



**Contra
Costa
County**

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Marc Shorr, Chief Information Officer
Date: January 10, 2023

Subject: Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant (LATA)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Chief Information Officer, Department of Information Technology, or designee, to apply for and accept the California Public Utilities Commission Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for pre-construction expenses to facilitate expansion of broadband network services to underserved communities within Contra Costa County for the period of the grant award date through December 31, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Up to \$500,000. No cash or in-kind match is required. 100% State funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) grant program provides funding to assist California's local agencies and tribes in their efforts to provide high-speed broadband to unserved Californians and close the digital divide. On February 24, 2022, the commission approved Decision (D.) 22-02-026 which established the LATA grant program and implemented current requirements and guidelines for the program. LATA grants

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **01/10/2023** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor
Ken Carlson, District IV Supervisor
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: January 10, 2023

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Laura Cassell, Deputy

Contact: Michelle Colefield,
608-4033

cc:

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

provide reimbursement for Tribes and local agencies for pre-construction expenses that facilitate development of broadband network deployment projects to areas in need.

Grants may be used to reimburse eligible costs such as environmental, feasibility, and engineering design studies or reports; needs assessments, market studies, broadband strategic plans, and business plans; forming a joint powers authority; and consultant and community-based organization services. Grantees may receive up to 100 percent of technical assistance project costs of up to \$500,000 per local agency or tribe per fiscal year. The program has a budget of \$50 million for reimbursement of eligible costs incurred by December 31, 2024. Grants will be awarded on a first come first served basis until funding is exhausted. Because funding stems from federal Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, projects authorized through this program will be subject to federal rules in addition to the Guidelines adopted by the Commission in D.22-02-026.

The County will use the grant funding to engage a consulting firm to conduct financial and funding analysis, review existing asset inventory, conduct market assessments, gap analysis, needs assessment, partnership evaluation, create conceptual network design and final plan/strategy compilation.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Without funding, the full scope and need of broadband services to underserved communities and households within the County will not be identified, perpetuating digital inequality and divide.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

None