Board Referral #2021.08 Progress Update

November 16, 2021

Board Directions on July 20, 2021

- On July 20, 2021, Board directed ITD to close the "Addressing the Digital Divide" Referral # 2020.25, and mark it completed;

- ITD will report to Board quarterly on the community broadband project progress through its presentation on Board referral #2021.08 on Broadband JPA;

Regional Broadband Task Force

- In response to Board referral #2021.08, ITD discussed with regional partners on community broadband governance, and presented its recommendations on July 20, 2021, with subsequent Board approval;

- ITD kicked off its first regional broadband Task Force meeting on September 10, 2021. The Task Force will develop a shared vision on regional broadband effort, appropriate governance structure and develop a strategic plan;

Broadband RFP

- o In June 2021 Board approved $1.935 million in ARPA funds for FY 21-22 for broadband development;

- o A Request for Proposal was released on September 23, 2021;

- o A Pre-bid meeting was held on October 8, 2021 with Q&A released in addenda;

- o Contractors' responses are expected by November 12, 2021. Announcement of Contractor selections will be around December 2021;

Golden State Connect Authority JPA

- On September 12 2021, ITD submitted a Board Resolution to adopt the Golden State Connect Authority JPA agreement, and to join the JPA as a Member County;

- Initial areas of focus for broadband work will include:

    - Foundational Readiness: Ensure all member counties have broadband strategic plans

Golden State Connect Authority JPA – Cont'd

- ❑ Capacity Building: Equip rural counties with information and resources about innovative models and approaches to broadband deployment

- ❑ Demonstration Projects: Implement open-access municipal broadband projects

Public Wi-Fi

○ ITD completed public Wi-Fi implementation in September 2021

    a) 22 County buildings are equipped with public Wi-Fi that benefits nearby County residents within 328 feet beyond building perimeter;

    b) Within a 30-day period, there were 1666 unique devices connected to the new Wi-Fi system, utilizing 3.2 TB of data;