

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Communications Division
Broadband, Video and Market Branch**

**RESOLUTION T- 17726
April 15, 2021**

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-17726: Approves the Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia grant application for the Tahoe Basin Project in the amount of \$237,555.

I. SUMMARY

This Resolution approves grant funding in the amount of \$237,555 from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Grant Account (Consortia Account) for the Tahoe Prosperity Center's (TPC or grantee)¹ grant application for the Tahoe Basin Project (TBP). This project will facilitate the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process in their regions.

II. BACKGROUND

On October 15, 2017, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1665 (Garcia, Chapter 851, Statutes of 2017) into law,² which among other things, established continuation of the Consortia Account with an additional \$10 million in available funds.³

¹ In Resolution T-17440, adopted in 2014, the Tahoe Basin Project was approved as the Gold Country Broadband Consortium's Tahoe Basin Project which was a "regional initiative under the Gold Country Consortium, organized by the Tahoe Prosperity Center." In Resolution T-17529, adopted in 2016, the Commission approved the Tahoe Prosperity Center application, which was no longer under the Gold Country Broadband Consortium's fiscal agent, and the project was henceforth referred to as the Tahoe Basin Project (TBP). The fiscal agent was Tahoe Prosperity Center. All references in this resolution are to the Tahoe Basin Project (TBP) with the Tahoe Prosperity Center (TPC) as its sponsoring agency and grantee. The fiscal agent continues to be Tahoe Prosperity Center.

² AB 1665 is codified at Public Utilities Code, § 281.

³ AB 1665 supplements \$15 million already authorized for the Consortia Account with an additional \$10 million.

On October 25, 2018, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) adopted Decision (D.) 18-10-032, implementing programmatic changes to the Consortia Account as required by AB 1665,⁴ that funds be used to “facilitate the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure grant applicants in the project development or grant application process.”⁵

Pursuant to the CASF rules adopted in D.18-10-032, Consortia activities that achieve the following objectives may be eligible for funding:

- Objective 1: Collaborating with the Commission to engage regional Consortia, local officials, internet service providers (ISPs), stakeholders, and consumers regarding priority areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal.
- Objective 2: Identifying potential CASF infrastructure projects, along with other opportunities, where ISPs can expand and improve their infrastructure and service offerings to achieve the goal of reaching 98% broadband deployment in each Consortia region.
- Objective 3: Assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process.
- Objective 4: Conducting activities leading to infrastructure applications.
- Objective 5: Assisting the Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers in areas, as needed.

On March 29, 2019, the Commission opened a new round of solicitation for Consortia grant applications. The Commission received ten applications and subsequently awarded nine Consortia grants, totaling \$3.8 million.⁶

On April 23, 2020, the Commission opened another round of solicitation for Consortia grant applications and invited prospective applicants to submit proposals by June 5, 2020. On October 23, 2020 two applicants from this round, Southern Border Broadband Consortium and San Joaquin Valley Regional Broadband Consortium, were approved in Resolution T-17708 for a total amount awarded of \$900,000. ⁷

⁴ *Decision Implementing the CASF Rural and Urban Broadband Consortia Grant Account* [D.18-10-032] (2018) Application Requirements and Guidelines, Appendix 1.

⁵ Public Utilities Code, § 281 (g)(1).

⁶ Resolution T-17669:

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M318/K898/318898413.PDF>.

⁷ Resolution T-17708:

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M349/K351/349351527.PDF>

IV. APPLICANT REQUESTS AND NOTICE

Tahoe Prosperity Center submitted a grant application for the TBP for CASF Consortia grant funding by the deadline. On July 29, 2020, Communications Division (CD) staff (Staff) posted applications received on the Commission's CASF Consortia Account webpage.⁸

V. APPLICATION REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Staff reviewed all applications according to the guidelines, requirements, and evaluation adopted in D.18-10-032, as follows:

1. Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements;
2. Regional Consortium/Members' Experience;
3. Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan; and
4. Budget.

Applications from previously funded regional Consortia were also considered in the context of past performance in implementing their Action Plan and Work Plan.

Staff's review and evaluation of the application is summarized below.

A. Tahoe Basin Project (TBP)

Applicant

TBP formed out of the 2010 Lake Tahoe Basin Prosperity Plan, which represented a framework for environmental stewardship through economic revitalization. TBP is administered by the Tahoe Prosperity Center on behalf of the Lake Tahoe Basin. TBP represents areas of El Dorado and Placer County. TBP previously received approval for two Consortia Account grants: \$167,000 in May 2014 (Resolution T-17440), and \$200,000 in August 2016, (Resolution T-17529). TBP's first Consortia grant ended on May 10, 2016, with approximately \$166,924.59 in expenditures. TBP's second Consortia grant ended on May 30, 2019, with \$193,143.82 in total expenditures.

⁸ <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=870>.

Past CASF Project Performance

TBP's past accomplishments include coordinating with a Broadband consultant and Kingswood Estates to conduct a neighborhood wide speed test, and devise alternative funding mechanisms to deploy broadband infrastructure; developing a funding mechanism based on Charter Cable Company's cost estimate allowing homeowners to either pay a lump sum, have their property taxes assessed, or opt out of the build out; developing working relationships with regional stakeholders, incumbent and independent broadband service providers, the local jurisdictions, public agencies, anchor institutions, and key businesses; and developing relationships with local Homeowners Associations (HOA's) and community leaders in identified neighborhoods and facilitated dialogue between them and local ISPs.

Regional Consortium Representation and Endorsements

TBP's representation includes key stakeholders (i.e., "Partnership" work group leads) from various public and private sectors, who are committed to furthering regional deployment, accessibility, and adoption of broadband services in the Tahoe Basin. TBP received endorsements from ISPs, government, telecommunications providers, transportation districts and local educational agencies and institutions of higher education, health care organizations, and other regional consortia including Gold Country Broadband Consortium (GCBC). In GCBC's letter of support, GCBC identifies the areas, specifically the 10 zip codes, that TBP serves and has always served and makes clear that GCBC continues to support TBP in its project goals. GCBC has always supported TBP in those areas and has focused its own work to areas outside of the 10 zip codes and outside of the Tahoe Basin. Specifically, GCBC states "Tahoe Prosperity Center [TBP], not Gold Country is best suited to lead and manage the effort for broadband expansion" in the "unique and complex regulatory environment" that is the Tahoe Basin. GCBC "stands behind the work of [TBP] in leading [their] efforts, both broadband and cellular expansion, and look forward to the future advancements in technology around the Lake Tahoe Basin..."⁹ On March 19, 2021, during the open comment period for this resolution, GCBC submitted another letter reaffirming their support of TBP.

Regional Consortium Members' Experience

TBP's members have direct experience with broadband deployment and adoption efforts. They have successfully worked with culturally and linguistically diverse communities; building regional, multi-party collaborative efforts; and had prior success

⁹ [See GCBC's endorsement letter dated 10/14/20.](#)

in achieving broadband deployment and access. TBP's members have been involved with past submitted CASF Infrastructure applications.

Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan

TBP proposes to promote broadband deployment in unserved and underserved communities and strengthen and expand the inadequate middle mile infrastructure through an open access fiber ring around the Basin. TBP's activities are designed to promote regionally appropriate and cost-effective broadband deployment as a foundation for economic prosperity and safe, sustainable, healthy communities Basin-wide. Specifically, the TBP is focused on the following goals: that residents have equitable access to high-speed, affordable internet service; an increased broadband access for the Health and Human Services sectors to strengthen their work in Tahoe's rural environment through coordinated, connected, cost-effective services for patients, including newly expanded tele-health capabilities; better public safety for the residents and nearly five million visitors per year enhanced through a coordinated, reliable communication/response network. TBP's Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are directly related to AB 1665 goals and objectives, and consistent with program requirements defined in D.18-10-032.¹⁰ Its detailed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan are available at the Commission's webpage.¹¹

Budget

Tahoe Prosperity Center proposed a total project budget of \$237,555 for two years, including \$26,547 for the start-up budget. Of TBP's total budget, approximately 39% is allocated to engage stakeholders, conduct marketing/outreach, and develop strategies (Objective 1), 50% to assist in developing CASF infrastructure applications (Objectives 2, 3, and 4), and 1% to assist the Commission in publicizing requests for wireline testing volunteers in areas, as needed (Objective 5). The budget is cost-effective and consistent with budget requirements defined in D.18-10-032.

Discussion

On June 3, 2020, Tahoe Prosperity Center submitted an application for CASF funding for the TBP. After initial staff review, staff issued a denial letter stating that "the application does not meet the decisional requirement regarding consortia geographic boundaries. Specifically, D.18-10-032 states that it 'will not restrict the number of

¹⁰ Pursuant to D.18-10-032, Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan should include specific work activities, verifiable work deliverables, quantitative performance measures, the method for performance tracking and measuring, and responsible party(ies), with acceptable timelines for completion.

¹¹ <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=6442455851>

consortia or consortia geographic boundaries as long as the boundaries are along county lines and the areas do not overlap.’ Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP application is not recommended for approval as it overlaps with an existing consortium area.”

The California portion of the Tahoe Basin is included as an area under the existing Gold Country Broadband Consortium. Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP application, however, indicated that 10 zip codes within the boundaries of the GCBC are not currently represented by the GCBC. After further clarifying support from GCBC¹² that recognized GCBC’s error in reporting its coverage areas, Staff allowed Tahoe Prosperity Center to resubmit its application with more information regarding the nature of the project.

Tahoe Prosperity Center resubmitted its application on November 11, 2020 clarifying that the work it will continue to do will be focused on the areas that are not covered by GCBC. Specifically, the Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP received two prior consortia grant awards for work in these areas: \$167,000 in May 2014 (Resolution T-17440), and \$200,000 in August 2016 (Resolution T-17529). In T-17440, the Commission approved Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP application as a regional initiative under the GCBC, organized by the Tahoe Prosperity Center. The Commission approved Tahoe Prosperity Center’s application as a project that will “improve and expand broadband infrastructure, provide greater broadband access and help facilitate broadband adoption around the Lake Tahoe Basin, with a particular focus on El Dorado and Placer Counties.” In T-17440, the Commission recognized that, while the Tahoe Basin is included as an area under the existing GCBC, the area is underrepresented by the current Commission-approved Consortium structure.¹³ In T-17529, the Commission approved Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP application in the same area and for the same reasons. In GCBC and Tahoe Prosperity Center’s most recent applications, an error on the part of GCBC indicated that GCBC would be working on the 10 zip codes that were previously under the supervision of Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP. This error was the reason for the initial denial of Tahoe Prosperity Center’s TBP application but was later rectified by GCBC’s letter submitted to Staff.

Approving Tahoe Prosperity Center’s current application is consistent with its previously funded cycles and would require the Commission to continue to approve the application as a “project” under the GCBC and as an exception to the limit in D.18-10-032 where the Commission concluded that it will only award grants to one

¹² See [letter from GCBC dated October 14, 2020](#).

¹³ T-17440 p. 4.

consortium per geographic region. Staff recommends approving both the grant and the exception because TBP is a regional project contained within the boundaries of the Gold Country Broadband Consortium and remains an area that is not represented by the Gold County Country Consortium. Staff recommends approving this application since it is consistent with past Commission actions with respect to TBP's 2014 and 2016 cycle. Further, the TBP scored above the minimum requirement, and TBP's past performance was exceptional. This project presents the Commission with the opportunity to further TBP's purpose to improve and expand broadband infrastructure, to provide greater broadband access and to help facilitate broadband adoption around the Lake Tahoe Basin, with a particular focus on El Dorado and Placer Counties, and to provide new economic development opportunities in the area.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING

For the reasons discussed above, Staff has determined that Tahoe Prosperity Center's TBP application qualifies for funding. Tahoe Prosperity Center's application scored at least 70 of 100 points with clear and detailed proposals and meet the minimum criteria established by D.18-10-032. Therefore, staff recommends approval of this proposal.

VII. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Tahoe Prosperity Center is required to comply with all the guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the CASF Consortia grant funding as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution. Such compliance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

A. Execution and Performance

The expected start date is May 1, 2021. By receiving a CASF grant from the Commission, TPC agrees to comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the grant as set forth in this Resolution, and thus submit to the jurisdiction of the Commission with regard to disbursement and administration of the grant.

TPC may not assign the project in whole or in part except as expressly provided by the Commission's approval.

Should TPC fail to complete the project in accordance with the terms of the Commission's approval as set forth in this Resolution, TPC must reimburse some or all the CASF funding it has received. If TPC fails to commence work at the agreed upon time, the Commission may terminate the award upon ten business days written notice

to the Consortia grantee. If TPC fails to perform in good faith, or in accordance with the expectations set forth in its Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as affirmed in the affidavit, the Commission may withhold subsequent grant disbursement or suspend or terminate the Consortium grant, as warranted.

Any changes to the substantive terms and conditions underlying the Commission approval of the Consortium grant (e.g., changes to Work Plan, budget or designated Fiscal Agent, etc.) must be communicated in writing to the CD Director at least 30 days before the anticipated change and may be subject to approval by either the CD Director or by Commission resolution before becoming effective.

B. Public Workshop Requirement

AB 1665 directs the Commission to consult with regional Consortia, stakeholders, local governments, existing facility-based broadband providers, and consumers regarding unserved areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal, through public workshops at least annually no later than April 30 of each year through year 2022.¹⁴ Pursuant to D.18-10-032, all Consortia receiving CASF grants are required to attend at least one of the annual public workshops to be conducted by staff, and allocates up to \$10,000 per consortium for each public workshop attendance.¹⁵

C. Fiscal Agent

Decision 18-10-032 requires:

Each regional Consortium must retain at least one Fiscal Agent with lead responsibility and legal authority to represent the Consortium for purposes of sponsoring the application, administering fiscal activities between the Consortium and the Commission, receiving, and dispersing Consortium grant funds and ensuring Consortium compliance with the grant. The Fiscal Agent must affirmatively agree, on behalf of the Consortium, to comply with the Commission's directives and conditions relating to the review, approval, and administration of any Consortia application grants. The Fiscal Agent must provide assurance that Consortium members or contractors retained by the Consortium are capable and committed to fulfilling the commitments.¹⁶

¹⁴ Pub. Util. Code, § 281 (f)(2).

¹⁵ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 13.

¹⁶ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 9. The Fiscal Agent must submit a letter stating its commitment to act as a Fiscal Agent for the Consortium.

Staff reviewed TPC's TBP application submitted and determined that the applications meet this requirement. Specifically, the Fiscal Agent signed an affidavit, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of his or her knowledge, all statements and representations made in Consortium application are true and correct and affirmed to fulfill the requirements of the CPUC with respect to grant administration. TBP's Fiscal Agent provided Staff with a name of a qualified representative to carry out the duties and responsibilities described, and the Fiscal Agent will be the primary contact regarding the consortium's fiscal matters.¹⁷

Each Fiscal Agent shall comply with all rules and requirements set forth in D.18-10-032, including, but not limited to, ensuring implementation of the approved Work Plan within the allocated budget (in conjunction with the consortium program manager), and shall be responsible for notifying CD Director of any proposed changes to Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, budget, or designated Fiscal Agent during the course of the grant cycle. Any subsequent change in Fiscal Agent must first be approved by Commission resolution.

D.18-10-032 further requires each Consortia grantee to:

...maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence sufficient to substantiate expenditures covered by the grant, according to generally accepted accounting practices. Each Consortia grantee shall make these records available to the Commission upon request and agrees that these records are subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within five years after the grantee incurred the expense being audited. A Consortia grantee shall provide access to the Commission upon 24-hour notice to evaluate work completed or being performed pursuant to the grant.¹⁸

D. Distinguishing CASF from other Financial Resources

Decision 18-10-032 requires that the consortium take steps to ensure that the CASF grant budget does not duplicate funding from other non-Consortia Account funding.¹⁹

¹⁷ The TBC has affirmed to fulfill the CPUC's requirements with respect to grant administration.

¹⁸ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, pp. 15-16.

¹⁹ Any proposed consortium budget must expressly exclude any costs for activities or programs within the Consortia region that are separately funded from any other sources to ensure that California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grants do not duplicate funding from any other sources (D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 8).

Tahoe Prosperity Center must ensure that only CASF-approved activities will be billed to the Consortia Account, and activities obligated to other funding resources will not be billed to the CASF Consortia Account.

Prior to the initiation of Work Plan activities, the Fiscal Agents for the TBP must communicate to staff how they will ensure that billing to discrete funding sources does not overlap.

E. Annual Audit

Public Utilities Code, § 281(g)(2) requires each consortium to conduct an annual audit of its expenditures for grant programs funded and submit to the Commission an annual report. Tahoe Prosperity Center is required to submit annual reports to the Commission that includes: a description of activities completed during the prior year, how each activity promotes the deployment of broadband services, the cost associated with each activity; and the number of project applications assisted.²⁰

F. Reporting

Grantees are required to submit bi-annual progress reports. Any progress payment requests shall be submitted along with bi-annual reports. The bi-annual progress report is required every six months. These reports must be submitted by no later than three months after every six months for the grant period, irrespective of payment requests. In these reports, recipients will report on the status of bi-annual milestones per the Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as well as request payment for relevant expenses to date.²¹

Tahoe Prosperity Center must submit bi-annual progress reports on the status of the project irrespective of whether grantees request reimbursement or payment. Bi-annual progress reports must begin the first six months after the Commission approval of the grant proposal.

A start-up period report is required if the grantee requests an initial start-up cost payment. This report must be submitted no later than three months after the completion of the start-up activities. In this report, recipients will report on the

²⁰ Pub. Util. Code, § 281(g)(2)(A) and (B).

²¹ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, pp. 14-15, 17.

completion of start-up activities per the Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, as well as milestones met.

Tahoe Prosperity Center must submit a completion report at the end of the grant cycle no later than three months after completion of the project.

G. Payments

Decision 18-10-032 requires that submission of invoices from and payments to the grantees shall be made at bi-annual intervals. Specifically, D.18-10-032 states:

The disbursement of funds at any time is subject to the Commission discretion, including a review-and-approval process of each grantee through regular site visits, progress reports on a bi-annual basis and supporting invoices and receipts. All requests for progress payments and reimbursements must be supported by documentation, e.g., receipts, invoices, quotes, etc. Consortia grantees may request reimbursement for start-up costs equivalent to a maximum of 25% of the total award and must be supported by documentation. In order to receive a progress payment, the Consortium must first submit the Progress Report to CD, together with all requests for payment and reimbursement supported by relevant invoices receipts, etc.

Furthermore, documentation should substantiate TBP's progress in following its proposed Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, with the approved budget. Billing should only be for activities related to facilitating the deployment of broadband services by assisting infrastructure applicants in the project development or grant application process.

All activities specified under the terms of the award shall be completed on or before the termination date of the award.²² A project completion report is required prior to full payment showing that all activities on the approved Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan have been accomplished. TBP's final payment report, including all documentation and receipts, should be submitted no later than three months after project completion.²³

²² D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 17.

²³ Id. at. p. 15.

No payments will be made for any payment requests received three months after relevant reports are due (i.e., bi-annual progress reports and/or completion reports.)

H. Project Audit

Staff has the authority to initiate and any necessary audit, verification, and discovery of consortium members relating to grant funding activities to ensure that the CASF fund is spent in accordance with the Commission adopted rules and standards.²⁴

TBP's invoices and other relevant records will be subject to a financial audit by the Commission or its designee at any time within five years after TBP incurred the expense being audited.

I. Lobbying and Advocacy Efforts

TPC is free to advocate on any legislation of their choosing. However, no work on proposed legislation including meetings, travel, or lobbying may be billed to or reimbursed by the CASF Consortia grant program.²⁵

VIII. COMMENTS

In compliance with Public Utilities Code § 311(g)(1), a Notice of Availability was emailed on March 11, 2021 informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>. This letter also served to inform parties that the final conformed Resolution the Commission adopts will be posted and available on this same website. The Commission received no public comments.

IX. FINDINGS

1. On October 15, 2017, Governor Brown signed legislation (AB 1665) that established the continuation of the CASF Consortia Account with an additional \$10 million in available funding.

²⁴ D.18-10-032, Appendix 1, p. 15; see also Pub. Util. Code, § 270.

²⁵ Id. at. p. 4.

2. TPC submitted its TBP application by the June 5, 2020 deadline. TPC submitted a revised application on November 11, 2020. Staff posted each applicant's name, contact information, and coverage area by county on the Commission Consortia Account webpage on July 29, 2020.
3. Staff reviewed TPC's TBP application according to the guidelines, requirements, and evaluation criteria adopted in D.18-10-032, which include regional consortium representation and endorsements, regional consortium members' experience, Work Plan and Performance Metrics Plan, and budget. Staff also evaluated the application based on the merits of each proposal and past performance, including achievements, fiscal responsibility, and cost-effectiveness.
4. The Commission previously approved two TBP applications for CASF Consortia Account funding in 2014 and 2016 in T-17440 and T-17529.
5. D.18-10-032 limits consortia to only one regional consortium per geographic region. TBP is a regional "project" contained within the boundaries of the GCBC.
6. Approving TPC's TBP application would require the Commission to approve the application as a project and as an exception to the limit in D.18-10-032 where the Commission concluded that it will only award grants to one consortium per geographic region.
7. Based on the review, Staff determined that TPC's revised proposal meets all other eligibility requirements and qualifies for funding under D.18-10-032.
8. Staff recommends CASF Consortia grant approval of total funding of \$237,555 for this project.
9. Tahoe Prosperity Center is required to comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the granting of CASF funds as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution, including, but not limited to, only billing for activities related to the activities in approved Work Plans.
10. Tahoe Prosperity Center is required to expressly exclude any costs for activities or programs from the proposed consortium/project budget that are separately funded from any other sources in order to ensure that CASF grants do not duplicate funding from any other sources.

11. D.18-10-032 directs CD to consult with regional Consortia, stakeholders, local governments, existing facility-based broadband providers, and consumers regarding priority areas and cost-effective strategies to achieve the broadband access goal, through public workshops conducted at least annually no later than April 30 of each year and authorizes \$2,000 per person for up to five delegates annually for each approved consortium.
12. A notice was emailed on March 11, 2021, informing the parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's website <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/documents/>. This letter also informed parties that the final conformed Resolution adopted by the Commission will be posted and available on this same website. The Commission received no public comments.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Commission shall award \$237,555 to the Tahoe Prosperity Center's Tahoe Basin Project under the already approved Gold Country Consortium area. The award is based on the descriptions of the project as described herein. The Work Plan is available at the Commission's website.
1. The Commission shall approve the application as a project and treat it as an exception to the limit in D.18-10-032 that it will only award grants to one consortium per geographic region in this case only.
2. Payments to the CASF recipients shall be in accordance with guidelines adopted in D.18-10-032 and in accordance with the process defined in the "Payments" section of this Resolution.
3. Tahoe Basin Project must retain at least one Fiscal Agent with lead responsibility and legal authority to represent the Consortium/Project for purposes of sponsoring the application and administration of Consortium/Project activities, including receipt and disbursement of Consortium/Project grant funds.
4. The Fiscal Agent must affirmatively agree, on behalf of Tahoe Basin Project, to comply with the Commission's directives and conditions relating to the review, approval, and administration of any Consortia application grants.
5. Prior to commencement of the project, its Fiscal Agent must provide Staff with the method chosen to distinguish funding sources and billing practices, to ensure that

CASF payments are not duplicated by other sources, and that only CASF-approved activities are billed to the Consortia Account.

6. The disbursement of funds shall be subject to the requirements set forth in D.18-10-032 including the submission of bi-annual progress reports and supporting documentation for payment reimbursement, yearly status reports for informing the legislature and a Completion Report to be submitted before the final payment reimbursement will be made.
7. By receiving a CASF grant from the Commission, Tahoe Prosperity Center agrees to comply with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the grant and thus submit to the jurisdiction of the Commission with regard to disbursement and administration of the grant.
8. Tahoe Prosperity Center shall complete activities in accordance with and within the performance period set forth in the Commission-approved Work Plans.
9. Tahoe Prosperity Center must use the grant funding solely for the approved projects/activities as described in the Consortia Commission-approved Work Plans and Budget Plans, (or approved revisions to such Plans and budgets).
10. Each Consortia/Project grantee shall make records available to the Commission upon request and shall agree that these records are subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within five years after the Grantee incurred the expense being audited. A Consortia/Project grantee shall provide access to the Commission upon 24-hour notice to evaluate work completed or being performed pursuant to the grant.
11. Tahoe Prosperity Center shall comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the CASF grant award as specified in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution.
12. The Commission may withhold or terminate grant payments to Tahoe Prosperity Center if the consortium/project does not comply with any of the requirements set forth in D.18-10-032 and this Resolution.
13. If Tahoe Prosperity Center fails to complete the project/activities in accordance with the terms of approval granted by the Commission and this Resolution, Tahoe Basin Project, represented by the Fiscal Agent, will be required to reimburse some or all of the CASF fund that it has received.
14. The commencement of the grant will be May 1, 2021.

15. Any changes to the substantive terms and conditions underlying Commission approval of the grant (e.g., changes to Work Plan, budget or designated Fiscal Agent, etc.) must be communicated in writing to CD Director at least 30 days before the anticipated change and may be subject to approval by either the CD Director or by Commission resolution before becoming effective.
16. Tahoe Prosperity Center must complete and execute the consent form (to be sent to the grantee after this Resolution is adopted) agreeing to the conditions set forth in this Resolution and email it to [CASF Consortia Grant Administrator@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:CASF_Consortia_Grant_Administrator@cpuc.ca.gov) within 30 calendar days from the date of the adoption of this Resolution. Failure to submit the consent form within 30 calendar days from the adoption date of this Resolution will deem the grant null and void.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on April 15, 2021. The following Commissioners approved it:

/s/ RACHEL PETERSON

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director

MARYBEL BATJER
President
DARCIE L. HOUCK
MARTHA GUZMAN ACEVES
CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN
GENEVIEVE SHIROMA
Commissioners