



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: August 16, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s) Contact Info: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Nancy Anderson, Assistant County Executive Officer *NA*

DocuSigned by:
Nancy Anderson
F2D3531C3F7F4D2...

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments for preparation of Countywide Broadband Strategic Plan

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Management:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair of the Board to sign and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and the cities of Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Goleta, Carpinteria, Guadalupe, Solvang, and Buellton to prepare a regional broadband strategic plan; and
- B. Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because pursuant to sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) the recommended actions consist of organization, administrative, or fiscal activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast (BCPC) in coordination with REACH, the Northern Santa Barbara County Econ Alliance, local jurisdictions, and other key stakeholders have partnered to bring together stakeholder groups, higher education institutions and telecom providers to develop a long-term strategic plan for

broadband deployment throughout Santa Barbara County. The County's approved contribution toward the strategic planning effort is \$200,000, set aside from ARPA allocations, and is to be distributed directly to SBCAG for administration of the program, approved by the Board on [February 1, 2022](#). The attached Memorandum of Understanding outlines the roles and responsibilities of SBCAG and the local jurisdictions for preparing the broadband strategic plan. Under terms of the MOU, SBCAG entered into an agreement with the Economic Development Collaborative to develop the plan. This item recommends the Board sign the MOU with participating jurisdictions.

Background:

On September 21, 2021, staff brought forth a proposal for a Countywide Broadband Strategic Plan which included the County's participation in the development long-term strategic plan for broadband throughout the County. During the October 19, 2021 board meeting on ARPA fund allocations, the Board approved \$200,000 to be used toward a countywide broadband strategic plan. During the [February 1, 2022 meeting](#), the Board approved a subrecipient agreement with SBCAG for the preparation of the broadband strategic plan. Work on the plan has been underway since January 2022.

Discussion:

On October 21, 2021 the SBCAG Board of Directors directed staff to coordinate with the eight cities in the county to request participation in a regional broadband strategic planning process and seek financial contribution to that effort. The SBCAG Board of Directors proposed dividing the remaining cost among the eight cities based on the 2021 Department of Finance (DOF) Population Estimate to the cities' population of 307,821. The total cost for this effort is \$400,000, which includes \$300,000 of direct costs with the Broadband Consortium Pacific Coast through the Economic Development Collaborative to develop the strategic plan, \$200,000 which is the County's contribution.

Table 1: Jurisdiction Broadband Strategic Plan Financial Contribution

Jurisdiction	2021 DOF Population Estimate	%	Contribution
Buellton	5,435	1.77%	\$3,531.27
Carpinteria	13,196	4.29%	\$8,573.81
Goleta	32,339	10.51%	\$21,011.56
Guadalupe	8,346	2.71%	\$5,422.63
Lompoc	42,493	13.80%	\$27,608.90
Santa Barbara	93,055	30.23%	\$60,460.46
Santa Maria	107,445	34.91%	\$69,810.05
Solvang	5,512	1.79%	\$3,581.30
County	441,172	N/A	\$200,000.00

Total City Contribution		\$200,000.00
Total County Contribution		\$200,000.00
Total	748,993	\$400,000.00

SBCAG has received commitment to financially contribute to a countywide broadband strategic plan from the various jurisdictions listed in the chart above. The attached MOU has been signed by the SBCAG Board, City of Buellton, City of Goleta, City of Guadalupe, City of Lompoc, City of Santa Barbara, City of Santa Maria, City of Carpinteria, and the City of Solvang. Staff recommends the Board sign and execute the MOU for the countywide broadband strategic plan project.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The Board allocated ARPA funding for this project in the amount of \$200,000 on October 19, 2021. No additional funding is requested for this item.

Special Instructions:

Please return one electronic copy and one hard copy of executed MOU to Jasmine McGinty at jmcginty@countyofsb.org, 805-568-3108.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Memorandum of Understanding

Authored by: Jasmine McGinty, Principal Analyst