

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**Communications Division  
Broadband Regional Initiatives Branch**

**RESOLUTION T-17863  
December 19, 2024**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION T-17863: Awards five grants for up to \$13,733,311 from the Last Mile Federal Funding Account to provide service to 2,877 unserved locations in Colusa, San Joaquin, and Shasta Counties.**

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**I. SUMMARY**

This Resolution recommends approval of five Last Mile Federal Funding Account grants in the amount of up to \$13,733,311.

This Resolution is part of the tenth package of Resolutions approving grants to Federal Funding Account applicants for broadband infrastructure projects serving unserved areas in California. Subsequent Resolutions will be presented for Commission vote as Communications Division Staff completes its analyses of applications.

The five projects in this Resolution propose to make investments bringing the social, economic, civic, and public safety benefits of high-speed broadband to 2,877 unserved locations and an estimated unserved population of 7,743 in Colusa, San Joaquin, and Shasta Counties. An estimated total population of 9,959 people will benefit from these investments as households and businesses that already have service in these communities will benefit from greater customer choice in the broadband market. The last mile connections funded by these grants build upon the state-owned open-access Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative.

Staff recommends grant awards to two entities (listed in the order in which they appear in this Resolution): AT&T and Comcast.

AT&T is an incumbent telecommunication company offering service throughout California. Comcast is an incumbent cable company offering service throughout California.

Staff recommends the following five grant applications for Commission approval as shown in Table 1 below. Maps and summaries associated with each project are in the appendices.

**Table 1: Summary of Grant Funding**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Estimated Unserved Locations</b>	<b>Estimated Unserved Units</b>	<b>Estimated Unserved Population</b>	<b>Estimated Benefitting Population</b>	<b>Awarded Amount</b>
<b>Colusa</b>						
AT&T	Colusa - 1	415	582	734	812	\$2,275,000
Comcast	Colusa County	261	310	722	1,126	\$3,245,024
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>676</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,938</b>	<b>\$5,520,024</b>
<b>San Joaquin</b>						
AT&T	San Joaquin - 1C	267	430	1,199	1,223	\$1,675,000
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>267</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,223</b>	<b>\$1,675,000</b>
<b>Shasta</b>						
AT&T	Shasta - 1A	1,386	1,708	4,185	5,892	\$5,010,072
AT&T	Shasta - 1C	548	798	903	906	\$1,528,215
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1,934</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>5,088</b>	<b>6,798</b>	<b>\$6,538,287</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,877</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>7,743</b>	<b>9,959</b>	<b>\$13,733,311</b>

## II. BACKGROUND

California’s multi-year broadband investment package established the last mile Federal Funding Account as part of the Budget Act of 2021 and Senate Bill 156<sup>1</sup> and invested \$2 billion in the program over multiple years. The Federal Funding Account funds the construction of last mile broadband infrastructure projects in unserved areas of California. The Federal Funding Account encourages the deployment of broadband throughout the State to enable the public to access internet-based safety applications, telehealth services, emergency services, and to allow first responders to communicate with each other and collaborate during emergencies.

On April 21, 2022, the Commission issued Decision (D.) 22-04-055, Decision Adopting Federal Funding Account Rules. The rules and guidelines adopted in that decision included, among other items, the following: rules about projects to benefit Environmental and Social Justice Communities, affordable offers, five and ten-year price commitments, low-cost plans, project eligibility, application requirements, application objections, implementation of Public Utilities Code section 281(n) allocating

<sup>1</sup> Statute 2021, Chapters 84 and 112.

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funding between “rural counties” and “urban counties,” a process to reimburse grantees, a ministerial review process whereby Communications Division Staff may approve certain projects, and minimum performance standards for grantees.

The Federal Funding Account D. 22-04-055 includes requirements and preference for a number of affordability requirements including:

- Participation in the Affordable Connectivity Program or access to a “broad-based affordability program.” Given that the Affordable Connectivity Program has lapsed grantees must participate in a successor program when identified by the Commission.
- A five-year price commitment, and preference for a ten-year commitment.
- Preference for a low-cost plan that is \$40/month or less and provides speeds of at least 50 megabits per second down and 20 megabits per second up (50/20 Mbps).
- Preference for participation in the California and/or federal Lifeline programs (which may include bundled voice and broadband offerings).

Applications that committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine, consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion, must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion. In providing grant funding to projects the Commission is validating the need for and the state’s investment in the provision of communications service, including voice and programs supporting affordability like LifeLine, for the life of the infrastructure.

The Federal Funding Account Decision and Appendix specify additional consideration for disadvantaged communities or Environmental and Social Justice communities.<sup>2</sup> The Commission made available on the Federal Funding Account Public Map,<sup>3</sup> the Applicant Tool,<sup>4</sup> and data downloads locations and census blocks meeting these definitions.<sup>5</sup> A grant application window was opened on June 30, 2023, and closed at

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<sup>2</sup> The Commission Environmental and Social Justice Action plan includes definitions and data indicators for disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities including Disadvantaged Communities defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and low-income households defined as household incomes below 80 percent of the area median income. The Commission’s Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan 2.0 is available at: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/news-and-outreach/documents/news-office/key-issues/esj/esj-action-plan-v2jw.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> The Federal Funding Account Public Map is available at: <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/>.

<sup>4</sup> Registration for the Federal Funding Account Applicant Tool is available at: [FFA Applicant Tool Registration](#).

<sup>5</sup> Disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities and individual locations, for purposes of the Federal Funding Account, include those in Disadvantaged Communities census tracts as defined

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4 p.m. on September 29, 2023; 484 applications were submitted. Application summaries were posted on October 23, 2023, and a 28-day objection period closed on November 20, 2023. Responses to objections were received until December 20, 2023.

Applications were holistically evaluated: required and supporting documentation and the merits of the applications were compared and assessed on a county basis. Following an initial analysis, Staff sent a data request to applicants and requested additional information. Staff's holistic evaluation included project engineering, technical feasibility and design, financial viability, cost, applicant capacity, and community need, among other factors. Staff assessed how to manage overlapping applications and applications planning to include some already-served areas in their project area.<sup>6</sup>

Staff also evaluated how applications and groups of applications compared to competing applications in the same county.

The specific locations to be provided service for a given project will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations. The Federal Funding Account award will not fund locations supported by a federal broadband program with Capital Project Fund monies.<sup>7</sup>

### **III. APPLICATION SUMMARIES, DISCUSSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **Colusa Summary**

The allocation for projects in Colusa County in D. 22-04-055 is \$28,949,944. This Resolution recommends awarding one grant to AT&T and one grant to Comcast. The

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by CalEPA and low-income areas in which the census block group median household income is less than or equal to 80 percent of the higher of the county or state average. This data is available for download on the Federal Funding Account Public Map page (visited October 17, 2024), <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account/ffa-public-map> and the Federal Funding Account Application Resources Page (visited June 13, 2024), <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/last-mile-federal-funding-account/ffa-application-resources-page>.

<sup>6</sup> D.22-04-055 states that "households and businesses with an identified need for additional broadband infrastructure do not have to be the only ones in the service area served by an eligible broadband infrastructure project. Indeed, serving these households and businesses may require a holistic approach that provides service to a wider area, for example, in order to make ongoing service of certain households or businesses within the service area economical."

<sup>7</sup> Federal broadband programs include the Connect America Fund II, Community Connects Grant Program, Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Rural E-Connectivity Program, Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, and Telephone Loan Program.

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recommended grant amount for projects in Colusa County is \$5,520,024, which leaves a remainder of \$23,429,920 of the allocation for Colusa County.

**Colusa County Awards**

1. *AT&T, Colusa - 1*

Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$2,275,000 for the Colusa - 1 project.

The Colusa - 1 project proposes to serve an estimated 415 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 582 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 734 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 812 will benefit from these investments in the community of Stonyford in Colusa County. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

AT&T will deploy approximately 44 miles of last-mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 83 percent underground and 17 percent aerial.

The Colusa - 1 project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 81 percent of the unserved locations are located in low-income areas.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$3,965,348, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 57 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received one objection and AT&T responded to the objection. The objection stated that paying an incumbent to upgrade its infrastructure is a poor use of public resources. This project proposes to use existing support structures and facilities to update its current infrastructure, which is reasonable for this project. Staff determined that the objection did not, "identify an error of fact, or policy, or statutory requirement that the application has contravened."<sup>8</sup> The Colusa - 1 project area was not modified in response to objections.

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<sup>8</sup> See D. 22-04-055, at page A-21.

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.cpuc.ca.gov%2FPublishedDocs%2FPublished%2FG000%2FM470%2FK481%2F470481278.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

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No Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Colusa County.<sup>9</sup> Colusa – 1 project area’s unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 415, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

This project did not receive letters of support.

The proposed project provides the public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is not located in a High Fire Threat District. This project will connect to AT&T’s middle-mile infrastructure.

AT&T’s application committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine. Consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion AT&T must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion.

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate/outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T’s current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T’s existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

Based on the information received, the Commission’s Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) categorical exemption at this time. AT&T must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If AT&T provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be

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<sup>9</sup> See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited October 17, 2024).

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exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

AT&T and the Colusa - 1 project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$2,275,000 for the Colusa - 1 project.

2. *Comcast, Colusa County*

Staff recommends the Commission approve Comcast's application for a grant of up to \$3,245,024 for the Colusa County project.

The Colusa County project proposes to serve an estimated 261 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing and as subsequently amended. The Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians requested in a post-submission letter of support that Comcast extend the project to 16 new locations on Tribal land, just north of the original project area. Comcast amended its original application to include the new Tribal locations and an additional \$567,769 in FFA grant funding. These locations were in the original list of census blocks listed by Comcast and as a result, no new challenge period was required.

There are approximately 310 unserved units in the revised project area. An estimated unserved population of 722 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 1,126 will benefit from these investments in the communities of Colusa County. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 1,250/1,250 Mbps service to consumers.

Comcast will deploy approximately 12 miles of last-mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 45 percent underground and 55 percent aerial.

The Colusa County project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are located in low-income areas. The program requires all applicants to commit to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those provided in the application for five years after project completion (See Federal Funding Account Appendix A, section 7. "Performance Criteria"). Comcast's application proposes to freeze the price for one plan for 10 years and does not request a waiver of the requirement to freeze all other plans offered. Accordingly, this grant is awarded with the understanding that Comcast serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for all plans in the application for five years. If Comcast cannot satisfy this requirement Comcast may request a waiver including an explanation of why a waiver is being requested and a rationale for why a waiver should be granted. Comcast will provide a low-cost plan that meets the requirements in D. 22-04-055, Section 3, and has committed to maintaining the price of that plan for at least ten years.

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The proposed project will cost an estimated \$3,245,024, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund 100 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received one objection and Comcast responded to the objection. The objection claimed that 21 locations in the project area are already served. Staff determined that six of the locations in the project area are already served by the objector, but that serving those locations is necessary for the feasibility of serving unserved locations in the project area, including a nearby unserved mobile home park. The Colusa County project area was not modified in response to objections; the Federal Final Rule<sup>10</sup> and D.22-04-055<sup>11</sup> allow projects serving unserved locations to include served locations to make the project viable.

No Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Colusa County.<sup>12</sup> Colusa County project area's unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023).

In response to comments, letters of support, and this data, the number of unserved locations increased from 247 to 261, the project area expanded to include additional locations, and the total grant amount increased by \$567,769 to \$3,245,024. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The following submitted letters of support for this application: State Senator Brian Dahle, Tribal Chairman of the Colusa Indian Community Council and Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians Wayne Mitchum Jr., the County of Colusa Community Development Department, the Upstate California Connect Broadband Consortium, the Northeastern California Connect Broadband Consortium, Equality California, the

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<sup>10</sup> Department of the Treasury, Final Rule, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, 31 C.F.R. Part 35, 87 FR 4338-4454 (January 27, 2022) (Final Rule), available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/01/27/2022-00292/coronavirus-state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds>.

<sup>11</sup> D.22-04-055, Appendix A, Section 2, p. A-5.

<sup>12</sup> See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited October 17, 2024).



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Parent Institute for Quality Education, and the Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project.

The proposed project provides the public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is not located in a High Fire Threat District. This project will connect to Comcast's middle-mile infrastructure.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project meets the criteria for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) categorical exemptions under 14 California Code of Regulations (C.C.R.) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), Class 1 - Existing Facilities; 14 C.C.R. Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction); 14 C.C.R. Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures); and 14 C.C.R. Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land). Thus, the Colusa County project is categorically exempt from CEQA review and the Commission may authorize funds for the construction activities.

Comcast and the Colusa County project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve Comcast's application for a grant of up to \$3,245,024 for the Colusa County project.

### **San Joaquin Summary**

The allocation for projects in San Joaquin County in D. 22-04-055 is \$29,434,984. This Resolution recommends awarding one grant to AT&T. The recommended grant amount for projects in San Joaquin County is \$1,675,000, which leaves a remainder of \$27,759,984 of the allocation for San Joaquin County.

### **San Joaquin County Awards**

#### *1. AT&T, San Joaquin -1C*

Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$1,675,000 for the San Joaquin - 1C project.

The San Joaquin - 1C project proposes to serve an estimated 267 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 430 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 1,199 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 1,223 will benefit from these investments in the communities of San Joaquin County. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

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AT&T will deploy approximately nine miles of last-mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 40 percent underground and 60 percent aerial.

The San Joaquin – 1C project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 89 percent of the unserved locations are located in Disadvantaged Communities.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$2,581,370, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 65 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant’s engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received two objections and AT&T responded to the objections. The first objection claimed that locations in the project area are already served. The second objection claims that locations in the project area will be served by a Connect America Fund Phase II Auction award. With respect to the first objection, Staff determined that the locations were not reliably served as defined by D.22-04-055. With respect to the second objection, the objector did not demonstrate it would provide reliable, wireline service as defined in D.22-04-055; nonetheless, the Federal Funding Account award will not fund locations supported by a federal broadband program with Capital Project Fund monies.<sup>13</sup> The San Joaquin – 1C project area was not modified in response to objections.

No Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in San Joaquin County.<sup>14</sup> The San Joaquin – 1C project area’s unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 267, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

This project did not receive letters of support

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<sup>13</sup> Federal broadband programs include the Connect America Fund II, Community Connects Grant Program, Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Rural E-Connectivity Program, Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, and Telephone Loan Program.

<sup>14</sup> See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited October 17, 2024).

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The proposed project provides the public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is not located in a High Fire Threat District. This project will connect to AT&T's middle-mile infrastructure.

AT&T's application committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine. Consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion AT&T must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion.

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate/outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T's current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T's existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of CEQA categorical exemption at this time. AT&T must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If AT&T provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

AT&T and the San Joaquin - 1C project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$1,675,000 for the San Joaquin - 1C project.

**Shasta Summary**

The allocation for projects in Shasta County in D. 22-04-055 is \$32,441,786. This Resolution recommends awarding two grants to AT&T. The recommended grant amount for projects in Shasta County is \$6,538,287, which leaves a remainder of \$25,903,499 of the allocation for Shasta County.

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1. *AT&T - Shasta - 1A*

Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$5,010,072 for the Shasta - 1A project.

The Shasta - 1A project proposes to serve an estimated 1,386 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing and subsequent revisions in response to objections. There are approximately 1,708 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 4,185 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 5,892 will benefit from these investments in the communities of Shasta County. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000 Mbps/5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

AT&T will deploy approximately 116 miles of last-mile fiber and 1 mile of middle mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 21 percent underground 79 percent aerial.

The Shasta - 1A project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 56 percent of the unserved locations are located in low-income areas.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$8,063,512, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 61 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

This application received three objections and AT&T responded to the objections. One objection stated that paying an incumbent to upgrade its infrastructure is a poor use of public resources. A second objection claimed that the objector had a commitment to provide service nearby through the Enhanced Alternative Connect America Fund program. A third objection claimed that locations in the project area were already served. With respect to the first objection, this project proposes to use existing support structures and facilities to update its current infrastructure, which is reasonable for this project. Staff determined that the objection did not, "identify an error of fact, or policy, or statutory requirement that the application has contravened."<sup>15</sup> With respect to the second objection, staff determined that the locations in the objector's Enhanced Alternative Connect America Fund project do not overlap with the unserved locations

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<sup>15</sup> D. 22-04-055, Appendix A, Section 12, p. A-21.

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.cpuc.ca.gov%2F%2FPublishedDocs%2F%2FPublished%2FG000%2FM470%2FK481%2F470481278.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>.

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proposed to be served in the Shasta – 1A project. With respect to the third objection, staff determined that 256 locations in the Shasta – 1A project area are served by the objector. AT&T has revised its application to remove the 256 served locations, and the grant amount has been reduced accordingly.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Shasta County.<sup>16</sup> Shasta - 1A project area's unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is reduced from 1,642 to 1,386, the project area is reduced to 53 square miles, and the total grant amount is reduced from \$5,112,587 to \$5,010,072. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The following submitted letters of support for this application: The Northeastern California Connect Broadband Consortium and the Upstate California Connect Broadband Consortium.

The proposed project provides the public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is not located in a High Fire Threat District. This project will connect to AT&T's middle-mile infrastructure.

AT&T's application committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine. Consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion AT&T must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion.

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate/outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T's current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T's

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<sup>16</sup> See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited October 17, 2024).

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existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project meets the requirements of the CEQA categorical exemptions under 14 California Code of Regulations (C.C.R) Section 15301 (Existing facilities), 14 C.C.R Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 14 C.C.R Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land). Thus, the Shasta-1A project is categorically exempt from CEQA review and the commission may authorize funds for the construction activities.

AT&T and the Shasta - 1A project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$5,010,072 for the Shasta - 1A project.

*2. AT&T - Shasta - 1C*

Staff recommends the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$1,528,215 for the Shasta - 1C project.

The Shasta - 1C project proposes to serve an estimated 548 unserved locations based on a March 2024 supplemental application filing. There are approximately 798 unserved units in the project area. An estimated unserved population of 903 would be offered service. An estimated total population of 906 will benefit from these investments in the communities of Shasta County. The last-mile fiber project will provide up to 5,000 / 5,000 Mbps service to consumers.

AT&T will deploy approximately 28 miles of last-mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be 11 percent underground and 89 percent aerial.

The Shasta - 1C project will benefit disadvantaged or Environmental and Social Justice communities; 100 percent of the unserved locations are in low-income areas.

The proposed project will cost an estimated \$3,056,430, of which the Federal Funding Account will fund approximately 50 percent of costs.

Staff determined that the applicant and the project are financially viable, and the applicant's engineering meets the program standards. The applicant demonstrated the administrative, technical, and operational capacity to provide broadband service at the scale of this project.

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This application received one objection and AT&T responded to the objection. The objection stated that paying an incumbent to upgrade its infrastructure is a poor use of public resources. This project proposes to use existing support structures and facilities to update its current infrastructure, which is reasonable for this project. Staff determined that the objection did not, “identify an error of fact, or policy, or statutory requirement that the application has contravened.”<sup>17</sup> The Shasta - 1C project area was not modified in response to objections.

Two Federal Funding Account Public Map comments were submitted in Shasta County.<sup>18</sup> Shasta - 1C project area’s unserved locations were evaluated in light of the updated Federal Communications Commission and Federal Funding Account unserved data (as of June 30, 2023). In response to objections, comments, and this data, the number of unserved locations is unchanged at 548, the project area is unchanged, and the total grant amount is unchanged. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

The following submitted letters of support for this application: The Northeastern California Connect Broadband Consortium and the Upstate California Connect Broadband Consortium.

The proposed project provides the public safety benefits of reliable broadband infrastructure. This project is not located in a High Fire Threat District. This project will connect to AT&T’s middle-mile infrastructure.

AT&T’s application committed to provide voice service and participate in LifeLine. Consistent with the requirement to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those in the application for five years after project completion AT&T must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion.

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time

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<sup>17</sup> D. 22-04-055, Appendix A, Section 12, p. A-21.

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.cpuc.ca.gov%2FPublishedDocs%2FPublished%2FG000%2FM470%2FK481%2F470481278.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>.

<sup>18</sup> See Federal Funding Account Public Map, <https://federalfundingaccountmap.vetro.io/> (visited October 17, 2024).

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to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate/outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T's current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T's existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not met the requirements of the CEQA categorical exemption at this time. AT&T must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If AT&T provides additional documentation sufficient to justify a staff determination of CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

AT&T and the Shasta - 1C project comply with all requirements for approval in D. 22-04-055. The Communications Division recommends that the Commission approve AT&T's application for a grant of up to \$1,528,215 for the Shasta - 1C project.

### **Comments**

In compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g)(1), a Notice of Availability of this draft resolution was e-mailed on November 15, 2024, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List and the R. 20-09-001 Service List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution, and of the opportunity to comment, at the Commission's website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>.

Resolution Comments were submitted on December 5, 2024, by AT&T and The Utility Reform Network (TURN). Reply comments were submitted on December 10, 2024, by AT&T.

### **AT&T Opening Comments**

AT&T requested language be added to this Resolution stating that all FFA applicants who responded to the LifeLine question in their application may choose whether to participate in either California LifeLine, or federal Lifeline, or both, to the extent allowed by applicable laws, and may modify its participation in one or both programs based on applicable laws.

AT&T also requested that the AT&T Service Plans Appendix be amended to remove low-income plan qualifications related to the Affordable Connectivity Program that are not applicable.

### **The Utility Reform Network Opening Comments**



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The Utility Reform Network requested that language included in Resolution T-17850 in response to comments be reintroduced in this Resolution and future Federal Funding Account Resolutions. The proposed language clarifies that some applicants' obligations to participate in LifeLine and provide voice service because they are Carriers of Last Resort (COLR) is independent of any commitments those applicants may make as applicants to participate in LifeLine and provide voice service in Federal Funding Account project areas.

### **AT&T Reply Comments**

AT&T submitted reply comments responding to The Utility Reform Network and requesting the inclusion of language from T-17850. The language clarifies that the Federal Funding Account award does not change AT&T's California LifeLine or federal Lifeline obligations, and that AT&T shall notify the Commission if its LifeLine or Lifeline obligations and offerings change.

### **Staff Response to Comments**

In response to comments and consistent with other Federal Funding Account Resolutions, language based on adopted Resolution T-17850 was added, clarifying the distinction between LifeLine and voice commitments made in Federal Funding Account applications and those same applicants' other obligations. The interpretive language below is applicable to all Federal Funding Account Resolutions awarding grants to entities with a separate obligation to offer Lifeline service:

Separate and outside the Federal Funding Account rules and requirements, AT&T is already required to offer California LifeLine and Federal Lifeline and is already offering such services as a Carrier of Last Resort and an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. This Federal Funding Account grant award and requirements do not change those existing obligations. Since AT&T is already offering such services, when it comes time to offering FFA service, AT&T should offer Lifeline service consistent with the separate/outside requirements of its Lifeline obligations to avoid customer confusion. Nothing in this recommended Federal Funding Account award changes AT&T's current California LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations. To the extent AT&T's existing LifeLine or Federal Lifeline obligations may change, AT&T can request to update its Federal Funding Account awards to reflect the updated change to its Lifeline offerings and specify the Lifeline offerings customers will be receiving.

## **IV. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Awardees are required to comply with all the guidelines, requirements, and conditions associated with the grant of Federal Funding Account awards as specified in

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D.22-04-055. All Awardees are also required to sign a consent form agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Federal Funding Account. Such compliance includes, but is not limited to, the items noted below.

A. Deployment Schedule: All CEQA-exempt projects must be completed within 18 months, and all other projects shall be completed within 24 months after receiving authorization to construct. This timeline updates and supersedes the timeline in D.22-04-055 Appendix A section 8 on reimbursable expenses.

B. Pricing: By accepting these awards, the Awardees commit to serve customers in the project area at prices not exceeding those provided in the application for five years after project completion. Awardees who committed not to increase prices for a period of ten years in their application commit to serve customers in the project area for ten years after project completion. Should the need arise for grant recipients to adjust prices due to externalities outside their control (*e.g.* inflation), grant recipients may file and serve, on the R. 20-09-001 proceeding service list, a request to modify this requirement with the Communications Division.

C. Speed and Latency: All households in the proposed project areas must be offered a broadband internet service plan with speeds of at least 100/100 Mbps download and upload, with not more than 100 milliseconds of latency.

D. Affordability: All projects shall participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program or otherwise provide access to a broad-based affordability program to low-income customers in the proposed service area of the broadband infrastructure that provides benefits to households commensurate with those provided under the Affordable Connectivity Program. Should the Affordable Connectivity Program end, the Commission will identify a successor low-income subsidy program in which participants must participate. Awardees must participate in a successor to the Affordable Connectivity Program identified after the grant is awarded.

E. Project Audit: The Commission has the right to conduct any necessary audit, verification, and discovery during project implementation/construction to ensure that Federal Funding Account funds are spent in accordance with Commission approval. All recipients of federally funded grants exceeding \$750,000 will need to include a budget for a federal audit.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Treasury, Compliance and Reporting Guidance State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (November 15, 2021 Version 2.1), available at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

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F. Reporting Requirements: Numerous post-award reports are required. In summary, these include monthly contractor reports (if applicable), quarterly progress reports, and a final completion report.<sup>20</sup>

G. Prevailing Wage: Section 1720 of the California Labor Code requires Federal Funding Account projects be subject to prevailing wage requirements.<sup>21</sup> Applicants accepting Federal Funding Account awards are committing to follow state prevailing wage requirements with regards to their projects.

H. Payments to Federal Funding Account Recipients: The Commission may reimburse Awardees' expenses in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 281(n)(2), D.22-04-055, and the Appendix. Requests for payments may be submitted as the project is progressively deployed. The prerequisite for first payment is the submittal of a progress report to the Commission showing that a minimum of ten percent of the project (as determined by budget spent) has been completed. Subsequent payments may be made upon at least 25 percent intervals, with the final 15 percent payment request (from 85 to 100 percent) not eligible for payment without an approved completion report. Payments are based on submitted receipts, invoices and other supporting documentation showing expenditures incurred for the project in accordance with the approved Federal Funding Account budget included in the awardee's application.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. California's multi-year broadband infrastructure investments in the Budget Act of 2021 and Senate Bill 156 (Statutes 2021, Chapters 84 and 112) provided \$2 billion over multiple years to the Last Mile Federal Funding Account to facilitate, via reimbursement, construction of last mile broadband infrastructure projects to connect unserved Californians.
2. On April 21, 2022, the Commission approved Decision 22-04-055, which along with the Federal Final Rule, established the Last Mile Federal Funding Account and set program rules.
3. The Communications Division opened an application window for the Federal Funding Account on June 30, 2023, and closed it on September 29, 2023. Applicants submitted 484 applications before the deadline. Application summaries were posted on October 23, 2023, and a 28-day objection window closed on November 20, 2023.

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<sup>20</sup> D. 22-04-055, Appendix A, Section 14.

<sup>21</sup> D.22-054-055, Section 13.2, page 57.

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Responses to objections were received until December 20, 2023.

4. AT&T submitted applications for the Colusa – 1, San Joaquin – 1C, Shasta – 1A, and Shasta 1C projects on September 29, 2023.
5. Comcast submitted an application for the Colusa County project on September 29, 2023.
6. Applicants responded to a supplemental data request that was due on March 12, 2024, providing information on project route miles, poles, unserved locations, middle-mile connectivity, and other updated project specific information.
7. The Commission has determined that the AT&T’s Colusa – 1 and San Joaquin – 1C projects are not categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review at this time.
8. The Commission has determined that Comcast’s Colusa County project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines at 14 California Code of Regulations (C.C.R.) Section 15301 (Existing facilities), C.C.R. Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction), 14 C.C.R. Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 14 C.C.R. Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).
9. The Commission has determined that AT&T’s Shasta – 1A and Shasta – 1C projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines at 14 California Code of Regulations (C.C.R.) Section 15301 (Existing facilities), 14 C.C.R. Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 14 C.C.R. Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).
10. Communications Division staff analyzed the applications for compliance with Commission and Federal rules, reviewed local feedback, and conducted fiscal and technical analysis.
11. All applications listed above met minimum eligibility requirements provided in Decision 22-04-055.
12. Staff recommends approval of the applications in this resolution, as they comply with program rules as stated and contribute to the Federal Funding Account’s goal of building broadband internet infrastructure to communities without access to internet service at sufficient and reliable speeds.

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13. Draft Resolution T-17863 was emailed to the CASF Distribution List and the R. 20-09-001 Service List on November 15, 2024, in compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g)(1).

**THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED** that:

1. The Commission shall award up to \$2,275,000 in Federal Funding Account funds to AT&T in order to complete the Colusa - 1 project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
2. The Commission shall award up to \$3,245,024 in Federal Funding Account funds to Comcast in order to complete the Colusa County project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
3. The Commission shall award up to \$1,675,000 in Federal Funding Account funds to AT&T in order to complete the San Joaquin - 1C project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
4. The Commission shall award up to \$5,010,072 in Federal Funding Account funds to AT&T in order to complete the Shasta - 1A project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.
5. The Commission shall award up to \$1,528,215 in Federal Funding Account funds to AT&T in order to complete the Shasta - 1C project, as described in the appendices. The specific locations to be provided service will be updated and reconciled with the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric after detailed engineering and project design, and the grant amount may be reduced consistent with a reduction in the number of locations.

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6. To ensure compliance with all program rules and guidelines, the Commission will not release funds to an applicant proposing to enter into agreement(s) with a third party or third parties for the ownership, operation, and/or leasing of the proposed infrastructure or network until the applicant provides the Commission with an advanced copy of the agreement document(s) as well as any signed agreements.
7. Applicants that committed to provide voice and/or Lifeline service must provide voice service and participate in LifeLine for five years after project completion in Federal Funding Account project areas.
8. For those projects not determined to be categorically exempt, the Commission cannot release funds for construction activities until California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review is complete. The awardees must comply with the requirements set forth in the CEQA Section of the Resolution. The awardees must provide their Proponent's Environmental Assessment for each project prior to the first payment.
9. Awardee(s) shall comply with all guidelines, requirements, and conditions set forth in this resolution.
10. When a successor to the Affordable Connectivity Program is identified by the Commission, all awardees shall participate in that program.
11. All construction covered by the grant must be completed within the applicable 18-month or 24-month time frame. In the event of extenuating circumstances jeopardizing this timeline, the Awardee(s) must notify the Communications Division's Director as soon as they become aware of any delay. If such notice is not provided, staff can take corrective actions including reducing payment for failure to satisfy this requirement.
12. If the awardee(s) fail to complete the project(s) in accordance with the terms outlined in Decision 22-04-055 and with the terms of the Commission's approval, as set forth in this resolution, awardees must reimburse some or all the Federal Funding Account grants received or take other corrective action.
13. If staff evaluation finds any of the projects can be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.
14. Upon approval of the resolution, the effective date of each award and encumbrance of funds is the date of approved resolution. Awardees seeking to modify their effective date must submit a letter to the Communications Division Director and provide justification for the request. Modifications to the effective date may be

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approved by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee. All awards are contingent on available state budget appropriations funding.

This resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on December 19, 2024, the following Commissioners voting favorable thereon:

/s/ RACHEL PETERSON

Rachel Peterson  
Executive Director

ALICE REYNOLDS  
President

DARCIE L. HOUCK

JOHN REYNOLDS

KAREN DOULAS

MATTHEW BAKER

Commissioners

**APPENDIX A**

**AT&T California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Requirements**

The following AT&T projects are subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

- Colusa - 1
- San Joaquin - 1C

The Commission must complete CEQA review prior to disbursing Federal Funding Account funds for construction activities. The initial funding granted in this Resolution may be used for project development and other AT&T activities that do not involve construction or any activities that would have any direct or indirect effect on the physical environment.

Prior to any construction activity for the project, AT&T is required to seek further authority from the Commission for such activity by filing a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) pursuant to Commission Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.4; and must undergo an environmental review pursuant to CEQA (California Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.).

AT&T should contact the Supervisor of the Commission's Energy Division CEQA Unit well in advance of a contemplated filing to (a) consult with staff regarding the process of developing and filing a PEA; (b) provide for cost recovery per Rule of Practice and Procedure 2.5; and (c) enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the Energy Division to initiate the retention of an environmental contractor to perform the environmental review.

AT&T must provide a PEA prior to the first payment. The Commission cannot release funds for the construction phase of this project until the Commission has completed CEQA review.



## **AT&T California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Requirements Continued**

The following AT&T projects are categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

- Shasta - 1A
- Shasta - 1C

The Shasta - 1A project is in Shasta County in the city of Anderson and the unincorporated community of Cottonwood. The area is largely rural and has residential and commercial locations. The terrain is generally flat and the major roadways in the project area are Interstate 5, highway 273, Panorama Rt. Road, and Dersch Road. Of the approximately 116 miles of the new fiber that will be installed, approximately 95 miles will be installed overhead on existing structures. The remaining approximately 21 miles of new fiber will be constructed underground using boring, micro trenching, and/ or open trench within existing easements along existing roadways in previously disturbed ground.

The Shasta - 1C project is in Shasta County, located primarily in the communities of Castella and Lakehead. The major roadway is Interstate 5. Approximately 28 miles of new fiber will be installed. Approximately 25 miles of fiber will be installed aerially and an additional 3 miles will be buried along existing roadways in previously disturbed ground using directional boring or micro trenching.

Based on the information that AT&T provided, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that the projects meet the criteria for the CEQA categorical exemptions under 14 California Code of Regulation (C.C.R.) Section 15301 (Existing facilities), 14 C.C.R. Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 14 C.C.R. Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land). Thus, the Shasta 1A and Shasta 1C projects are categorically exempt from CEQA review and the Commission may authorize funds for the construction activities.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Comcast California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Requirements**

The following Comcast project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

- Colusa County

The first section of the project is located in unincorporated portions of Colusa County, immediately west of the City of Colusa. The project alignment is along Arena Drive, Christie Lane, Codorniz Road, Fruitvale Avenue, Grover venue, Hunter Road, Locey Court, Lurline Avenue, Mccoy Road, North Avenue, Ranch Road, Roberts Road, State Highway 20, State Highway 45, and Wilson Avenue. It includes 25,686 feet of new aerial fiber and approximately 21,358 feet of new underground fiber.

The second section of the project is located on the Colusa Rancheria and portions of unincorporated Colusa County and in the City of Colusa. It is aligned along State Highway 45/Colusa Princeton Road, Harbison Road, Princeton Lane, Sedeo Circle, Traditional Ways Road, and Wintun Road. It includes 12,139 feet of new aerial fiber and approximately 9,615 feet of new underground fiber.

New aerial fiber would be installed on existing poles, or new poles will be added within the right of way, if required. New underground fiber would be installed. Comcast will use existing fiber huts for this project, requiring no new remote terminals or fiber huts to be built.

Based on the information that Comcast provided, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that the project meets the criteria for the CEQA categorical exemptions under 14 California Code of Regulation (C.C.R.) § 15301 (Existing Facilities), Class 1 - Existing Facilities, involving the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, and minor alteration of existing public or private structures, as the project will facilitate the use of existing city facilities with minor alterations and ongoing maintenance and repair of its equipment; 14 C.C.R. § 15302

(Replacement or Reconstruction), here the Class 2 actions consists of (b) Replacement of a commercial structure with a new structure of substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity.

(c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity, (d) Conversion of overhead electric utility distribution system facilities to underground including connection to existing overhead electric utility distribution lines where the surface is restored to the condition existing prior to the undergrounding; 14 C.C.R. § 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), Class 3, New Construction of Small Structures, involving construction and installation of limited numbers of new structures for the above ground

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cabinets; and 14 C.C.R. § 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, involving minor trenching and backfilling where the service is restored for the underground portion of the fiber optic network occurring underground within the street right-of-way. Thus, the Comcast Colusa County project is categorically exempt from CEQA review and the Commission may authorize funds for construction activities.

**APPENDIX C**  
**Colusa - 1**  
**Key Information**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Colusa - 1</b>
Applicant Name	AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of its affiliate Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California
Community Names	Stonyford
County	Colusa County
County Allocation	\$28,949,944
Project Size (in square miles)	299
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$55 for 300/300 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$30 for 100/100 Mbps
Low-cost plan	No
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	81 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$30,625
Area Households	342
Area Population	812
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	542
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	637
Unserved locations proposed to be served by the project	415
Unserved locations in the project area	513
Unserved units in the project area	582
Estimated unserved population in the project area	734
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	51

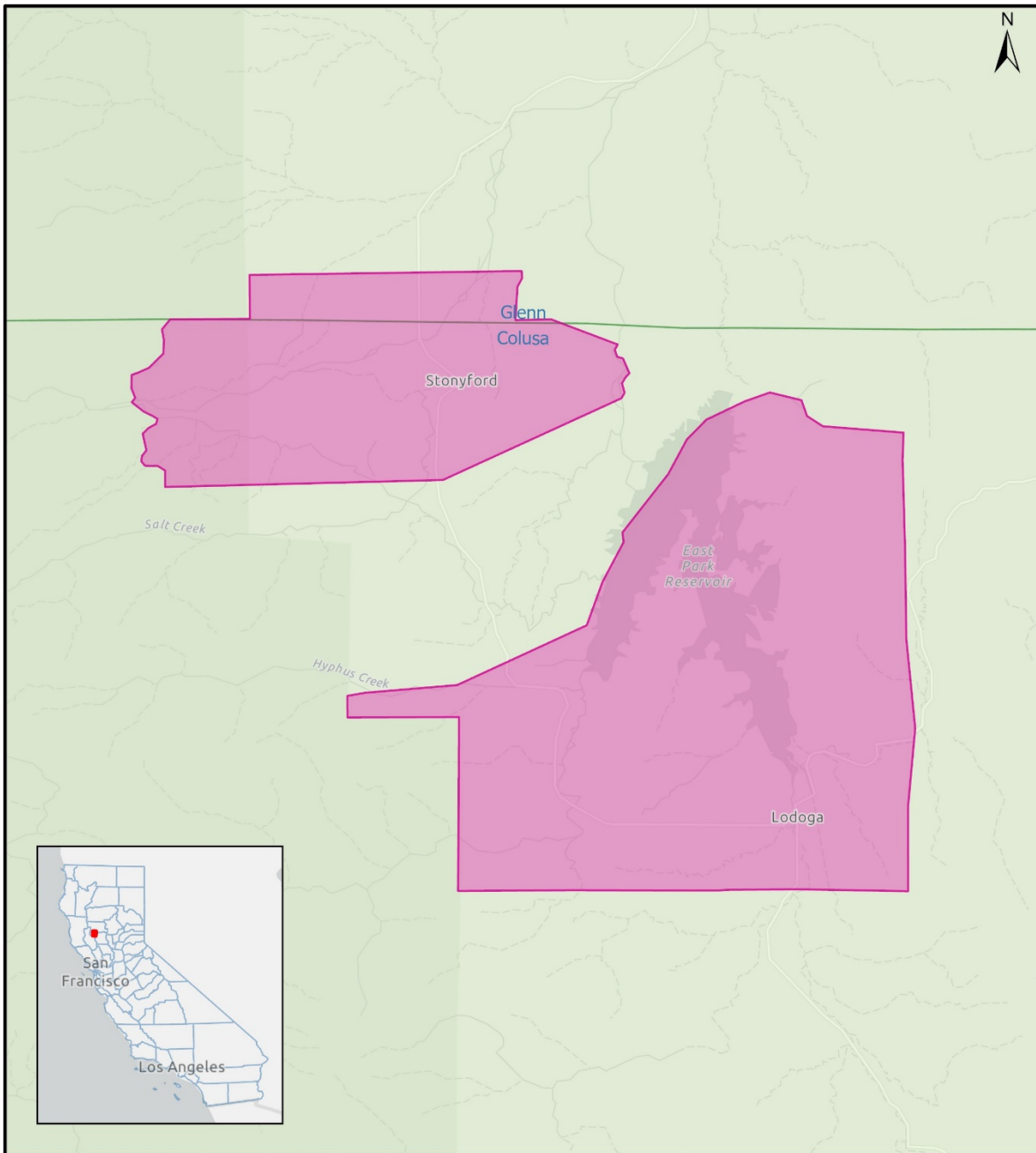
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Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	137
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	8
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	6
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$2,275,000
Deployment Schedule	18 Months
Total Project Cost	\$3,965,348
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$2,275,000
Applicant funded	\$1,690,348
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$3,909
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$3,571

# Map of Colusa - 1

## AT&T- Colusa-1- Colusa County



- Colusa-1**
- Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
  - FFA Project Areas
  - Tribal Lands
  - Low-Income Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information System for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 8/6/2024.

**APPENDIX D**  
**Comcast Colusa County**  
**Key Information**

Project Name	Colusa County
Applicant Name	Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC
Community Names	Colusa, Colusa Rancheria
County	Colusa
County Allocation	\$28,949,944
Project Size (in square miles)	25
Maximum Download/Upload speed	1,250/1,250 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$40/month for 100/100 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$9.95 for 50/10 Mbps, \$29.95 for 100/20 Mbps
Low-cost plan	\$40/month for 50 /20 Mbps minimum
LifeLine Participation	No
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	19 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$43,516
Area Households	462
Area Population	1,126
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	540
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	698
Unserved locations proposed to be served by the project	261
Unserved locations in the project area	261
Unserved units in the project area	310
Estimated unserved population in the project area	722
Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	25

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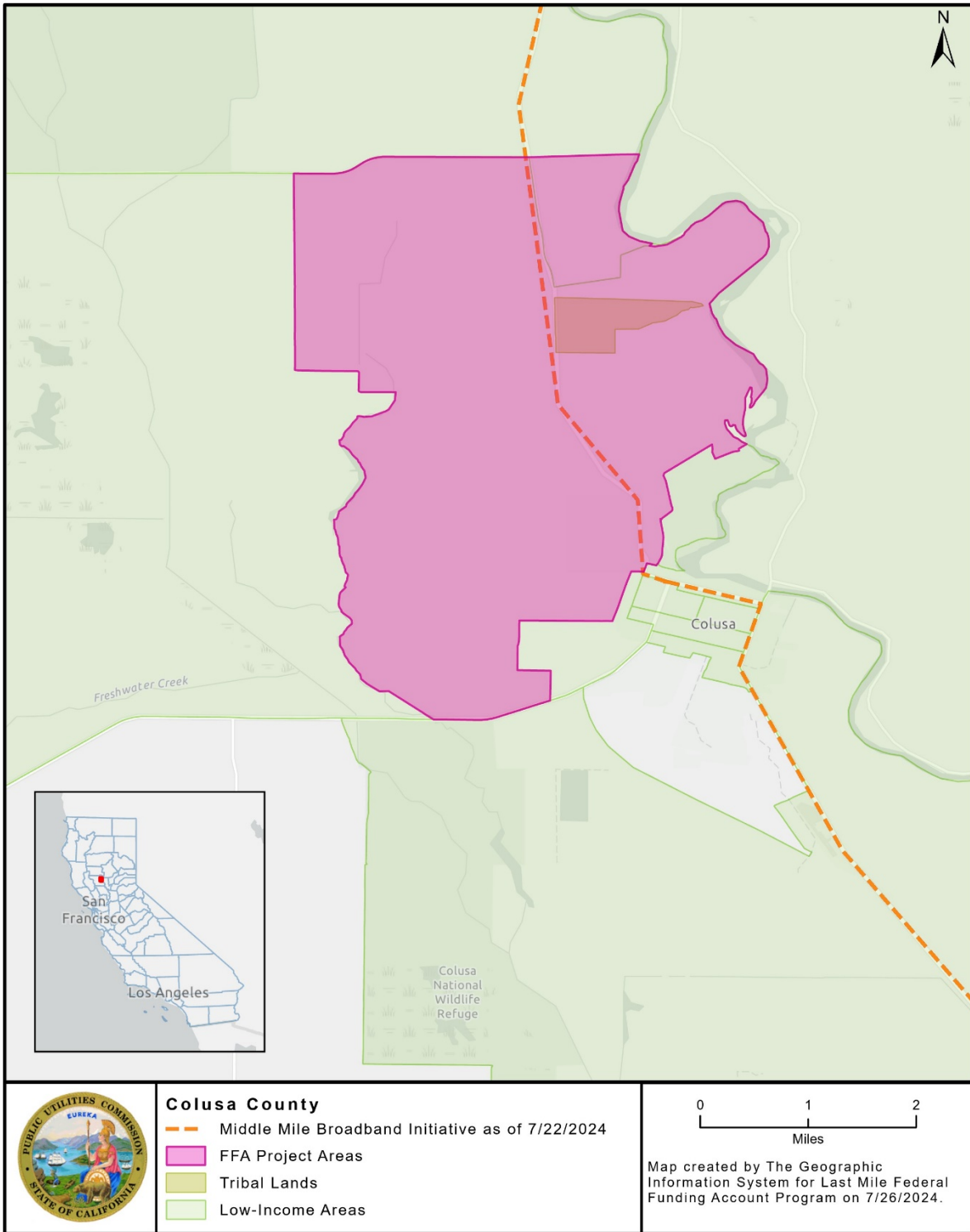
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Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	63
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	2
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	1
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$3,245,024
Deployment Schedule	18 Months
Total Project Cost	\$3,245,024
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$3,245,024
Applicant funded	\$0
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$10,468
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$4,649



### Map of Comcast Colusa County

## Comcast- Colusa County- Colusa County



**APPENDIX E**  
**San Joaquin - 1C**  
**Key Information**

Project Name	San Joaquin - 1C
Applicant Name	AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of its affiliate Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California
Community Names	Thornton
County	San Joaquin County
County Allocation	\$29,434,984
Project Size (in square miles)	4
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$55 for 300/300 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$30 for 100/100 Mbps
Low-cost plan	No
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	89 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	88 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$38,214
Area Households	414
Area Population	1,223
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	294
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	487
Unserviced locations proposed to be served by the project	267
Unserviced locations in the project area	368
Unserviced units in the project area	430
Estimated unserviced population in the project area	1,199
Estimated unserviced Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	72

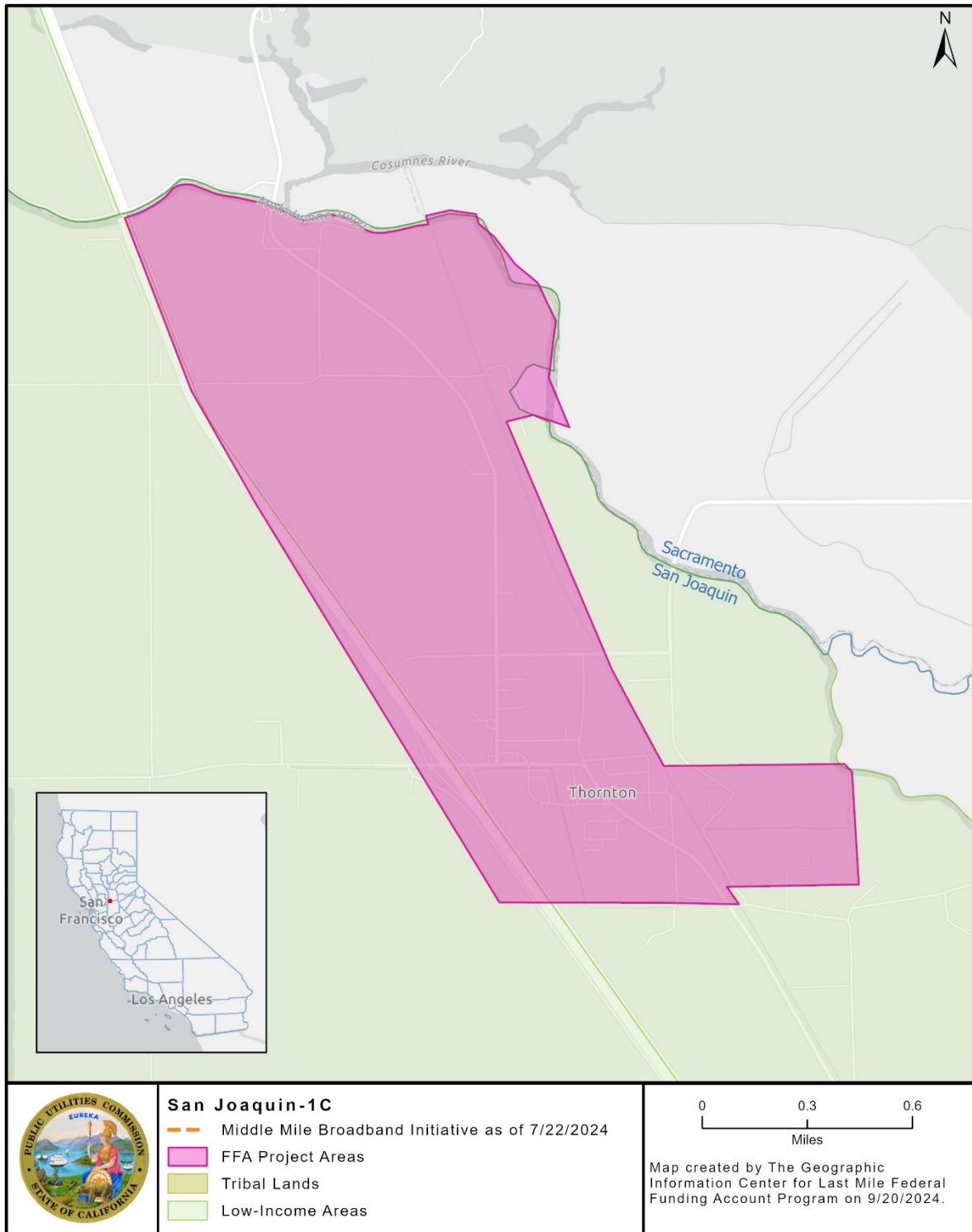
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Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	241
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	7
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	1
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$1,675,000
Deployment Schedule	18 Months
Total Project Cost	\$2,581,370
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$1,675,000
Applicant funded	\$906,370
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$3,895
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$3,439

### Map of San Joaquin - 1C

#### AT&T- San Joaquin-1C- San Joaquin County



**APPENDIX F**  
**Shasta - 1A**  
**Key Information**

Project Name	Shasta - 1A
Applicant Name	AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of its affiliate Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California
Community Names	Redding, Shasta
County	Shasta County
County Allocation	\$32,441,786
Project Size (in square miles)	51
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$55 for 300/300 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$30 for 100/100 Mbps
Low-cost plan	No
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	56 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$60,972
Area Households	2,236
Area Population	5,892
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	3,090
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	3,764
Unserviced locations proposed to be served by the project	1,386
Unserviced locations in the project area	1,411
Unserviced units in the project area	1,708
Estimated unserviced population in the project area	4,185
Estimated unserviced Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	267

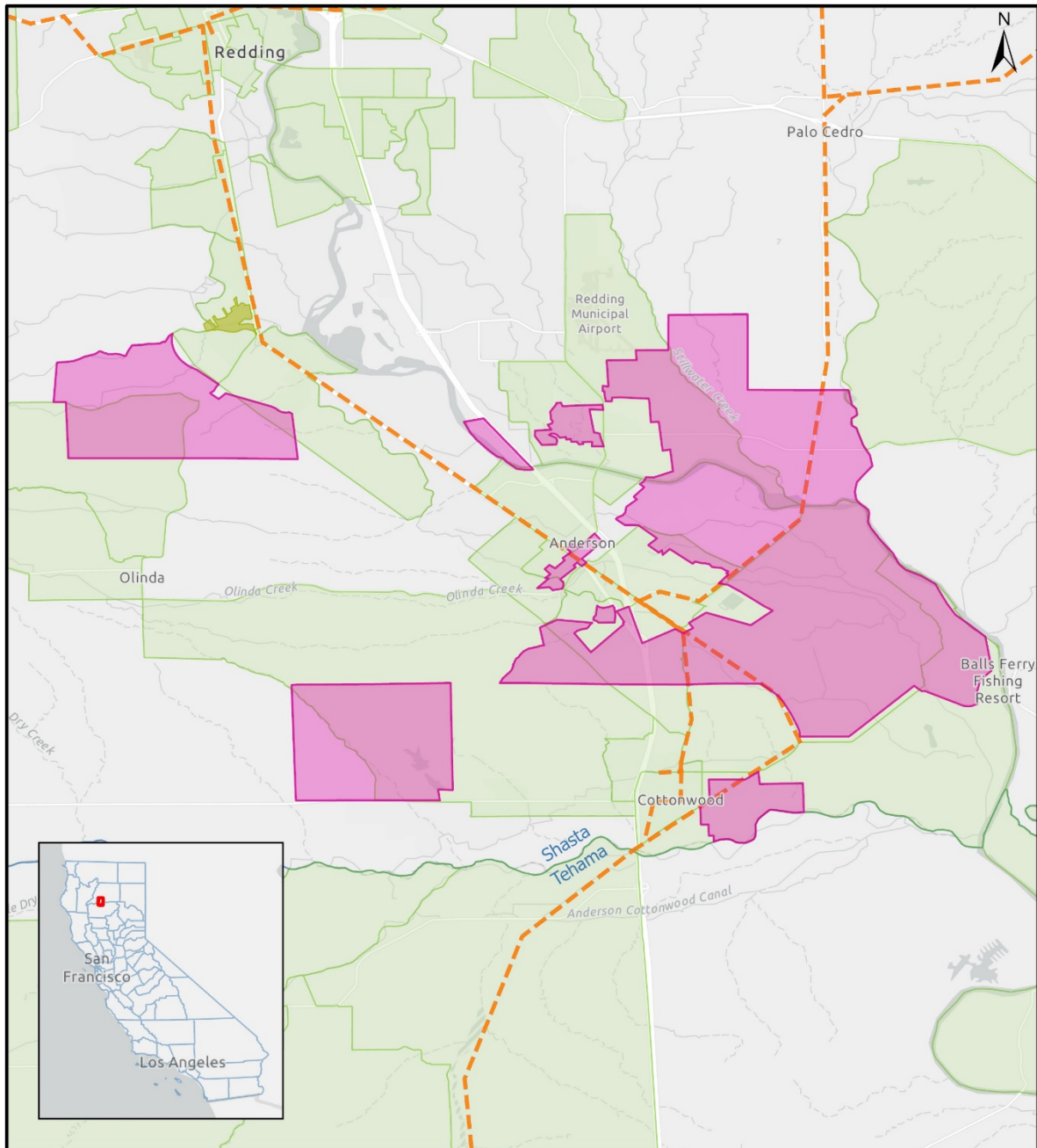
**Resolution T-17863**

CD/CJ2

Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	564
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	8
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	0
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$5,010,072
Deployment Schedule	18 Months
Total Project Cost	\$8,063,512
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$5,010,072
Applicant funded	\$3,053,440
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$2,933
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$1,331

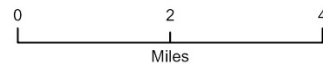
# Map of Shasta - 1A

## AT&T- Shasta-1A- Shasta County



### Shasta-1A

-  Middle Mile Broadband Initiative as of 7/22/2024
-  FFA Project Areas
-  Tribal Lands
-  Low-Income Areas



Map created by The Geographic Information System for Last Mile Federal Funding Account Program on 8/23/2024.

**APPENDIX G**  
**Shasta - 1C**  
**Key Information**

Project Name	Shasta - 1C
Applicant Name	AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of its affiliate Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California
Community Names	Lakehead, Shasta
County	Shasta County
County Allocation	\$32,441,786
Project Size (in square miles)	18
Maximum Download/Upload speed	5,000/5,000 Mbps
Lowest cost plan (non-income qualified)	\$55 for 300/300 Mbps
Low-income plan	\$30 for 100/100 Mbps
Low-cost plan	No
LifeLine Participation	Yes
Percent Disadvantaged Communities	0 percent
Percent Low-Income Areas	100 percent
Median Household Income (weighted)	\$45,792
Area Households	464
Area Population	906
Estimated locations within 1000 feet of the project area (location passings)	556
Estimated units within 1000 feet of the project area (unit passings)	816
Unserviced locations proposed to be served by the project	548
Unserviced locations in the project area	539
Unserviced units in the project area	798
Estimated unserviced population in the project area	903
Estimated unserviced Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) locations in the project area	131



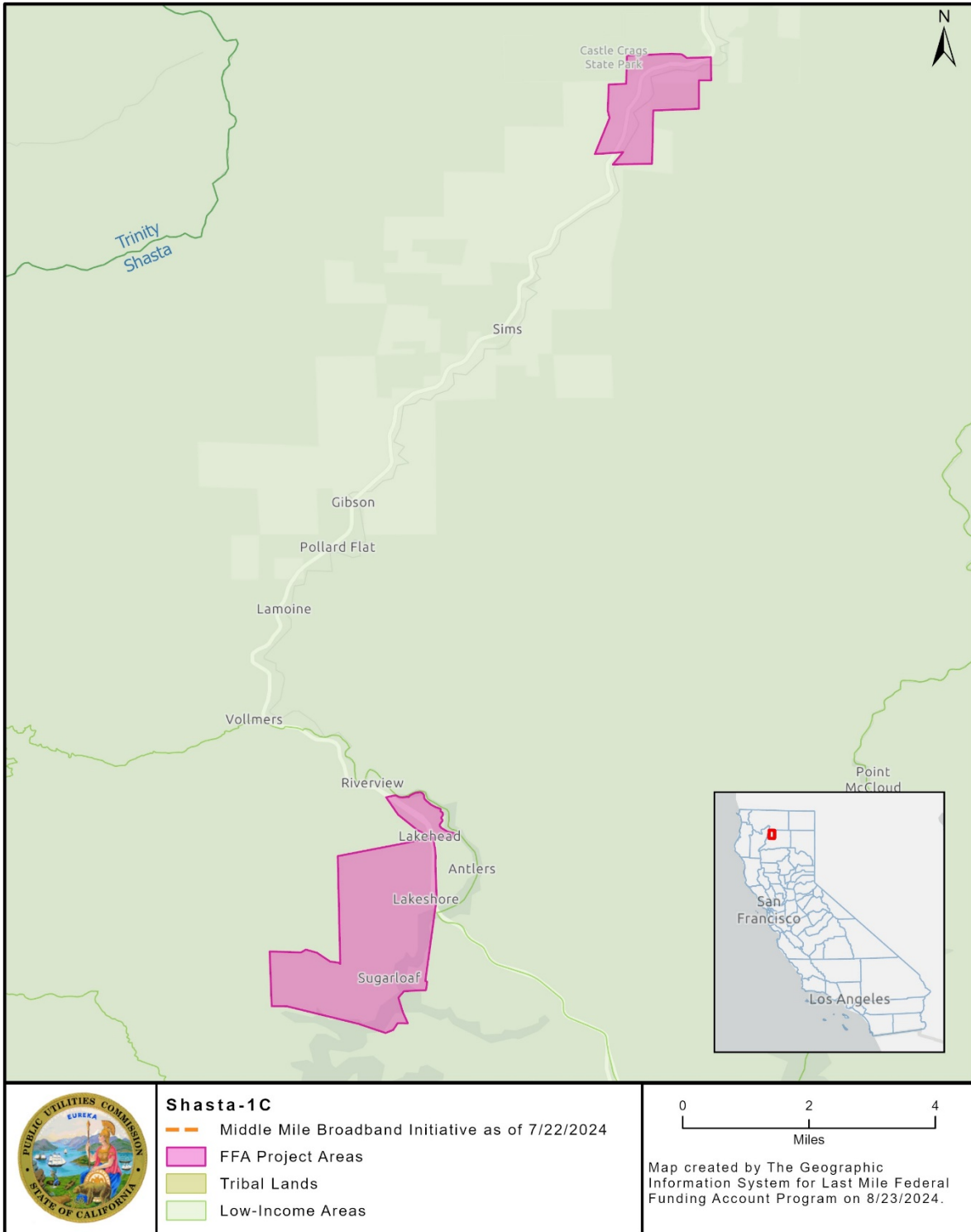
**Resolution T-17863**

CD/CJ2

Estimated unserved Multiple Dwelling Unit (MDU) location units in the project area	390
Community Anchor Institutions benefitting from the project	3
Public safety locations benefitting from the project	2
Does the project connect to public open access middle mile?	No
Distance of middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for middle-mile, backhaul, and connection to Middle Mile Broadband Initiative in project	-
Grant costs for last-mile delivery	\$1,528,215
Deployment Schedule	18 Months
Total Project Cost	\$3,056,430
Amount of FFA grant funds requested	\$1,528,215
Applicant funded	\$1,528,215
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unserved unit in the project area	\$1,915
Grant (excluding middle mile) per unit passing	\$1,873

# Map of Shasta - 1C

## AT&T- Shasta-1C- Shasta County



**APPENDIX H**  
**AT&T Service Plans**

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, AT&T is obligated to offer service to customers in the project areas of the listed projects at no less than the speeds in the Table below, no more than 100 milliseconds of latency, and no more than the prices<sup>22</sup> in the Table below, including installation, for at least five years following project completion.

- Colusa - 1
- San Joaquin - 1C
- Shasta - 1A
- Shasta - 1C

<b>Plan</b>	<b>Speed</b>	<b>Price in 2024 Dollars</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Access from AT&T	100/100 Mbps	\$30/month	Customers must provide documentation showing eligibility for a qualifying program. <sup>23</sup> Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	300/300 Mbps	\$55/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	500/500 Mbps	\$65/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	1,000/1,000 Mbps	\$80/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	2,000/2,000 Mbps	\$150/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount
AT&T Fiber	5,000/5,000 Mbps	\$250/month	Price includes available \$5.00/month auto-pay discount

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, AT&T has committed to provide LifeLine-discounted service in the project area listed.

In addition, AT&T commits to offer voice service that meets California and Federal Communications Commission requirements for 9-1-1 service. AT&T states in their application: "At the time of this application, AT&T intends to offer VoIP services. For more information on AT&T's VoIP offerings, visit: <https://www.att.com/home-phone/>."

<sup>22</sup> Prices may increase at no more than the rate of inflation, defined by the Consumer Price Index.

<sup>23</sup> Qualifying programs/income thresholds include: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Supplemental Security Income; National School Lunch Program or Head Start; and household income based on 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**APPENDIX I**  
**Comcast Service Plans**

As a condition of the grant awards in this Resolution, Comcast is obligated to offer service to customers in the project areas of the listed projects at no less than the speeds in the Table below, no more than 100 milliseconds of latency, and no more than the prices<sup>1</sup> in the Table below, including installation, for at least five years following project completion, or ten years for the Low-Cost Plan:

- Colusa County

<b>Plan</b>	<b>Speed</b>	<b>Price in 2024 Dollars</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Low-Cost Plan	100/100 Mbps	\$40/month <sup>2</sup>	Ten-year price commitment
Internet Essentials	50/10 Mbps	\$9.95/month	Customers must provide documentation showing eligibility for a qualifying program. <sup>3</sup>  Includes free digital skills training in person and online. Customers have the option to purchase a low-cost Internet-ready computer.
Internet Essentials Plus	100/20 Mbps	\$29.95/month	Customers must provide documentation showing eligibility for a qualifying program. <sup>4</sup>  Includes free digital skills training in person and online. Customers have the option to purchase a low-cost Internet-ready computer.

**APPENDIX J**  
**California Public Utilities Commission**  
**Federal Funding Account, Last Mile Program**  
**Guidance to Staff Regarding**  
**CONSENT FORM**  
**Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Terms**

Awardee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Key Project Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Awardee identified above acknowledges receipt of the California Public Utilities Commission Resolution or Award Letter and agrees to comply with all grant terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the Resolution or Award Letter and those in the Federal Funding Account, Last Mile program rules. Awards are contingent on available state budget appropriations funding.

Undersigned representative of \_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Awardee] is duly authorized to execute this Consent Form on behalf of the Awardee and to bind the Awardee to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in California Public Utilities Commission Resolution or Award Letter and those in the Federal Funding Account, Last Mile program rules.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Awardee Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Representative's Organization:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Business Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street address, suite/apt. number

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, state, and ZIP Code

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_