

SOUTH SALINAS VALLEY BROADBAND AUTHORITY

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**GREENFIELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS
599 EI CAMINO REAL
GREENFIELD, CA 93927**

**April 20, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81428020419>

Webinar ID: 814 2802 0419

Passcode: N/A

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call

Board President: Supervisor Chris Lopez, County of Monterey

Board Vice President: Mayor Mike LeBarre, City of King

Board Member: Councilmember Angela Untalon, City of Greenfield

Board Member: Councilmember Alejandro Chavez, City of Soledad

Board Member: Mayor Jose Rios, City of Gonzales

4. Business from the Public

Members of the public may comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the agency that are not on the agenda. Public comments generally are limited to two (2) minutes per speaker; the Chair may further limit the time for public comments depending on the agenda schedule. Comments on agenda items should be held until the items are reached. To be respectful of all speakers and avoid disruption of the meeting, please refrain from applauding or jeering the speaker.

5. Consent Items

- a. Approval of March 2, 2023 SSVBA Draft Board Meeting Minutes (Pages 3-5)

6. Regular Agenda

- a. Legal Counsel: legal counsel presentation (Pages N/A)
- b. Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA): Updates (Pages 6-11)

7. Executive Director’s Report

- a. SSVBA Bank Account: Updates (Pages N/A)
- b. SSVBA Website: Published Website Presentation (Pages N/A)

8. Board of Directors’ Reports

9. Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

MEETING ACCOMMODATION

Disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be requested by any person with a disability who requires modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting. Requests should be referred to MBEP Staff at ddanielson@mbep.biz and aothman@mbep.biz as soon as possible but by no later than 5:00 p.m. of the last business day prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired or TTY/TDD text telephone users may contact the Agency by dialing 711 for the California Relay Service (CRS) or by telephoning any other service providers’ CRS telephone number.

VIEWING MEETINGS

Live meetings are broadcast via Zoom and are recorded. The recorded meetings schedule may be viewed at the City of Greenfield’s website, [Greenfield, CA | Official Website](#).

AGENDA POSTING

The meeting agenda was posted on April 17, 2023 at 10:45 a.m. at the Greenfield Civic Center - 599 El Camino Real - Greenfield, CA 93927.

**South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority
Consent Agenda**

AGENDA ITEM: 5.a

AUTHORITY MEETING DATE: April 20th, 2023

SUBJECT: Approval of March 2nd, 2023 SSVBA Draft Board Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to approve March 2nd, 2023 SSVBA Board Meeting Minutes.

ATTACHMENTS:

- March 2nd, 2023 SSVBA Draft Meeting Minutes

SOUTH SALINAS VALLEY BROADBAND AUTHORITY

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**GREENFIELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS
559 EL CAMINO REAL
GREENFIELD, CA 93927**

**March 2nd, 2023
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81428020419>

Webinar ID: 814 2802 0419

Passcode: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Lopez called the meeting to order at 1100 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Board President Lopez, Board Vice President LeBarre and Board Member Rios

ABSENT: Board Members Untalon and Chavez

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

CONSENT ITEMS

A MOTION by Board Member Rios, seconded by Board Vice President LeBarre to approve the February 16, 2023 SSVBA Board Meeting Minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

LEGAL COUNSEL: SECOND PRESENTATION OF OUTCOMES

Report was given by Doreen Danielson. She stated that BBK Law Firm was rated the highest but it was up to the Board to choose their legal counsel.

A MOTION by Board Vice President LeBarre, seconded by Board Member Rios to appoint Aleshire & Wynder LLP as legal counsel. All in favor. Motion carried.

SSVBA BANK ACCOUNT: MOU AND RESOLUTION ADOPTION

Report was given by Doreen Danielson.

A MOTION by Board Member Rios, seconded by Board Vice President LeBarre to adopt Resolution #2023-01, "A Resolution of the South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority Authorizing the Establishment and Maintenance of Bank Accounts for its Funds and Repealing Resolutions in Conflict Herewith". All in favor. Motion carried.

SSVBA MEETING DATES CONFIRMATION: 2023 CALENDAR YEAR

Report was given by Doreen Danielson.

A MOTION by Board Member Rios, seconded by Board Vice President LeBarre to approve the 2023 SSVBA Meeting Dates; time 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

SSVBA WEBSITE: DIGITAL PRESENTATION

Report and interactive website presentation was delivered by Doreen Danielson.

The following suggestions were made:

1. Remove the Donate Button and Put a News Button – Home Page
2. Spanish Version Available – Home Page
3. Remove the Vision Statement – About Us Page
4. By-laws be Available on the Website – About Us Page
5. Special Meetings be Separate from Regular Meetings – Meetings Page
6. Revise from Each Month to Quarterly – Meetings Page
7. Anything that happens in the SSVBA area should be highlighted if the Board supports it – News Page
8. Have lots of pictures when available – News Page
9. Include Social Media – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram – News Page
10. Include General Staff Information and Picture – Board Page
11. Other suggestions on the “Bridging the Digital Divide” Statement – Home Page

Board President Lopez suggested that the website be launched because people had been asking about it and it could be revised and updated as needed. Dr. Danielson stated that they would be launching it, removing the vision statement, removing “Digital Divide” and replacing it with Broadband and would be continuing to edit it and having a more accurate email for an actual individual. Board President Lopez stated that Facebook, Twitter and Instagram should also be launched at the same time.

LOCAL AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (LATA): N/A

There was nothing to report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

Board President Lopez stated that he went to Washington DC and stated that he met with folks from USDA and they discussed two programs that would apply to our community: Community Connect and the WE Connect programs. He stated that he turned that information over to RCRC so that they could see how they could build it into what we were doing here. He explained that the key was the definition of the word “rural”.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

FINALIZED SSVBA WEBSITE PRESENTATION

There were no other items added.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Chris Lopez, Board President

**South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority
Regular Agenda**

AGENDA ITEM: 6.b

AUTHORITY MEETING DATE: April 20th, 2023

SUBJECT: Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Updates

PREPARED BY: Barbara Hayes, Chief Economic Development Officer, Rural Counties Representatives of California

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

BACKGROUND: An update on the Golden State Connect Authority program of work impacting the South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority members will be provided

ATTACHMENTS:

- Golden State Connect Authority program status update
- LATA quarterly update

To: Members of the SSVBA Board of Directors
From: Barbara Hayes, RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer
Date: April 20, 2023
Re: Program Update

SUMMARY

An update on the Golden State Connect Authority program of work impacting the South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority members will be provided.

BACKGROUND

Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) is a Joint Powers Authority that was established by Rural County Representatives of California in December 2021, and is currently comprised of forty member counties. GSCA is governed by an elected Supervisor from each of the member counties, Monterey County among them. The vision of the organization is to ensure all rural California has access to affordable, quality broadband.

To achieve the vision, the Board of Directors has approved a program of work that includes the following three elements:

- Develop broadband strategic plan for each member county, as needed.
- Provide technical assistance and capacity to access resources that advance quality broadband deployment.
- Deploy Open-Access Municipal Broadband Network across rural California.

STATUS UPDATE

Broadband Strategic Plans

A grant from the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration was secured by Golden State Connect Authority affiliate, Golden State Finance Authority, which provides the funding for development of 25-member countywide broadband strategic plans. Monterey County is included in the grant award. A competitive solicitation process was undertaken that resulted in TeleWorx being selected as the consulting firm that will develop the broadband strategic plan for Monterey County, as well as neighboring San Benito and San Luis Obispo counties. The project work has commenced with a completion date anticipated to be November 2023.

The scope of work for the plan includes the following elements: Broadband Benefits, Needs Assessment (current and future), Analysis of Current Broadband Market and Infrastructure, Broadband Policies and Programs for Consideration (federal, state, philanthropic), SMART Community Applications, Asset Inventory, Recommendations and Next Steps.

Golden State Connect Authority member county, Monterey is leading the broadband strategic planning effort for Monterey County.

Technical Assistance and Capacity to Access Resource that Advance Broadband Deployment

In July 2021, following unanimous approval from both houses of the California Legislature, Governor Newsome signed SB 156 into law. Under SB 156, counties, for the first time, were named in statute as being able to own, operate, and maintain broadband infrastructure and \$6 billion was allocated across four programs to advance broadband deployment in California:

1. Middle Mile - \$3.25 billion was allocated for the deployment of open-access middle mile infrastructure that will be owned and operated by the State of California
2. Federal Fund Account/Last Mile - \$2 billion was allocated for deployment of last mile broadband infrastructure.
3. Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Program - \$50 million allocated for eligible applicants (cities, counties, tribes, and other local agencies) to fund 100% of pre-broadband deployment activities.
4. Loan Loss Reserve Program - \$750 million allocated for the use of public agencies and non-profits to securitize bonds/loans used for the deployment of broadband infrastructure.

With assistance from Golden State Connect Authority, thirty-two member counties and eight cities/towns within the member counties submitted applications and received awards from the CPUC LATA program. The awardees will be using their grant for the purpose of completing low-level construction-ready network designs on priority unserved/underserved areas within their jurisdictions. In the case of most of the city/town awardees, the entire jurisdiction will receive low-level network design services. Network design is an important first step in evaluating financial feasibility and deployment planning.

All members of the South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority submitted applications and received awards under the CPUC LATA program. Golden State Connect Authority is performing contract management and grant administration on behalf of all the awardees.

The network design work done under the LATA grants will be complete in three distinct phases:

1. Conceptual Network Design
2. High Level Network Design
3. Low Level, Construction Ready Network Design

Conceptual Level Design has been completed for all South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority members/LATA awardees. It is anticipated that the High Level Design phase of the LATA grant for SSVBA members will be complete by mid-May.

Two LATA Quarterly Reports have been submitted to the CPUC on behalf of each awardee. The most recent report (Q1 2023) for the City of Greenfield is attached, for your information. All South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority member LATA Quarterly Reports are the same, as all are currently at the same stage in work product development under the grant.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is recommended.

ATTACHMENTS

- LATA Quarterly Report, City of Greenfield

California Public Utilities Commission
LOCAL AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
QUARTERLY REPORT
CITY OF GREENFIELD
CITY OF GREENFIELD BROADBAND NETWORK DESIGN
Reporting Period January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

Narrative Project Information

1. *The counties, cities, and census designated places where households, businesses, and community anchor institutions are planned to be served by the broadband project.*

The multi-step network design process outlined in the city of Greenfield’s application will definitively identify the addresses (households, businesses, and community anchor institutions) that will be served by the network design work as the LATA program of work moves from Work Product #2: High-Level Design to Work Product #3: Low-Level Design. All project work completed in each of the three-steps of the approved application will focus on designs for the delivery of affordable, quality broadband service to project areas that include unserved and under-served areas within incorporated Greenfield.

1. *Confirmation that the technical assistance is designed to support projects that, upon completion, reliably meet or exceed symmetrical 100 Mbps download and upload speeds.*

Confirmed. All network design engineering will be done to ensure (minimum) 100 Mbps symmetrical speeds to all addresses included in identified priority project areas.

1. *Statement of intention about the pricing plans for projects that the technical assistance will support, such as offering of affordable plan or low-income plan subsidized with other funding (ACP).*

In all cases where Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) partners with the city of Greenfield to deploy an open-access municipal broadband network, all providers invited to offer service on the network will be required to offer an affordable option. It is anticipated that supplemental funding programs, like the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) would be actively marketed and enlisted to maximize affordability for customers. In all cases where another network administrator or provider plans to serve the area covered by the LATA grant, the city of Greenfield will strongly encourage the inclusion of an affordable plan, as well as the marketing and enlistment of the ACP to maximize affordability for customers.

1. *Information on broadband need in the project area*

Conceptual Network Design includes the identification of all addresses within the jurisdiction. Additionally, for each address an FCC and/or CPUC designation of served/unserved has been incorporated, given available public mapping data. Opportunity for jurisdiction representatives to “ground-truth” the served/unserved information will be invited, substantiated, and incorporated into the designs. It is expected that not every jurisdiction will have the ability to “ground truth” and substantiate, but effort will be made to ask and incorporate where available. As service levels are confirmed, information will be shared with the CPUC Communications Team upon submittal of the Work Product 1: Conceptual Designs and Cost Estimations package.

1. *Statement describing the community benefits of broadband technical assistance.*

The technical assistance provided to the city of Greenfield via the LATA Program will be invaluable to advancing the deployment of broadband in priority unserved/underserved areas of incorporated Greenfield. As established by the current status quo, private broadband providers have not been able to realize the return on investment established

by shareholders and/or management to justify the capital investment necessary to serve these areas. Thus, the residents and businesses located in these areas remain without access to quality broadband.

The low-level network design for priority unserved/underserved areas made possible by this LATA grant will:

- Provide project area feasibility analysis that can be offered to prospective providers and/or network administrators
- Provide shovel-ready network designs that prospective providers and/or network administrators can use to launch deployment projects
- Include designs that ensure (minimum) 100 Mbps symmetrical service
- Include designs that will connect to the California Middle Mile open-access network (where possible)
- Allow the city of Greenfield to participate in broadband conversations by arming the City with valuable information that can inform the conversation, resulting in service to residents and businesses that currently lack access to affordable, quality broadband services. Important that this service includes the ability for public health and safety applications when broadband infrastructure is deployed, including: early fire detection/warning; highway safety monitoring; free Wi-Fi in public spaces; etc.

Detailed Project Information

2.1 Individual work products granted by the program.

The grant included three discrete work products:

1. Work Product #1: Conceptual Network Designs and Cost Estimation:

Includes the identification of project areas and development of desktop designs that deliver broadband infrastructure to unserved/underserved areas. This Work Product will include the following support materials:

1. Network design maps, 2. Address identification, 3. Bill of materials (BOM), 4. Build Cost Projection, 5. Summary presentation. A capital expense model will accompany this Work Product that will be within +/- 20% accuracy of final project build.

1. Work Product #2: Refined High-Level Network Designs and Foundational Planning:

Refinement of working design on selected project areas identified in Conceptual Network Design phase of project. This phase will involve a more thorough route review to ensure route constructability, as well as a more acute data gathering exercise around vendors, equipment, and project-related pricing. The design will start to take shape, better informing decision-making (such as understanding the necessary permitting tasks, environmental studies, facilities engineering etc.), and forming a strong foundation for the low-level engineering and development of constructable prints for network construction and deployment.

1. Work Product #3: Low-Level Design and Engineering

Low-level network designs will be developed for the identified priority unserved/underserved areas. The designs will build off the refined high-level design and foundation planning stage, resulting in “Approved for Construction” drawings that can/will be used to award contracts for construction. Low-level design and engineering will also include all required permitting, easements, and rights-of-way processing.

Project Update Since Prior Quarterly Report

With approval of grant award and execution of necessary Agreements for services in place, Work Product 1: Conceptual Network Design and Cost Estimation is nearing completion and submittal to CPUC for review and reimbursement. A coordinated effort between the engineers and grantee resulted in development of a Conceptual Network Design and Cost Estimation package that establishes a solid foundation for the next two phases of work under the grant – Refined High Level Design and Low-Level Design and Engineering. The ultimate result will be

complete, shovel-ready, low level network design and engineering for priority unserved/underserved project areas within the jurisdiction.

2.2 *Estimated construction start date (month/year).*

Unable to estimate currently.

2.3 *Estimate construction completion date (month/year).*

Unable to estimate currently.

2.4 *Estimated initiation of operations date (month/year).*

Unable to estimate currently.

2.5 *Planned project technology types:*

- Fiber – Network design will prioritize fiber deployment
- Coaxial Cable – Not included
- Terrestrial Fixed Wireless – Not planned at this time
- Other – N/A

2.6 *Estimated total miles of fiber to be deployed*

The LATA grant will allow for low-level network designs of 40.55 miles of the identified project area. It is presently unknown how much fiber will be deployed. This information will be known as project work moves from Work Product #2 to Work Product #3.

2.7 *Planned number of locations to be served, broken out by type:*

- Residential locations: Currently unknown; Will be determined upon completion of Work Product #2
- Business connections: Currently unknown; Will be determined upon completion of Work Product #2
- Community anchor institutions: Currently unknown; Will be determined upon completion of Work Product #2

This information will be accurately reported as the project moves from Work Product #2 to Work Product #3: Low-Level Network Design and Engineering.

2.8 *Planned non-promotional prices including associated fees, speed tiers, and data allowance for each speed tier.*

Currently unknown.

2.9 *Other data on broadband need, by location*

Currently unknown

Additional Information

3.1 *Reporting Requirement: Public Utilities Code Section 281(l)(1) - Licensed Contractor and/or Subcontractor*

In compliance with the above stated reporting requirement, Tilson Technology will be performing network design services as a subcontractor. The contract for services exceeds \$25,000.

Contractor's License Number:

1024902

Location where work will be done:

Tilson Technology

16 Middle Street, 4th Floor

Portland, ME 04101