Local Agency Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance, implementing SB 156

Jonathan Lakritz, Communications Division
Agenda

• SB 156, the game changer

• Purpose of Program
  • Eligible Entities
  • Eligible Uses
  • Eligible Amounts

• Key Dates

• References for further information
Governor Newsom Signs Historic Broadband Legislation to Help Bridge the Digital Divide

**Middle Mile $3.25 billion**
- Build, operate and maintain an open access, state-owned middle mile network.

**Last Mile $2 billion**
- Set up last-mile broadband connections that will connect homes and businesses with local networks.

**Loan Loss Reserve $750 million**
- Loan loss reserve fund to enable local governments and nonprofits to secure financing for broadband infrastructure.

**Local Agency Technical Assistance $50 million**
- Technical assistance to local governments to prepare for broadband implementation.

**California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) program changes**
Wide-ranging changes to the CASF Public Utilities Code section 281 statute
"..the Commission established the Local Agency Technical Assistance grant program to leverage a total of $50 million for eligible local governments and Tribal governments (Tribes) to facilitate deployment of last-mile broadband infrastructure projects. These grants will support local agencies and Tribes in their efforts to expand broadband to families and communities where sufficient service and Internet access are lacking."
Eligible Entities

• Any agency of local government authorized by law to provide broadband internet access service, including the following:
  a) city;
  b) county, including a county service area;
  c) community service district;
  d) public utility district;
  e) municipal utility district;
  f) joint powers authority;
  g) local educational agency, as defined by Education Code section 47640;
  h) sovereign tribal government; and
  i) electrical cooperative as defined by P.U. Code section 2776
Eligible Uses

- Costs related to the development of broadband network deployment projects to benefit unserved Californians
  - Environmental, feasibility, and engineering design studies or reports,
  - Needs assessments, market studies, broadband strategic plans, or business plans
  - Forming a Joint Powers Authority
- Reimbursement model for work projects that support local agencies in their pursuit of the provision of service to unserved or underserved communities.
  - Consultant and community-based organization services secured to complete reimbursed work products.
Eligible Amounts

• Ministerial review
  • Up to $500,000 per local agency or tribal government per fiscal year

• Commission resolution
  • Commission vote on a resolution can fund up to $1 million
## Local Agency Technical Assistance Timeline

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<th>July 2021</th>
<th>September-October 2021</th>
<th>November-January 2022</th>
<th>February 2022</th>
<th>March-May 2022</th>
<th>May-December 2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislature passes &amp; Governor Newsom signs SB 156/AB 164</td>
<td>Staff proposal with program rules released Sept. 17th</td>
<td>Opening stakeholder comments due Sept. 30th</td>
<td>CPUC analyzes stakeholder comments &amp; drafts a Proposed Decision (PD) with program rules</td>
<td>CPUC meets with local government &amp; tribes to conduct program outreach</td>
<td>CPUC expects to accept applications &amp; begin awarding funds</td>
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<td>Opening stakeholder comments due Sept. 30th</td>
<td>Stakeholder reply comments due Oct. 13th</td>
<td>Technical Assistance PD released Jan. 21st</td>
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<td>Stakeholder comments due Oct. 13th</td>
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<td>CPUC adopts final program rules by Decision on Feb. 24th</td>
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**CPUC California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) Proceeding (R. 20-08-021)**
- Formal public process and venue for CASF Public Housing, Infrastructure, Consortia, and Adoption Accounts as well as Technical Assistance and Loan Loss Reserve Account.
Resources

• CPUC Technical Assistance

• CPUC SB 156 Implementation Overview

• CDT Middle Mile Analysis

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