development Officer from Rural County Representatives of California, the County submitted its San Benito County Broadband Network Design application to the CPUC communications team on August 28, 2022.

Attached are the following documents for the LATA program and required components:

- San Benito County LATA application
- Letters of Support
  - San Benito County
  - Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)
- GSCA LATA Agreements
  - Project proposal
  - Draft MOU between County of San Benito and GSCA
  - Draft Agreement for Professional Services between GSCA and Tilson Technology Management
  - Draft MOU between GSCA and Utah Telecommunication Open Infrastructure Agency (UTOPIA) for Engineering Management Services
- Notarized Affidavit from San Benito County, County Administrative Officer
- Biographies from Professional Network Design Services - Key project representatives from Tilson Technology Management and UTOPIA
- County of San Benito County Census block (Source: CPUC website)
- County of San Benito Map (Source: CPUC website)

The proposed resolution for the Board's consideration is a proactive approach authorizing the CAO to accept the grant upon award notice.

**RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

Yes

**CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

No

**CONTRACT AND RFP HISTORY:**

N/A

**LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:**

N/A

**STATE IF THIS IS A NEW CONTRACT/ HOW MANY PAST AMENDED CONTRACTS/ OR N/A:**

N/A

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community**

No

**BUDGETED:**

N/A

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:**

N/A

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**UNFUNDED MANDATE:**

N/A

**SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:**

N/A

**CURRENT FY COST:**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Adopt resolution designating the County Administrative Officer or designee to execute documents on behalf of the County of San Benito to request and obtain financial and/or technical assistance for facilitating broadband network and infrastructure projects in San Benito County.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Proposed Resolution Acceptance of LATA Grant](#)  
[LATA Live Webinar 8-2-22 Slides](#)  
[GSCA LATA LOS for Members](#)  
[Notarized Affidavit San Benito County](#)  
[Bios - Prof. Network Design Services](#)  
[San Benito CAO LOS](#)

GSCA LATA Agreements - County of San Benito  
LATA Grant Application County of San Benito  
County of San Benito Census Blocks  
County of San Benito Map