



"Getting Connected: A Broadband Deployment and Adoption Resource Guide for Local and Regional Government Leaders."

Accelerate investment in communities for future-proof broadband infrastructure

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Los Angeles and Bay Area – April 22, 2021 – The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) and Valley Vision on behalf of the Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium today are releasing **["Getting Connected: A Broadband Deployment and Adoption Resource Guide for Local and Regional Government Leaders"](#)**, a resource guide to accelerate broadband deployment and adoption.

The Resource Guide was first developed a decade ago, and this timely update provides detailed practices and innovative policies from across the state and nationally to help communities develop and increase broadband investments and partnerships to ensure all Californians have access to high-speed Internet.

“We used to talk about the ‘Digital Divide,’ but in fact COVID-19 has exposed a ‘digital cliff.’ While recent CETF-USC State Survey on Broadband Adoption results offered encouraging news that overall Internet adoption is increasing, still, far too many Californians are up against a Wall of Poverty. The survey also underscores why broadband is a vital ‘green strategy’ for our state,” said Sunne Wright McPeak, President and CEO of the California Emerging Technology Fund. “These findings call out the urgent need for strategic broadband investments by government leaders and effective partnerships with the private sector, and the resource guide provides a road map for communities to invest in broadband while returning triple bottom-line dividends for the economy, environment and equity.”

The Resource Guide is especially relevant in light of the Governor’s Executive Order to pursue Broadband For All and adopt an Action Plan to achieve the goal. Local and Regional Governments communities working in collaboration with their Regional Broadband Consortia can be instrumental in expanding broadband coverage. The Resource Guide provides a policy framework and blueprint for local action, as well as policies, ordinances, and best practices to accelerate broadband infrastructure investment and deployment.

“Access to broadband equals access to all of the necessities of a modern, successful life, yet this access is out of reach for far too many Californians and their communities,” said Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters). “The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) and Valley Vision have created the menu for local governments to work with their broadband consortia to provide that access to their people. Telehealth, job training and education, access to the digital economy for small businesses, and watching your government work in real time are all that much closer because of the work they’ve done in creating this Resource Guide.”

“Valley Vision is extremely pleased to partner with CETF in providing a valuable tool kit for local and regional leaders to accelerate increased broadband infrastructure investment - the key to connectivity for all. The Resource Guide is full of practical, innovative ordinances, policies and practices that communities around the state are using to deploy future proof broadband infrastructure,” said Evan Schmidt, Chief Executive Officer, Valley Vision.

About California Emerging Technology Fund

CETF is a statewide non-profit foundation with the mission to close the Digital Divide in California. CETF provides grants to non-profit community-based organizations (CBOs) to assist low-income households adopt broadband and become digitally proficient, leads and manages School2Home to successfully integrate technology into teaching and learning with deep parent engagement to close the Achievement Gap in middle schools in low-income neighborhoods, and promotes Digital Inclusion in public policy to achieve Digital Equity.