

## Let's Talk Broadband

Welcome to the second issue of *Let's Talk Broadband*, a quarterly newsletter for getting California local government officials up to speed on broadband issues, brought to you by the California Emerging Technology Fund and Valley Vision.



Volunteers and staff members from California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP), Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP), California State University Sacramento, University of California Davis, and Valley Vision, to promote Digital Access and Scholarship Sacramento. Photo taken at Luther Burbank High School in Sacramento, CA.

## How Broadband Can Help Your Community Thrive

### Greetings!

*Let's Talk Broadband* was launched as a continuation of the work done at the Local Government Officials' Roundtable last October in Sacramento, which brought together 80 participants from 21 counties along with state and federal agency representatives and Internet service providers. We're planning a second Roundtable for next year so please save the date!

**SAVE THE DATE - April 2-3, 2015  
2nd Local Government Roundtable - Riverside**

For more information please click [here](#). If you have questions or would like to register for the event please contact [Alana O'Brien](#).

Through the Roundtable and this newsletter, we want to spur discussion about what California local leaders need to do to meet the state and local broadband deployment and adoption goals.

### In This Issue

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### Funding Opportunities

#### STATE:

[California Advanced Services Fund \(CASF\) Infrastructure Grant and Revolving Loan Accounts](#)

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis starting December 1, 2014

The CPUC Defines 'Broadband' As Minimum Speeds of 6 Mbps Download and 1.5 Mbps Upload. Test Your Internet Speed [Here!](#)

### Partner Organizations



Please contact [Jodi Mulligan](#) with updates, thoughts, and ideas.

Sincerely,

Sunne Wright McPeak, President and CEO, California Emerging Technology Fund

Trish Kelly, Senior Vice President, Valley Vision, Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium

## Leaders in Action



In an effort to spotlight regional broadband champions, we will be posting interviews with Leaders in Action to hear how they are working to close the Digital Divide. Our second Leaders in Action profile is with Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, the Immediate Past President of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). Supervisor Gioia has been a long-time broadband champion and partner in the effort to increase access to broadband and digital literacy programs. You can read this full profile [here](#).

Our first conversations were with José Cisneros, the Treasurer for the City and County of San Francisco, and the Immediate Past President of the League of California Cities (LCC), and Mountain View Councilmember Mike Kasperzak, a Past President of LCC. You can read those conversations [here](#).

## Is Broadband Good for the Environment?



CETF and Valley Vision in conjunction with the Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium (CCABC) have released a new report detailing the economic and environmental benefits of broadband deployment. The report, titled *Broadband and the Environment: Technology Strategies for a Greener California*, finds that deploying broadband networks across our cities, towns and farms reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and stimulates growth.

The report identified six key opportunities for local officials to lead the policy discussion, including: e-government, telehealth, teleworking, precision agriculture, smart buildings, and smart grids and electric vehicles.

[Click here](#) to read the policy brief and [here](#) for the full report.

## Yolo Broadband Strategic Plan: A Community Partner Project Update

The community of Yolo County including the cities of Davis, West



## Tools and Resources

### Boost Public Engagement with Technology



Resources from the Institute for Local Government (ILG):

[Online Engagement Guide](#)

[Website Best Practices](#)

[Technology and Public Input](#)

[Social Media Strategies](#)

[Open Data and Mobile Engagement](#)

**Call To Action to Close the Digital Divide**

Resources from the Local Government Roundtable:

[Model Policies](#)

[Leadership Checklist](#)



Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland, have recently released the Yolo Broadband Strategic Plan.

It is important to highlight the work that cities and counties are doing throughout the state on collaborative broadband

planning. The Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) embarked on a study to determine how to ensure that their businesses, residents, and community anchors have access to affordable, high-quality and high-speed broadband services that will meet their long-term needs. Please take some time to read the strategic plan [here](#) and you may provide feedback [here](#).

## Next Century Cities Launch Envisions A Gigabit Future

On October 20, 2014, mayors and leaders from 32 cities gathered in Santa Monica, California to discuss the importance of high-speed Internet in building networks that position their cities for economic competitiveness in the 21st Century.



You can read more about the Next Century Cities initiative [here](#) and view the entire launch webcast [here](#).

[SB 740 & AB 1299  
Fact Sheets](#)

[LGO Roundtable, Oct. 2013  
Summary Report](#)

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**For more information about this newsletter and to submit topic suggestions, please contact:**

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