



RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

Whereas rural communities throughout the Central Valley build hundreds of new homes and apartments, which are limited to 20-year-old internet technology and speeds as low as 6 Mbps,

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Whereas selected high-income neighborhoods and cities receive optical fiber with speeds over 100 times faster, or up to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps).

Whereas the California Public Utilities Commission opened a proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001 and is gathering evidence, data, and testimony regarding Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers in California.

Whereas California broadband providers have avoided regulatory oversight of access, affordability, and the reliability of high-speed internet, to the detriment of rural communities and low-income inner-city neighborhoods.

Whereas elected leaders must advocate for rural and inner-city residents and their access to vital services, including health, education, social service, personal development, civic participation and inclusion in society, which rely increasingly on the internet.

Whereas the State and Federal Treasuries are poised to provide funds for Broadband Infrastructure for unserved and underserved Californians.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. The Huron City Council declares support for the CPUC proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001, for oversight of Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers.
2. The Huron City Council encourages community leaders and residents to provide statements in the above cited proceeding.
3. California must apply the social contract of universal service to internet access in the same manner as early electrification and telephone service.
4. Federal and State funds must prioritize the poorest and most underserved communities with a minimum speed of 100 Mbps and a preference for optical fiber.
5. All new housing developments should be built with optical fiber to homes and apartments.
6. Subscriber rates must continue to include affordable programs for low-income households.
7. Employers receiving public funds should agree to make every effort to employ a local workforce, including residents from low-income communities and provide:
 - a. Good wages, benefits, training, safety programs, and job security.
 - b. A commitment to support every employee's potential for a career path and permanent employment in the industry.
8. The Huron City Council supports the request to Governor Newsom, the California Public Utilities Commission and pertinent State agencies for consideration of the proposed West Fresno County Fiber Network.

The foregoing Resolution was duly approved by the Huron City Council at a regular meeting held on October 6, 2021, by the following votes:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Pimentel, Plasencia, Morales, Leon

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: 0

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: 0

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: 0



Rey León, Mayor, City of Huron

ATTEST:



Juanita Veliz, City Clerk, City of Huron

**BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF MENDOTA, COUNTY OF FRESNO**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF MENDOTA DECLARING
ITS SUPPORT FOR BROADBAND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

RESOLUTION NO. 21-79

WHEREAS, rural communities throughout the Central Valley build hundreds of new homes and apartments, which are limited to 20-year-old internet technology and speeds as low as 6 Mbps; and

WHEREAS, selected high-income neighborhoods and cities receive optical fiber with speeds over 100 times faster, or up to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps); and

WHEREAS, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") opened a proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001 and is gathering evidence, data, and testimony regarding Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers in California; and

WHEREAS, California broadband providers have avoided regulatory oversight of access, affordability, and the reliability of high-speed internet, to the detriment of rural communities and low-income inner-city neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, elected leaders must advocate for rural and inner-city residents and their access to vital services, including health, education, social service, personal development, civic participation, and inclusion in society, which rely increasingly on the internet; and

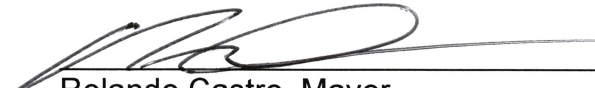
WHEREAS, the State and Federal Treasuries are poised to provide funds for Broadband Infrastructure for unserved and underserved Californians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Mendota, that:

1. The City Council declares its support for the CPUC proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001, and regulatory oversight of Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers.
2. The City Council encourages community leaders and residents to provide statements in the above cited proceeding.
3. California must apply the social contract of universal service to internet access in the same manner as early electrification and telephone service.
4. Federal and State funds must prioritize the poorest and most underserved communities with a minimum speed of 100 Mbps and a preference for optical

fiber.


5. All new housing developments should be built with optical fiber to homes and apartments.
6. Internet subscriber rates must continue to include affordable programs for low-income households.
7. Employers receiving public funds should agree to make every effort to employ a local workforce, including residents from low-income communities and provide:
 - a. Good wages, benefits, training, safety programs, and job security.
 - b. A commitment to support every employee's potential for a career path and permanent employment in the industry.
8. The City Council supports the proposed West Fresno County Fiber Network for consideration by Governor Newsom, the CPUC, and pertinent State agencies.


Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:

I, Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk of the City of Mendota, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted and passed by the City Council at a regular meeting of said Council, held at the Mendota City Hall on the 12th day of October, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 3 – Mayor Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza, and Councilor Alonso
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 2 – Councilors Riofrio and Rosales
ABSTAIN: 0


Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk



21900 Colorado Avenue, P.O. Box 758, San Joaquin, CA 93660
(559) 693-4311, (559) 693-2193 (fax), www.cityofsanjoaquin.org

October 14, 2021

RE: The Resolution of Support for Broadband Infrastructure submitted by the Central Valley Leadership Roundtable

Mr. Stan Santos:

I wish to express my endorsement for the Resolution of Support for Broadband Infrastructure and the West Fresno County Fiber Network contained below in attachments 1 and 2. The Resolution has been adopted by the City Councils of Firebaugh, Mendota and Huron and is on the agenda for the next meeting of the San Joaquin City Council.

Our neighboring cities comprise a swath of contiguous communities with combined populations of approximately 27,663 residents and approximately 6,843 households. We share the same conditions as underserved communities throughout the Central Valley, due to the lack of adequate investment in broadband infrastructure. As a result, we seek the support of Governor Gavin Newsom, the California Legislature, and associated State agencies and organizations in this initiative.

We will encourage our State Representatives and all decision-makers to support our community, region, and State by joining with your organization so that we can accomplish the objective of providing comprehensive broadband access to all communities.

I will provide our adopted resolution upon passage and request your kind consideration and support. Feel free to contact my office in the interim if you have any questions or require further information at Elizabethn@cityofsanjoaquin.org or (559) 693-4311.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Nunez", written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth Nunez,
City of San Joaquin
City Manager

cc:

Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
Honorable Members of the California Public Utilities Commission
Honorable State Assembly Representative Joaquin Arambula
Honorable State Senator Anna Caballero
California Broadband Council
California Emerging Technologies Fund
San Joaquin Regional Broadband Consortium
Associated California State Agencies

RESOLUTION NO. 21-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH SUPPORTING THE BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, rural communities throughout the Central Valley build hundreds of new homes and apartments, which are limited to 20-year-old internet technology and speeds as low as 6 Mbps.

WHEREAS, selected high-income neighborhoods and cities receive optical fiber with speeds over 100 times faster, or up to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps).

WHEREAS, the California Public Utilities Commission opened a proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001 and is gathering evidence, data, and testimony regarding Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers in California.

WHEREAS, California broadband providers have avoided regulatory oversight of access, affordability, and the reliability of high-speed internet, to the detriment of rural communities and low-income inner-city neighborhoods.

WHEREAS, elected leaders must advocate for rural and inner-city residents and their access to vital services, including health, education, social service, personal development, civic participation and inclusion in society, which rely increasingly on the internet.

WHEREAS, the State and Federal Treasuries are poised to provide funds for Broadband Infrastructure for unserved and underserved Californians.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH RESOLVES The Firebaugh City Council declares support for the CPUC proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001, and regulatory oversight of Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers.

1. The Firebaugh City Council encourages community leaders and residents to provide statements in the above cited proceeding.
2. California must apply the social contract of universal service to internet access in the same manner as early electrification and telephone service.
3. Federal and State funds must prioritize the poorest and most underserved communities with a minimum speed of 100 Mbps and a preference for optical fiber.
4. All new housing developments should be built with optical fiber to homes and apartments.
5. Subscriber rates must continue to include affordable programs for low-income households.
6. Employers receiving public funds should agree to make every effort to employ a local workforce, including residents from low-income communities and provide:
 - a. Good wages, benefits, training, safety programs, and job security.
 - b. A commitment to support every employee's potential for a career path and permanent employment in the industry.

7. The Firebaugh City Council supports the request to Governor Newsom, the California Public Utilities Commission and pertinent State agencies for consideration of the proposed West Fresno County Fiber Network.

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Firebaugh the October 7, 2021 and passed at said meeting by the following vote:

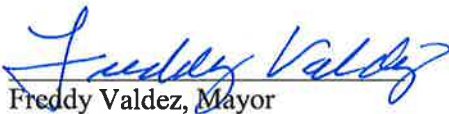
AYES: Jenkins, Sablan, Lopez, Valdez

NOES:

ABSENT: Perez

ABSTAIN:

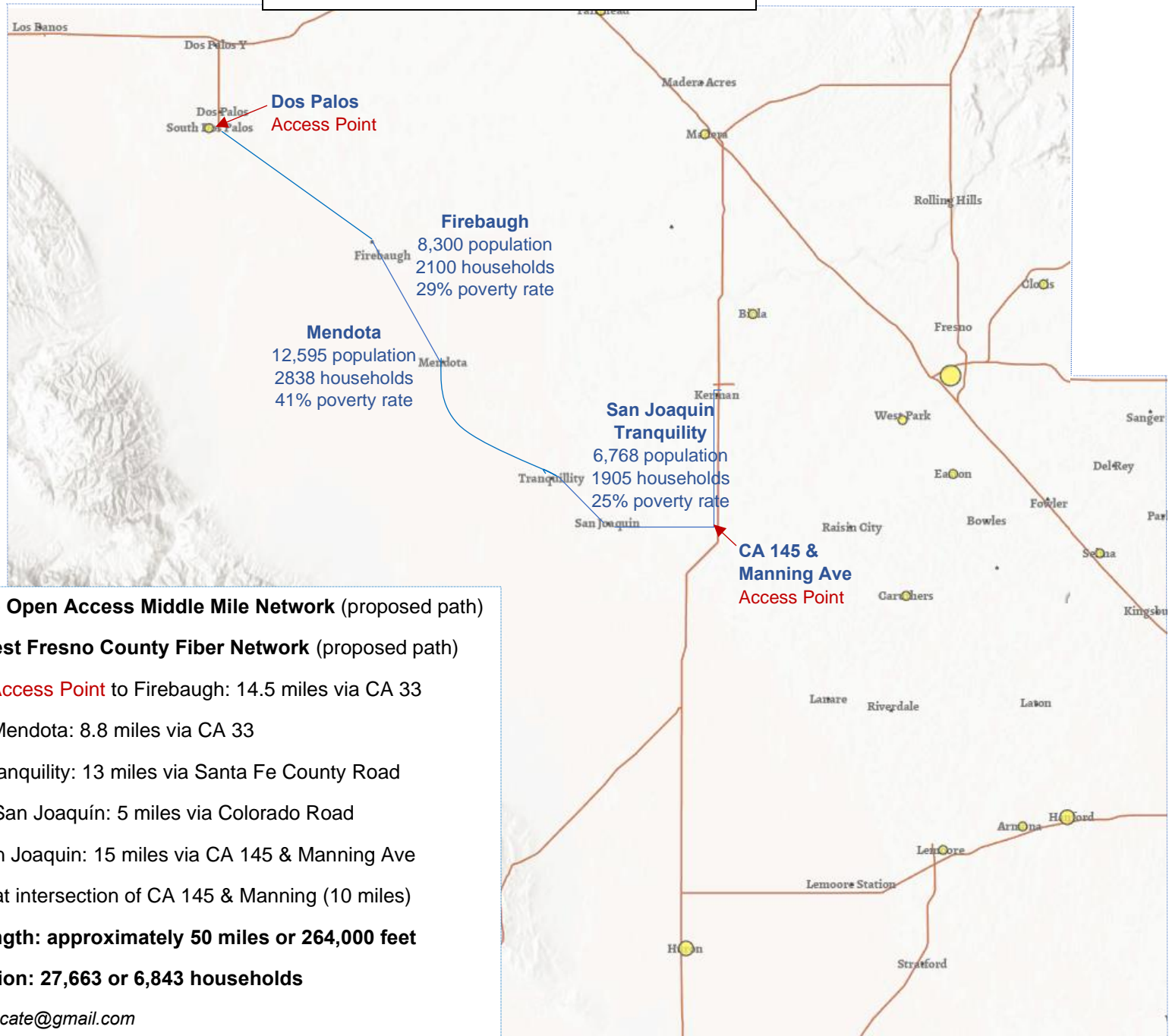
APPROVED:


Freddy Valdez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rita Lozano, Deputy City Clerk

WEST FRESNO COUNTY FIBER NETWORK



Orange Line - Open Access Middle Mile Network (proposed path)

Blue line - West Fresno County Fiber Network (proposed path)

Dos Palos w/Access Point to Firebaugh: 14.5 miles via CA 33

Firebaugh to Mendota: 8.8 miles via CA 33

Mendota to Tranquility: 13 miles via Santa Fe County Road

Tranquility to San Joaquin: 5 miles via Colorado Road

Kerman to San Joaquin: 15 miles via CA 145 & Manning Ave

Access Point at intersection of CA 145 & Manning (10 miles)

Total fiber length: approximately 50 miles or 264,000 feet

Total population: 27,663 or 6,843 households

comworkeradvocate@gmail.com



Central Valley Leadership Round Table

For California Public Utilities Commission Proceeding R.20-09-001

The Central Valley Leadership Round Table (CVLRT) is comprised of elected representatives, educators, community advocates and residents of Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Merced Counties. CVLRT reflects the shared interests, aspirations, and dreams of working and poor communities of the Valley, between the Sierra Nevadas and the San Luis Rey Water Project and from Sacramento to the Tehachapi Mountains.

Governor Newsom, the California Legislature, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Broadband Council, the California Department of Technology, the Broadband and Digital Literacy Office and various agencies and functionaries are entrusted with the mission to end the “Digital Divide” and “establish 98% high speed internet and 90% statewide adoption by 2023.”

The CVLRT salutes the efforts by the offices of the Governor and the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a new era of accountability and regulatory oversight of all forms of communications and broadband. However, the public is only beginning to learn of the large infusions of public funds which are in motion. Target communities have been identified, fiber network routes defined, and a non-governmental agency has formed a Limited Liability Corporation to oversee the funding allocations.

However, the current phase of infrastructure planning, the proposed middle mile network and framework for the distribution of funds have left many Central Valley communities behind. As a result, the Central Valley Leadership Round Table is submitting Resolutions in Support of Broadband Infrastructure and inclusion in the proposed Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Network.

The Resolutions have been adopted by the City Councils of Firebaugh, Huron, and Mendota. An identical Resolution is scheduled for consideration of the San Joaquin City Council at their next meeting. The adopted resolutions are attached along with a letter of support from the City Manager of San Joaquin.

Firebaugh, Huron, Mendota, San Joaquin and the unincorporated City of Tranquility lie along rural routes in close proximity to each other and the proposed Middle Mile Fiber Network. These

City Councils are supporting this joint action as an appeal for the development of Broadband Infrastructure in their respective communities. Together they represent 6,843 households with approximately 27,663 residents (*U.S. Census*).

Like many parts of the Central Valley, rural neighborhoods in west Fresno County suffered disproportionate impacts from COVID-19. Infections struck the homes of those who worked in the fields and processing plants with higher frequency. They risked their health, and, in many cases, their lives to feed their families and provide essential products for the nation.

The pandemic revealed the shortcomings of County health services, messaging, worker protections, and the institutions which are supposed to provide a safety net for rural families. The failures of online education demonstrated the lack of access to high-speed internet in many communities. These communities are determined not to return to the pre-pandemic status quo.

As per the Resolution, “California broadband providers have avoided regulatory oversight of access, affordability, and the reliability of high-speed internet, to the detriment of rural communities and low-income, inner-city neighborhoods.”

Also, “elected leaders must advocate for rural and inner-city residents and their access to vital services, including health, education, social service, personal development, civic participation and inclusion in society, which rely increasingly on the internet.”

Each City declares support for the CPUC proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001, and regulatory oversight of Telecommunications and Internet Service Providers. They support a preference for fiber, particularly for all new housing developments, and the concept of Universal Service to be applied to Broadband.

The Resolution also calls for the public funds to go to employers who make every effort to hire a local workforce and provide good wages, benefits, training, safety programs and job security. They must commit to support a career path and permanent employment in the industry.

The Resolution ends with a declaration of support for the proposed West Fresno County Fiber Network, which would span approximately 50 miles and could connect to the Governor’s proposed Middle Mile Network in the north at Dos Palos, and in the south near Kerman, at CA 145 and Manning Ave.

The Central Valley Leadership Round Table intends to expand its efforts to garner adoption of the Resolution in Support of Broadband Infrastructure in more communities in east and west Fresno County and surrounding areas. The CVLRT considers this a fair and equitable initiative which should receive support from all elected representatives and serious consideration by the pertinent State agencies.

Submitted by Eliseo Gamino on behalf of the Central Valley Leadership Council