PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date of Issuance: July 17, 2026
Communications Division
Broadband Video and Market Branch

RESOLUTION T-17929
July 16, 2026

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-17929: Approves up to $8,500,000 from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) for the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account applications of Hankins Information Technology, (U-7386-C) for the West Marin Project in Marin County.

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Awards one grant for up to $8,500,000 from the CASF Infrastructure Funding Account to Hankins Information Technology in Marin County.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- There are no adverse safety considerations identified by the Communications Division. The project to be funded by this award has the potential to improve communications resiliency and redundancy.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this Resolution.

I. SUMMARY

This Resolution approves grant funding for one grant in the amount of up to $8,500,000 from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account (Infrastructure Account) for the grant application of Hankins Information Technology for the West Marin project. The projects will provide broadband connectivity to a total of 154 unserved locations in the Marin County towns of Point Reyes Station, Stinson, Bolinas and Nicasio.

Below is a summary of the funding recommended for approval by the California Public

Utilities Commission (Commission). Associated maps and project information summaries are included in the appendices.

Table 1: Summary of Grant Funding

Applicant	Project Name	Unserved Locations	Initial Requested Amount	CASF Approved Amount
Hankins Information Technology	West Marin	154	$8,500,000	$8,500,000

II. BACKGROUND

The CASF Infrastructure Account provides grant funding to Internet service providers (ISPs)/eligible entities to build or upgrade[1] broadband infrastructure in areas that are unserved by existing broadband providers. The CASF program was initiated in 2008, after the program was first adopted by the Commission in Decision (D.) 07-12-054 and enacted into statute pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 1193.

On July 20, 2021, Governor Newsom signed historic broadband legislation to help bridge the digital divide; Senate Bill (SB) 156 changed the definition of "unserved area," allowing, but not requiring, funding for "an area for which there is no facility-based broadband provider offering at least one tier of broadband service at speeds of at least 25 Mbps downstream, 3 Mbps upstream."[2] Additionally, SB 156 requires grantees to "deploy infrastructure capable of providing broadband access at speeds of a minimum of 100 Mbps downstream and 20 Mbps upstream"[3] and that any grantees receiving CASF funding must report subcontracted work in excess of $25,000; this information must be posted by the Commission on a monthly basis.[4]

On November 17, 2022, the Commission issued D.22-11-023, adopting programmatic changes to the CASF Infrastructure Account. Attachment 1 of D.22-11-023 (CASF Guidelines) set forth the rules, application requirements, and guidelines for the CASF Infrastructure Account.

III. APPLICATION REVIEW AND EVALUATION

[1] Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code § 281(f)(4)
[2] Pub. Util. Code § 281(b)(1)(B)(ii)(I).
[3] Pub. Util. Code § 281(f)(5)
[4] Pub. Util. Code § 281(l).

Hankins Information Technology Background

On October 31, 2025, Hankins Information Technology submitted a CASF Infrastructure application, requesting 100 percent funding for a total of $8,500,000, to deploy last-mile fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) broadband access to 154 unserved households in Marin County. The applicant determined eligibility for funding based on the California Interactive Broadband Map,[5] which during the 2025 application cycle was based on 2023 mapping data. Because the evaluation and review period occurred while the Commission was collecting 2024 broadband location data, Staff verified eligibility using the more current 2024 dataset to ensure the eligibility of all locations is based on the most recent available data and to prevent the awarding of program funds in areas already served.

Hankins Information Technology, founded in 2013, is an independent regional telecommunications company offering service in Santa Clara, San Benito and Marin counties. The company originally focused on rural areas in Santa Clara and San Benito and recently expanded to the North Bay through its purchase of Horizon Cable in 2025. Through the Horizon purchase, the company is focused on building FTTH networks in Point Reyes Station, Stinson Beach, Olema and Bolinas. The West Marin project will expand FTTH service to unserved locations that are beyond the current reach of the existing network infrastructure.

The company is a recent recipient of grant funding from the Commission's Last Mile Federal Funding Account (FFA). In September of 2024, the Commission approved two FFA projects in the counties of San Benito and Santa Clara for a total grant amount of $24,249,166. Hankins Information Technology has worked closely with Staff and intends to complete both projects by the end of 2026.

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

1. ***West Marin Project***

Project Summary

In compliance with D.22-11-023, Staff determined that the West Marin project is eligible to receive up to $8,500,000 in CASF Infrastructure Account grant funding.

Hankins Information Technology proposes to serve 154 unserved locations by constructing a FTTH network with up to 1,000 Megabits per second (Mbps) download and 1,000 Mbps upload in Marin County.

[5] California Interactive Broadband Map available at https://www.broadbandmap.ca.gov/

Challenges
Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 281(f)(8) and as required by D.22-11-023, the Commission provided an opportunity for entities to challenge the application. Challenges were due on December 5, 2025. The West Marin Project received no challenges.

Revisions
Staff determined that the West Marin Project does not overlap with other grant funded terrestrial broadband projects.

Technology Deployment
Hankins Information Technology will deploy approximately 62 miles of last mile fiber. The network infrastructure will be approximately 50% aerial and 50% underground.

Median Household Income and Low-Income Service
The calculated median household income (MHI) for the project area is $102,752. This MHI value meets the definition of low-income as set forth in D.22-11-023, as it falls at or below the median income of $156,650 for a family of four in Marin County as designated by the Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD).[6]

The project will provide a low-income plan of 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload for $25 per month. Installation and connection charges will be waived for five years from completion of the project.[7] To further reduce the burden on low-income residents, Hankins Information Technology intends to participate in the California Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot program upon completion of the West Marin Project.

Safety Considerations
The proposed project enables residents to access the public safety benefits that are available upon completion of a reliable broadband network. The project is mostly located in a Commission-designated Tier 2 High-Fire Threat District, with a small portion in a Tier 3 High Fire-Threat District.

Funding Determination
The proposed project will cost up to $8,500,000, of which the CASF Infrastructure account will fund 100% of expenditures.

Viability

[6] 80 percent of the 2025 Statewide Median Income of $118,100 is $94,480. See: https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/grants-and-funding/income-limits-2025.pdf
[7] See D. 22-11-023, Attachment 1, §8.11, Pricing Commitment

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

The applicant received six letters of support for the West Marin Project from community representatives, including the District 4 Supervisor on the Marin County Board of Supervisors. For more details, see Appendix F.

California Environmental Quality Act

Based on the information received, the Commission's Energy Division has determined that this project has not yet met the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) categorical exemption at this time. Hankins Information Technology must comply with the CEQA requirements discussed in the appendices. If Hankins Information Technology provides additional documentation demonstrating that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

IV. NOTICE

On October 31, 2025, the Communications Division (CD) received 41 grant applications[8] for CASF Infrastructure Account funding.[9] On November 14, 2025, Staff posted all the proposed project area maps and project summaries for the West Marin project on the Commission's CASF Infrastructure Project Summaries webpage[10] and sent notice regarding the project to the CASF Distribution and Service Lists.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 281(f)(8) and as required by D.22-11-023, the Commission provided an opportunity for entities to challenge the application. Challenges were due on December 5, 2025.

V. COMMENTS

---

[8] See https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-project-summaries for project summaries and https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-grant/casf-infrastructure-approved-projects for approved projects.

[9] The Commission extended the CASF Infrastructure application deadline from April 1 to October 31, 2025, and all subsequent deadlines were moved back by six months.

[10] See CASF Infrastructure Project Summaries at https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/california-advanced-services-fund/casf-infrastructure-project-summaries

In compliance with Public Utilities Code Section 311(g), a notice letter was emailed on June 12, 2026, informing all parties on the CASF Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's documents website at http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/documents/. This letter also informed parties that the final conformed Resolution adopted by the Commission will be posted and available on the same website. The Commission received no comments.

VI. FINDINGS

1. On October 31, 2025, Hankins Information Technology submitted a grant application for CASF funding for its West Marin Project to deploy last-mile broadband infrastructure to enable Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) service at speeds of up to 1 gigabit per second (Gbps) symmetrical to a total of 154 unserved locations in Marin County.

2. On November 14, 2025, Staff posted the proposed project area map and project summary for the West Marin project on the Commission's CASF Infrastructure Project Summaries webpage.

3. Staff received no challenges to the West Marin project.

4. Based on its review, Staff determined that the Hankins Information Technology West Marin project qualifies for an Infrastructure Account grant pursuant to D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1 and recommends Commission approval of total CASF funding of up to $8,500,000.

5. Hankins Information Technology will offer broadband-speed internet, using FTTH technology at speeds up to 1 Gbps upload and 1 Gbps download to last-mile consumers.

6. Hankins Information Technology will secure joint-pole agreements with utility pole owners where needed to deploy aerial broadband infrastructure on existing poles and will place underground infrastructure in previously disturbed right of way areas, including along the sides of roadways.

7. The Commission has determined that Hankins Information Technology's West Marin project is not exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review at this time.

8. A notice letter was emailed on June 12, 2026, informing all parties on the CASF

Distribution List of the availability of the draft of this Resolution for public comments at the Commission's documents website at http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/documents/.

9. The Commission received no comments.

<u>THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:</u>

1. The Commission shall award up to $8,500,000 in CASF Infrastructure Grant Account funds to Hankins Information Technology for the West Marin Project as described herein and summarized in the appendices of this Resolution.

2. The awardee shall comply with all guidelines, requirements and conditions associated with a CASF award, as specified in D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1, and all requirements for this project included in this Resolution, including Appendices A through F.

3. If an awardee fails to complete the project in accordance with the CASF guidelines and requirements outlined in D.22-11-023 and its Attachment 1, and the terms outlined in this Resolution, Hankins Information Technology must reimburse some or all the CASF funds that it has received.

4. If Staff evaluation finds the West Marin project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

5. The Commission cannot release funds for construction activities until CEQA review is complete. The awardee must comply with the requirements set forth in the CEQA Section of the Resolution. The awardee must provide their Proponent's Environmental Assessment prior to the first payment. If Hankins Information Technology provides additional documentation demonstrating that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption, then the project can be exempted by letter from the Communications Division Director or the director's delegate or designee.

6. Hankins Information Technology must complete and execute the consent forms (to be sent to the grantee after this Resolution is adopted) agreeing to the conditions set forth in this Resolution and return to Staff 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 may result in the Commission voiding the

grant award.

This resolution is effective today.

The foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a conference of the California Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on July 16, 2026, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

/s/LEUWAM TESFAI
Leuwam Tesfai
Executive Director

JOHN REYNOLDS
President
DARCIE L. HOUCK
CHRISTINE HARADA
KAREN DOUGLAS
MATTHEW BAKER
Commissioners

Dated July 16, 2026, at San Francisco, California

APPENDIX A

Compliance Requirements

A. Deployment Schedule

All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)-exempt projects must be completed within 18 months, and all other projects shall be completed within 24 months after receiving authorization to construct. If the grantee is unable to complete the proposed project within the 18-month or 24-month timeframe requirements, the grantee must notify the Director of the Communications Division as soon as the grantee becomes aware of this possibility. If such notice is not provided, the Commission may reduce payment for failure to satisfy this requirement of timely notification to the Director.

B. Execution and Performance

Staff and awardee shall determine a project start date after the CASF grant recipient has obtained all approvals, including permits. Should the grantee or any contractor it retains fail to commence work by the designated date, upon five days' written notice the Commission may terminate the grant. If the grantee fails to complete the project in accordance with the terms of Commission approval as set forth in this resolution, the awardee shall reimburse some or all of the CASF funds that it has received. The grantee must complete all construction covered by the grant on or before the grant's termination date.

C. Minimum Performance Criteria

	CASF Performance Criteria	**Proposed Project**
Project Completion	CEQA-exempt projects must be completed within 18 months, and all other projects shall be completed within 24 months after receiving authorization to construct	Within 18 months of permitting approval (CEQA Exempt)
Pricing	Prices committed for five years after completion of the project	5-year commitment
Speed	At least 100/20 Mbps[11]	100 Mbps / 100 Mbps
Latency	Maximum of 100 ms of latency	< 100 ms
Data Caps	Minimum of 190 GBs per month	No data cap
Affordability	Must offer low-income plan	$25.00/month

[11] SB 156, enacted on July 20, 2021, and effective immediately, requires the Commission to fund projects that "deploy infrastructure capable of providing broadband access at a minimum of 100 Mbps downstream and 20 Mbps upstream." *See* Pub. Util. Code § 281(f)(5).

D. Letter of Credit

The Commission exempts Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) holders from providing a letter of credit, on the basis that the company submitted a performance bond to the Commission to maintain its CPCN and that the Commission has other means to enforce compliance. In its application, Hankins Information Technology provided proof of CPCN registration and thus is exempt from the requirement of providing a letter of credit.

E. Project Audit

The Commission has the right to conduct any necessary audit, verification, and discovery during project implementation/construction to ensure that CASF funds are spent in accordance with Commission approval.

Grantee invoices may be subject to a financial audit by the Commission at any time within three years of completion of the work.

F. Providing Voice Service

Hankins Information Technology provides VoIP phone services as a white-labeled service on the Atheral platform. The company's robocall mitigation and E-911 services are industry standard and meet current FCC standards.

G. Reporting

All grantees must submit biannual progress reports on the status of the project, irrespective of whether grantees request reimbursement or payment. These reports are due semi-annually, in March and September, until the project is completely built and operational. Progress reports shall describe the schedule for deployment, major construction milestones and costs submitted in the proposal; indicate the actual date of completion of each task/milestone as well as problems and issues encountered, and the actions taken to resolve these problems and issues during project implementation and construction; and identify future risks to the project.

Before full payment of the project is made, grantees must submit a project completion report. Grantees shall also include test results on the download and upload speeds at a representative sample of locations in the final completion report, per CASF Guidelines, Section 13: Reporting Requirements.[12] Grantees must certify that each progress report is true and correct under penalty of perjury.

H. Prevailing Wage

Section 1720 of the California Labor Code specifies that CASF-subsidized projects are

[12] See D. 22-11-023, Attachment 1.

subject to prevailing wage requirements. Grantees committed to following state prevailing wage requirements with regards to these projects.

I. Contractor Reporting

Grantees must comply with the contractor reporting requirements of Section 281(l)(1) of the California Public Utilities Code, which requires reporting of certain information for all contractors and subcontractors undertaking a contract or subcontract in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars on CASF-subsidized projects.

APPENDIX B

Payments to CASF Recipients

Pub. Util. Code Section 281(f)(10) defines the costs the Commission may reimburse as follows:

- Costs directly related to the deployment of infrastructure;
- Costs to lease access to property or for Internet backhaul services for a period not to exceed five years; and
- Costs incurred by an existing facility-based broadband provider to upgrade its existing facilities to provide for interconnection.

Additionally, D.22-11-023, Attachment 1, Section 7 caps administrative expenses directly related to the project at 10 percent of the grant amount.[13]

The grantee may submit reimbursement requests at the following intervals:

- 10 percent completion;
- 35 percent completion;
- 60 percent completion;
- 85 percent completion; and
- 100 percent completion.

The final 15 percent payment request (from 85 to 100 percent) will not be paid 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 CASF funding budget included in the CASF grantee's application.

Payment to grantees shall follow the process adopted for funds created under Public Utilities Code Section 270. The Commission generally processes payments within 20-25 business days, including Communications Division and Administrative Services review time. The State Controller's Office (SCO) requires an additional 14-21 days to issue payment from the day that requests are received by SCO from Administrative Services. The West Marin project is funded at 100%, CASF will not accept invoices that include a handling fee.

---

[13] Administrative costs are defined as "indirect overhead costs attributable to a project, per generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and the direct cost of complying with Commission administrative and regulatory requirements related to the grant itself." Applicants seeking additional funds will require a Commission exemption included in a resolution.

APPENDIX C

California Environmental Quality Act Requirements

The Hankins Information Technology West Marin project is subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review:

The Commission must complete CEQA review prior to disbursing CASF funds for construction activities. The initial funding granted in this Resolution may be used for project development and other Hankins Information Technology 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, Hankins Information Technology 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.).

Hankins Information Technology should contact the Supervisor of the Commission's Energy Division Infrastructure Planning and CEQA Section 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. Hankins Information Technology 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.

APPENDIX D

Hankins Information Technology – West Marin

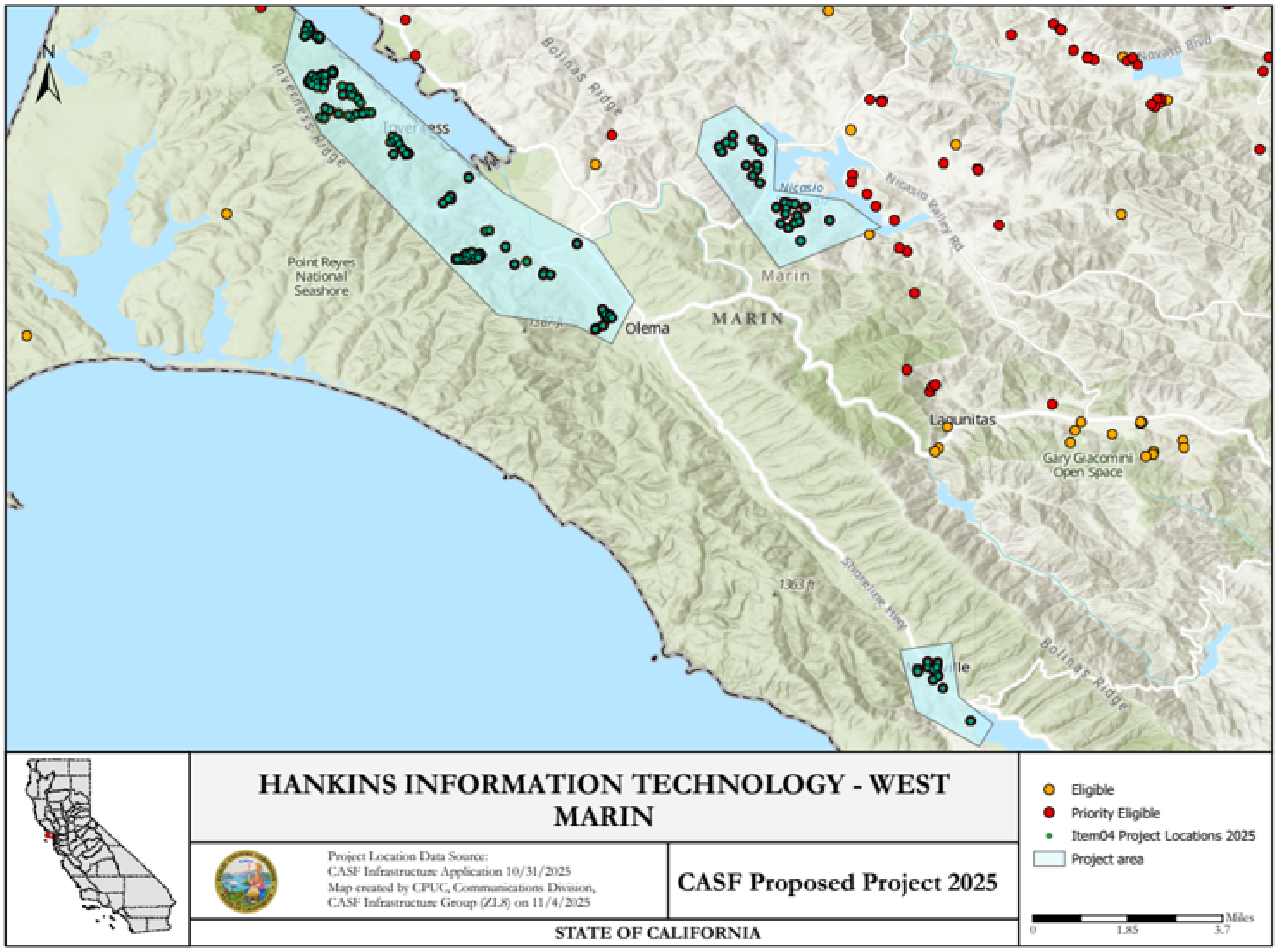
Key Information

Project Name	**West Marin**
Project Plan	*The project proposes to deploy FTTH to 154 unserved locations in Marin County.*
County	*Marin*
Communities	*Point Reyes Station, Stinson, Bolinas, Nicasio*
Project Size	*15.54 square miles*
Download / Upload speed	*1,000 Mbps / 1,000 Mbps*
Median Household Income	*$102,752*
Pricing Plan (Monthly) Residential	*100 Mbps Symmetrical Standard Plan (100/100 Mbps): $60* *500 Mbps Symmetrical Standard Plan (500/500 Mbps): $89* *1000 Mbps Symmetrical Standard Plan (1000/1000 Mbps): $100*
Affordability *(Low Income Plan)*	*100/100 Mbps: $25* *Hankins intends to participate in the California Lifeline Home Broadband Pilot program*
Unserved Locations	*154*
Subscriber take rate	*62%*
High Fire Threat Districts	*Yes*
Deployment Schedule (from permit approval date)	*18 Months*
Proposed Project Budget (Total)	*$8,500,000*
Grant Requested Amount	*$8,500,000*
CASF Grant Amount (100 percent)	*$8,500,000*
Cost per household	*$55,19*
Census Blocks	*060411321002000* *060411321002001* *060411321002002* *060411321002003* *060411321002034* *060411322001006* *060411322001012* *060411322001017* *060411322001019* *060411322001021* *060411322002002* *060411322002003* *060411322002006* *060411322002010* *060411322002015* *060411322002016* *060411322002020* *060411322002021* *060411322003004* *060411322003017* *060411322003018* *060411322003024* *060411322003037* *060411322003070* *060411330001058* *060411330001059* *060411330002013* *060411330002014* *060411330002015*

APPENDIX E

Hankins Information Technology – West Marin

Project Location Map



APPENDIX F
Hankins Information Technology – West Marin Community Supporters

1. Vicki Leeds, Owner, Cabaline
2. Hilary Cheda, Manager, Cheda's Garage, Inc
3. Amanda Eichstaedt, Station Manager and Executive Director, KWMR
4. Oscar Gamez, Toby's Feed Bar
5. Shelley Redding, General Manager, Inverness Public Utility District
6. Dennis Rodini, District 4 Supervisor, County of Marin