



Legislation Text

File #: 21-953, **Version:** 1

Memorandum

Date: September 28, 2021

To: The Honorable Lake County Board of Supervisors

From: Carol J. Huchingson, County Administrative Officer

Subject: Resolution Granting Authority to Execute the Golden State Connect Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Executive Summary:

On August 18, 2021, the Board of Directors of Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) voted unanimously to approve the formation of a Joint Exercise of Powers Authority (JPA), Golden State Connect Authority, for the purpose of expanding broadband access and quality in rural counties. Following approval by the RCRC Board, the next step in establishment of this entity is to provide the Golden State Connect Authority JPA to each RCRC Member County for review and approval by the Member County Boards of Supervisors.

Activities within Golden State Connect Authority will focus exclusively on broadband. All RCRC member counties are welcome and encouraged to join. There is no financial impact associated with joining the JPA, and no obligation for individual member counties to provide funds to the Authority, absent a separate agreement to participate in one (or more) of the specific programs. As with RCRC, the proposed new entity will be governed by delegate Supervisors from each member county, and day-to-day operations will be administered by RCRC staff.

The primary goals for the project structure are to:

- Ensure that elected County Supervisors retain control of the program, with day-to-day administration provided by RCRC staff,
- Allow for partnership agreements between like-governmental entities for the operation and advancement of the program of work, and,
- Attract public and private investment in the program, as necessary and appropriate.

Initial areas of focus for broadband work on behalf of Member Counties will include:

- Foundational Readiness: Ensure all member counties have broadband strategic plans
- Capacity Building: Equip rural counties with information and resources about innovative models and approaches to broadband deployment
- Demonstration Projects: Implement open-access municipal broadband projects

If not budgeted, fill in the blanks below only:

Estimated Cost: _____ Amount Budgeted: _____ Additional Requested: _____ Future Annual Cost: _____

Consistency with Vision 2028 (check all that apply):

☐ Not applicable

- ☒ Well-being of Residents
- ☒ Economic Development
- ☐ Community Collaboration

- ☒ Public Safety
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☐ Business Process Efficiency

- ☐ Disaster Prevention, Preparedness, Recovery
- ☐ County Workforce
- ☐ Clear Lake

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution Granting Authority to Execute the Golden State Connect Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement