



**EL DORADO COUNTY
DEMOCRATS**

June 4, 2021

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Board Clerk: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Re: Broadband Support Letter - June 8, 2021 BOS meeting, Agenda Item 21. 21-0906 - SUPPORT

Dear Board Chair Hidahl and Members of the EDC Board of Supervisors:

We fully support Supervisor Hidahl's recommendation (Agenda Item 21-0906) to approve and authorize the proposed letter from the EDC Board of Supervisors to the Budget committees in both the California State Senate and Assembly in support of Governor Newsom's proposed \$7 billion investment to expand broadband infrastructure.

The flexible funding for broadband included in the American Rescue Plan Act and a recent report finding that 100 Mbps fiber can be built to all unserved homes and businesses for less than \$10 billion dollars have created a once-in-generation opportunity to connect the unconnected and improve affordability and speeds for all Californians.

It's important that the Budget committees in the legislature hear from all counties, but especially from rural California counties, a clear and consistent message of strong support for this historic investment in broadband infrastructure.

In today's world, access to broadband is a necessity for all people in all aspects of life—public safety, healthcare, education, work, and economic growth. Without internet access, individuals and businesses are severely handicapped. For those in the farthest reaches of our county, access to broadband is an equality issue. In this day and time, it is an "essential utility."

Sincerely,

Josh Elder, Chair
El Dorado County Democratic Party
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www.edcdems.org
916-312-3008

Cc: El Dorado County Democratic Central Committee