MIGUEL SANGALANG
DIRECTOR

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
WORKS**

**BUREAU OF STREET
LIGHTING**

1149 S. BROADWAY
SUITE #200
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

**ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR**

September 9, 2021

To: **The Honorable Mayor Eric Garcetti
The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council**

℅ Michael Espinosa, Office of the City Clerk

COUNCIL FILE 21-0600-S46: STATUS OF BROADBAND CO-LOCATION DEPLOYMENTS AND EFFORTS TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

SUMMARY

The Digital Divide -- the gap between those that have opportunities to access and benefit from the internet and those that do not -- is a growing national, state, and City issue. The pandemic has only served to exacerbate this divide and highlight deep inequities. As requested by Council through 21-0600-S46, this report provides an update on the City's efforts to support network infrastructure buildout, like 5G small cell attachments, and the City's current programs and projects aimed at closing the digital divide. This report also proposes, for the consideration of Council and the Mayor, a spending plan for the $5M in the Unappropriated Budget (UB) of the FY 21-22 Adopted Budget to fund one-time Digital Inclusion efforts.

BACKGROUND

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has foregrounded existing deep disparities in internet access and digital equity in Los Angeles, and made it clear that reliable, affordable, high-speed internet access has become foundational to positive economic, educational, health, social and civic engagement outcomes. Increasingly, access to the internet is considered an essential service like power, water, and sanitation. This is especially true for emergency conditions, when more households face housing and income instability.

In response, multiple City departments and offices have been urgently ramping up efforts over the past year and a half to bridge the digital divide. Notable new programs include the Get Connected Los Angeles website, hosted by the Information Technology Agency (ITA), which provides information on low-cost and no-cost internet subscription options, and the Angeleno Connectivity Trust (ACT), which is providing 18,000 WiFi hotspots to households with students in need. This work has been able to build off of many long-standing programs and efforts that were in place prior to the pandemic, including ITA's OurCycleLA computer distributions and Library's Tech2Go program, both

of which make free devices available to the public. **TABLE 1**, though not exhaustive, highlights digital divide efforts taking place right now throughout the City

Table 1. Programs and Projects helping to bridge the digital divide

Title	Description
Public WiFi at City Facilities	The City currently provides free open-access WiFi at many City facilities, including City Hall.
Public Library WiFi and Computers	The City's greatest current digital inclusion assets are our libraries, which offer free WiFi and public-access computers.
OurCycleLA	OurCycle LA is an ITA partnership that employs a high-barrier workforce to refurbish computers for distribution to qualified recipients.
Tech2Go	Tech2Go is an LAPL program that provides loaned WiFi hotspots with free internet service to families and households that lack these services.
WiFi at Parks and Recreational Facilities	Recreation and Parks currently provides free WiFi at six parks facilities, including Echo Park Lake and Venice Beach.
Computer Labs at Public Housing	HACLA currently operates computer labs with training and other programming at 11 housing communities.
Get Connected Los Angeles	The Get Connected Los Angeles website was launched by ITA at the start of the pandemic to consolidate and present options for accessing low- or no-cost high-speed internet
Angeleno Connectivity Trust (ACT)	A partnership program with T-Mobile and community-based organizations that is providing 18,000 WiFi hotspots with free internet service to Angelenos with school-aged children.
Starry Broadband to Public Housing	HACLA partnered with Starry Internet and Microsoft to expand the availability of low-cost, high-quality broadband options in local public housing developments.
Dept of Aging CyberSeniors, LAPL CyberNauts, HACLA Digital Ambassadors	Various departments provide free technology support and training for residents to serve as digital ambassadors within their communities.
The LAPL Street Fleet	LAPL Street Fleet consists of three outreach vehicles designed to bring library services to communities that have challenges accessing their local branches. These vehicles are equipped with WiFi for connectivity.

Additionally, with leadership from the Mayor and Council, and ongoing support from Public Works, the City has worked closely with the major telecommunication companies to ensure that the buildout of 5G infrastructure happens quickly and equitably. The Telecommunications and Digital Equity Forum, led by Deputy Mayor Jeanne Holm, is a monthly setting where the City discusses issues and opportunities with telecom businesses like AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, Crown Castle, Dish, Starry, and Spectrum, and has acted to minimize disruptions related to buildout while encouraging the companies to prioritize our least connected communities in buildout schedules. Partnerships shepherded through the Forum have led to successful digital inclusion initiatives including ACT (in partnership with T-Mobile) and bringing high speed, low-cost internet service to residents of multiple HACLA public housing communities (in partnership with Starry).

In parallel, the Connectivity and Digital Inclusion Working Group is a regular internal coordination meeting among City agencies integral to bridging the digital divide. In this working group, new and existing issues as well as ongoing process improvements are discussed. For BSL alone this coordination has resulted in a 2600% increase of Co-location permits processed for small cell infrastructure attachments onto street lights over the course of three years with over 3,500 attachments to date. **ATTACHMENT A** is a map of all telecom co-locations on BSL street lights. Please note that "requested devices" on the map are highly subject to change and network buildout of the carriers and, at best, are indications of possibility rather than eventuality. Separately, BSL has also expanded its inventory of Smart Nodes to approximately 20% of its lighting network, the distribution of which can be seen on **ATTACHMENT B**. Smart Nodes allow for potential Internet of Things (IoT) devices that can be attached to street lights and may be useful for other department missions that require sensors in the urban landscape, such as real-time environmental monitoring or fire prevention.

Some other examples of the City's support of network infrastructure build outs include:
- Increased permitting throughput for Co-Location attachments to street lights.
- The adoption and permitting of microtrenching, which has reduced the impact to the public right-of-way while providing low-cost alternatives to traditional trenching for utilities like power or fiber.
- Expanded City Planning staff for network infrastructure entitlements.
- The leasing and permitting of city-owned facilities and real estate for telecom infrastructure.

Under the leadership of the Mayor and Council, the City has also recently taken steps to assess the challenges and opportunities for even greater direct City investment and involvement in the provision of internet service -- especially around building and maintaining internet infrastructure. As a first step, the Mayor's Office is currently planning to form a Get Connected LA Committee that will explore possible approaches and potential implementation plans. The City is also on the working committee for the LA Digital Equity Action League (LA DEAL), an inclusive and collaborative regional broadband consortium focused on closing the digital divide and making recommendations for public policies and investments. LA DEAL is co-chaired by Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) and UNITE-LA.

As another option into building and maintaining public internet services provided by the City of Los Angeles, the City has allocated $2.1M in 2021-22 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the creation of up to 300 public WiFi areas in underserved communities, to be deployed by the Bureau of Street Lighting. The $10M Broadband for Low-Income Communities line item in this fiscal year's Unappropriated Balance could potentially be used to expand service on this network and to further diversify this network, including so-called "middle mile" and "last mile" infrastructure such as high-capacity fiber lines. Anticipating future City investment in public internet infrastructure and service provision, the City, in pilot with Marketplace.City, issued an RFI in March of this year requesting information on lower cost, rapidly deployable solutions to fill in gaps in public Internet coverage. The responses revealed various providers and solutions, demonstrating that public Internet options are growing and changing regularly.

The interest and urgency of our City departments, agencies, and offices to bridge the digital divide is now being matched at the state and federal levels in terms of recently proposed and committed resources. For the first time, these resources represent a scale of investment that begins to correspond to the scale of the challenge. This can be seen in the roughly $60B in equitable broadband infrastructure proposals in the federal infrastructure package. More concretely, it can be seen in California State bill AB/SB 156, which will provide $7B for State broadband network infrastructure investments, including $3.25B for an open-access middle-mile network.

The $2.1M in CDBG, the $5M Digital Inclusion line item, the $10M Broadband for Low-Income Communities line item in this fiscal year's Unappropriated Balance together provide an opportunity for the City to develop a comprehensive strategy and plan to maximize the benefit of these forthcoming investments for Los Angeles, while laying the necessary groundwork with initial investments, programming, and staffing capacity within key departments.

The Current State of the Digital Divide In LA - Basic Connectivity

Since 2017, the Mayor's Data Team has been working to assess the scale of the digital divide in Los Angeles and to identify geographic and socioeconomic disparities. The map below shows a visual correlation of low rates of high-speed internet access to high-poverty communities and communities of color.

Map 1. Percentage of Households with Broadband Internet Subscription
Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year
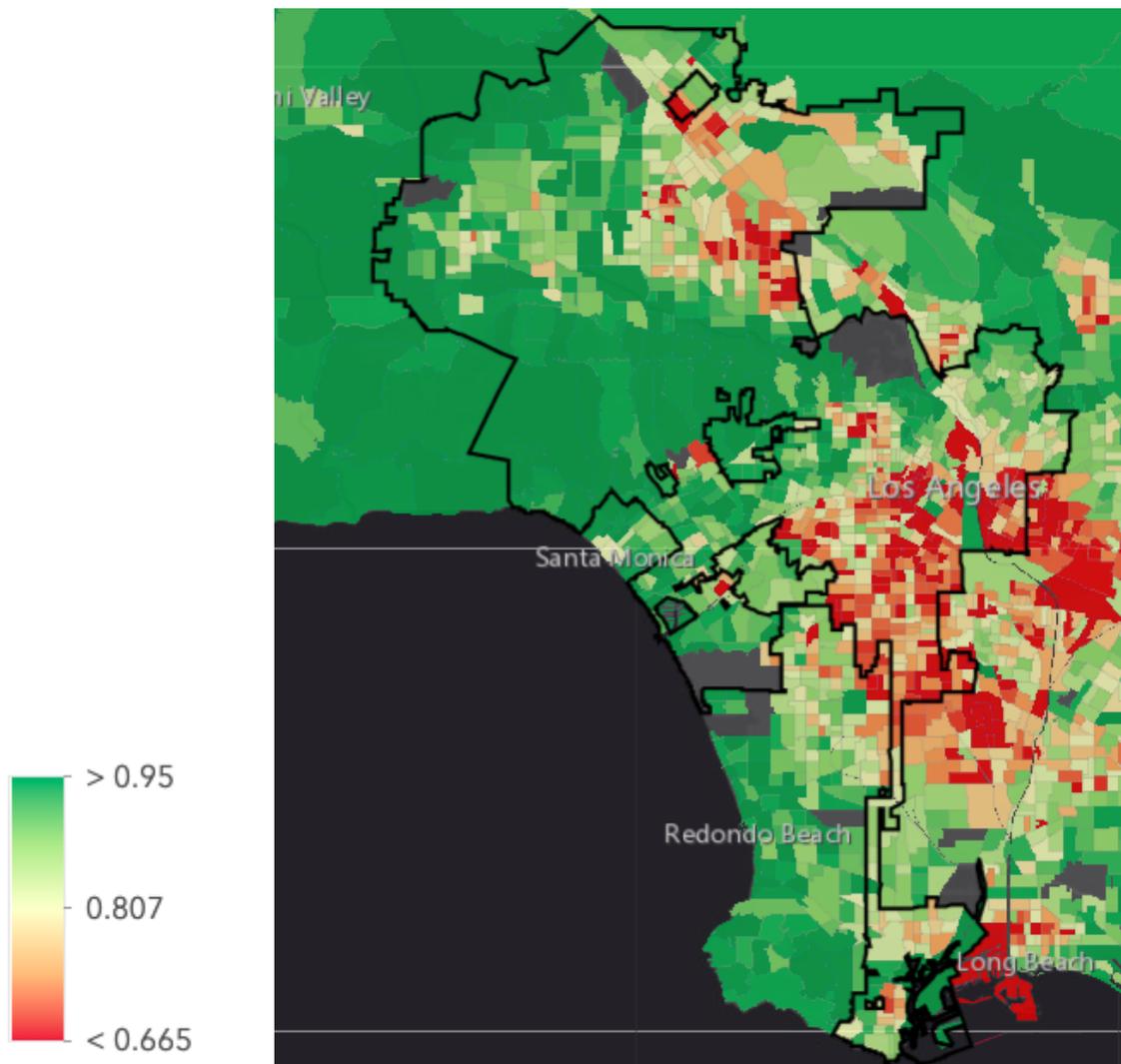
The US Census 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year data estimates that there are 566,949 individuals in the City of Los Angeles who live in households without a broadband subscription (approximately 15% of all individuals). As **TABLE 2** below illustrates, certain socioeconomic, race, and ethnic groups in the City have significantly lower rates of broadband access.

Table 2. Percentage of Individuals Residing in Households with Broadband Internet Subscriptions

Source: 2019 ACS 5-Year

All Individuals	85.4%
Aged 65 and older	72.6%
Black / African American	79.2%
Asian	91.1%
Hispanic / Latino	81.2%
White, Non-Hispanic	91.5%
No High School Degree (Age 25+)	70.9%
Bachelors' Degree (Age 25+)	94.6%

In comparison to other large cities in the U.S., Los Angeles does not have especially high or low indicators for the severity of the digital divide within our city. Among cities with populations at or greater than 500,000, Los Angeles ranks 18th out of 34 for the share of the total population living in households with broadband subscriptions. When looking at specific demographic groups, the trend is similar, with Los Angeles more or less ranking in the middle.

While all communities in Los Angeles are nominally served by at least one high-speed internet provider (usually two), recent and current research being undertaken by City academic partners (including USC) has raised the possibility that empirically-recorded broadband speeds are not equal across the City and that disparities may in fact be correlated to socioeconomic, racial and ethnic characteristics of the communities served. This research, as it is developed, will be critical to determining how much of the digital divide can be attributed to infrastructure.

Additionally, the City must continue to assess the equitable geographic coverage of new technologies and infrastructure that are developed and deployed that allow for faster and more mobile access to high-speed internet -- as with current 5G infrastructure deployment. BSL has been closely involved in the deployment of 5G given the co-location of many network small cell assets on Bureau poles.

The Current State of the Digital Divide In LA - Access to Devices

Since 2008, the California Emerging Technology Fund and University of Southern California have conducted an annual random phone survey of California residents about their household's digital connectivity. The survey defines those without broadband access as "unconnected" and those who only access broadband through a smartphone as "under-connected."

The 2021 survey was conducted at the start of this year. Among respondents that were deemed to be unconnected or under-connected, 50% self-reported "No Computer" as a reason for lack of internet connectivity at home. It is clear that access to an appropriate device plays a significant role in connectivity.

One of the most significant trends of the CTEF/USC survey over the past few years has been a major reduction in under-connected households, both at the state and local County level. In 2017, the survey found that 23% of households in Los Angeles County were under-connected. This year's survey found that that figure stood at only 8% (meaning that more households had access to desktop, laptop, or tablet computers.) The accompanying report to the 2021 survey attributed much of this improvement to device subsidy programs — most notably school programs that provide devices for students.

While this improvement is impressive, 8% of households remaining under-connected still represents a sizable population (to the tune of hundreds of thousands of people) that could benefit from expanded device-subsidy programs. Furthermore, given the fact that so many households are presumed to have moved out of under-connected status thanks to school programs which only provided a single device, there are likely many households where additional devices would allow more household members to use the internet service. Indeed, the success in reducing under-connected households in recent years is a strong argument for continuing to expand device subsidy programs so that the gap can be fully closed.

The Current State of the Digital Divide In LA - Literacy, Job Skills, and Trust
While empirical assessments of the digital literacy divide are less readily available than information on basic connectivity and devices, we know that a lack of digital literacy can be a primary barrier to getting connected. The 2021 CETF/USC survey described above found that the second- and third-most self-reported reasons for why households lacked access, after affordability, were "privacy/security concerns" and "not comfortable using PC/internet." Some of the integral components of digital literacy are the basic skills and knowledge that help users stay safe and keep their information protected. These competencies create the confidence and clarity that enable users to make the most of internet access. For far too many LA residents, the internet remains a scary place. The 2020 LMU Forecast Survey of LA County residents found that more Angelenos fear they will be a victim of identity theft than a crime in general or job loss. And nationally, trust and satisfaction with Internet Service Providers has been falling. The 2021 American Customer Satisfaction Index survey found that ISPs hit a record low average of 62 out of 100 on the index.

Another key literacy-related aspect of the digital divide pertains to job skills and readiness for the increasingly digital economy. According to the McKinsey Global Institute report "The Future of Work After Covid-19," released earlier this year, there are an estimated 4.9 million low-wage US workers who may need to transition into higher-wage roles and develop new skills to remain employed in the new digital economy. We can assume that many of these workers live in Los Angeles given our high percentage of low-wage workers. At the same time as these changes are taking

place in the job market, the U.S. has lagged behind many other countries in preparing the workforce. According to a 2021 Coursera Global Skills Report, the US ranks 29th globally in digital skills proficiency. While information on the local digital skills gap is not readily available, there is no reason to believe our workforce does not reflect these national trends.

Additionally, during the Covid-19 pandemic, we have seen how individuals with office or desk jobs or otherwise digitally-native job classifications were able to safely telecommute while those with forward-facing "analog" work were put into much greater risk of contracting Covid-19. While there are clearly positions that will always require in-person work, many industries are currently rethinking and retooling for more virtual/digital presence where possible. As we prepare our workforce for future pandemics, it is important to build up skillsets that can allow for the maximum amount of the workforce to be working remotely when necessary.

While literacy and skills gaps make a clear case for expanding publicly-facilitated digital education and training programming, trust and privacy concerns require a more nuanced consideration of how the City could best approach this challenge. On the one hand, the lack of trust and confidence in the internet and in internet service providers is an argument for greater government involvement. For example, a public sector approach to internet provision could prioritize security over data mining and sharing. On the other hand, however, trust in local government remains very low as well. The 2021 LMU Forecast Survey mentioned above found that 57% of LA County residents trust their City government to "do what is right" only "some of the time" or "none of the time." It is clear that trust is a key challenge for the City in meeting digital inclusion goals, and this is especially true given our marginalized communities which include immigrants and other minority groups who have reason to be skeptical of both the public and private sectors.

In 2020, ITA published the SmartLA 2028 smart city strategy, with input from 78 City subject matter experts from 24 different departments. It is not only a good example of transparency, as it highlights the intent and use of technology within Los Angeles, but also a complementary strategy as it includes a component on digital inclusion and equity. Indeed, many of the goals are already aligned, such as 5G deployment, and the development of the Digital Inclusion Fund.

DISCUSSION

Strategic Framework

As part of the proposed budget and implementation plan, BSL will help undertake the development of a comprehensive digital inclusion strategy in partnership with all related departments and offices. However, in the interest of ensuring that the $5M in Digital Inclusion funding allocated for FY21-22 is programmed strategically and meets the urgency of the issue, this report proposes an initial strategic framework for these funds while the City contemplates a larger digital equity plan.

At the core of this strategic framework is the value that no household should be left digitally "stranded" during a crisis situation (whether at the citywide or individual level -- or somewhere in between), and that it is a core role of the City to build and maintain a

"safety net" for our residents so that they can receive short-term high-speed internet service when needed. From a resilience perspective, this means not only providing as-needed programs or services that are activated during a crisis, but providing and maintaining a regularly available and well-used network of free public access sites and services.

It also means investing in the digital literacy of our residents so that they can make use of digital tools and services during times of need. The importance of building core competencies was seen during the 2020 Census process which was conducted exclusively online, as well as regarding the State's and City's COVID-19 vaccination efforts, for which the simplest process for most individuals involved utilizing an online portal. Although this strategy prioritizes emergency or as-needed services in the short term, the overall vision is that each effort would also build incrementally toward a City where all residents are fully covered permanently by affordable, reliable, high-speed internet at up-to-date specifications.

We have defined the following categories to guide the development of the individual investments within the Digital Inclusion Program and to ensure holistic coordination around the vision above. While $5M will not deliver a level of service that fully delivers on this vision, each component will help us to identify the most effective roles and strategies for the City while assessing the scale of the gap within each area. Note: Items within the third and fourth categories will largely **not** be funded with the $5M and are included to create a cohesive strategy and ensure alignment with previously funded/ existing efforts, though some possible resources for such efforts may be aligned in the $10M UB item Broadband for Low-Income Neighborhoods.

Access: Projects and services within this category work toward urgently filling gaps in high-speed connectivity while laying the foundation for permanent high-speed service. These projects are broken further into two categories: Service (related to subsidizing or facilitating access to high speed internet service) and Device (related to subsidizing or facilitating access to contemporary technology including computers, phones, tablets and hotspots).

Literacy and Workforce Development: Projects and services within this category provide programming to help Angelenos build digital literacy and skills to participate in our increasingly digital society and economy

Public Trust: Efforts within this category aim to establish commitments to or demonstrate adherence to the highest levels of transparency, accountability and ethics when it comes to City digital services. The purpose of these efforts is to establish the City of Los Angeles as a trustworthy conduit to internet connectivity, an area where the potential for personal data theft or misuse is high and therefore trust is paramount.

Equitable Network Infrastructure: Efforts within this category are focused on core infrastructure buildout and maintenance, which can include the permitting and facilitation by City departments of private sector investments, or a new public network built by the City. The goal of these efforts is to encourage the development and maintenance of robust and potentially open-access infrastructure that can serve as a

cost-effective backbone for reliable high-speed internet within our high-need communities. As stated above, there are possibly new funding streams from Federal and State sources and partnerships that can accelerate such a buildout.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

BSL will work with relevant departments to request funding for programs as part of the $5M Digital Inclusion Program. Additionally, BSL will serve as a coordinating body to ensure strategic alignment among these individual efforts, including via a regular schedule of Connectivity and Digital Inclusion meetings (these meetings have been in place since 2018 and can serve well the Digital Inclusion Program). The following is a description of key programs within each category. A full list of proposed line items within the $5M Digital Inclusion Program is provided as Attachment A.

Note: $1M has already been allocated from the UB for the FutureCorps program.

Access (Service): The sub-strategies within this category are: to create a network of free public-access sites in the highest need communities (e.g. through computer labs or WiFi hotspots); to subsidize short-term home internet service for households in immediate need; and to facilitate households in finding existing no- or low-cost internet services that may be provided by external partners.

- Computer Labs and WiFi in Parks and Recreation Centers - $225,000 (Lead department: RAP): This program would install and refresh Computer assets and look to expand WiFi infrastructure and create comfortable access locations through associated furniture, shade structures, or other investments.
- Angeleno Connect Access Card/Program - $350,000 (BSL): This program will provide an integrated account for the public to access free or higher-speed WiFi and digital City services in public spaces. It will utilize City infrastructure where possible, including the forthcoming CDBG-funded BSL WiFi hotspot pilot.
- Connecting Canoga Park Pilot - $150,000 (BSL): This funding will be used to explore how digital inclusion efforts can be included in neighborhood-scale infrastructure projects in disadvantaged neighborhoods.
- Promotion, Outreach and Engagement - $200,000 (Mayor): This funding would improve awareness of connectivity-related programs through paid online and social media advertising.

Access (Device): The sub-strategy for this category is to subsidize the cost of devices to provide to the public. Given the one-time nature of the Digital Inclusion funding, the programs within this category represent an appropriate way to build a foundation for access that will last at least a few years (the lifetime of the devices).

- Expand Tech2Go - $225,000 (LAPL): Tech2Go is an existing program that provides internet access to families and households that lack these services through a loaned WiFi hotspot with free internet service. This funding would allow for an expansion of the program by 100 laptops and corresponding hotspots.
- Expand OurCycle LA - $755,000 (ITA): OurCycle LA is an existing program designed to take advantage of refurbished computers and distribute them to underserved communities as identified by Council Offices. The program reduces

electronic waste, provides job training to at-risk individuals, and helps bridge the digital divide in Los Angeles. This funding would allow for the distribution of 1,500 additional computers across the 15 Council districts, with connectivity for one year and technical support for recipients.

- Modernize HACLA Computer Labs, starting at Mar Vista, Nickerson Gardens, and Ramona Gardens - $200,000 (HACLA): HACLA has eleven computer labs with aging computer technology. Funding would provide for five of the labs to be modernized with a subset being higher-end (for the purposes of computer-aided graphics and other intensive programming) and laptops to allow for a "tech2go"-like program at the sites.
- Tech Kiosks - $150,000 (LAPL): The TechKiosk is an automated self-service device that offers six Dell laptops and six Nexus tablets for immediate check-out and on-site use. Patrons select a device, scan their library card and can use the laptop or tablet anywhere in the library for up to two hours. This funding would allow for an expansion of the program by 3 kiosks with a total of 36 laptops.

Digital Literacy and Digital Workforce Development: The strategy for this category includes contracting with trusted community organizations that have existing expertise in teaching digital literacy and job skills. One-time funding is also an appropriate use for training and education because the impact will be lasting for participants beyond the initial programming if no future funding is secured.

- Tech TryOut Carts - $145,000 (LAPL): The Tech TryOut Cart is made available for certain hours at library branches. A selection of devices is provided for guests to use and try out digital books, movies and other media. Patrons can also bring their own devices for hands-on help with the library's digital media.
- Digital Literacy Grants Program - $300,000 (BSL): This is a new program which proposes a small-grants program to support community organizations as "trusted messengers" in hosting digital skills training programs for job search, online learning, City services access, and financial literacy. The intended size of the grants are $25,000 to $100,000 with the number of grants dependent on the proposals.
- AngelenoCorps FutureCorps - $1,000,000 (YDD): The FutureCorps will be a cohort of the AngelenoCorps program, which provides a combined $5M in stipends for students for service-based learning. The FutureCorps cohort will be placed in tech support positions or other roles that help bridge the digital divide, such as City computer labs and recreational facilities at RAP. **Note: The $1M for the FutureCorps cohort has already been disbursed for this program to the Youth Development Department through Council File 21-0682.**
- Vision Lab - $1,000,000 (EWDD): The Vision Lab will be a programmed space in South LA that will co-locate multiple technology-related workforce development and digital literacy programs, including a technical training center, a business incubator focused on digital inclusion, a business transformation center for existing businesses to improve their presence in the digital economy, and learning centers for students to study, access WiFi and computers, and learning curriculum.

Program Support: Aside from the subject area categories above, there will also be some funding needs to facilitate strategic design and operational coordination for a

multi-departmental effort. Immediate support is needed for administration and policy development which the Bureau plans to do this fiscal year on a temporary / contractual basis. As the FY22-23 budget is developed likely positions and funding will be required to maintain an ongoing strategic effort and program coordination.

- Strategy Development and Coordination - $300,000 (BSL): BSL will need additional funding for short-term administrative and research support to guide the Digital Inclusion Program from a strategic development and programmatic alignment and coordination perspective. This includes consultant support for tracking federal and state legislation, as well as a contracted baseline study with best practices recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT

The $5 million for the Digital Inclusion Program has been budgeted as part of the 21-22 Adopted Budget in the Unappropriated Balance. There is no additional General Fund impact.

The creation of a Digital Inclusion Fund will effectuate the goals of the Digital Inclusion Program. This will allow funds to carryover past FY21 and fund selected projects. The funds deposited in the special fund account would be exclusively for the Digital Inclusion Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the Controller, subject to approval of the Mayor, and subject to the creation of the Digital Inclusion Fund, to transfer appropriations in the amount of $4.0 million from the Unappropriated Balance (UB) to the Digital Inclusion Fund to implement the Digital Inclusion Program:

    From:

Fund No.	Account No.	Account Name	Amount
100-58	580353	Unappropriated Balance	$4,000,000

    To:

Fund No.	Account No.	Account Name	Amount
TBD by	CAO / CLA		$4,000,000

2. Authorize BSL to make necessary technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer; and, authorize the Controller to implement the instructions and technical adjustments.

3. Authorize the General Manager, or a designee, of BSL as the administrative and fiscal agent for the Digital Inclusion Fund to facilitate receipt and disbursement of the funds to each participating department as outlined in the above implementation plan.

4.   Instruct BSL to:

    a.   Report to the Mayor and Council a full accounting of the funds, the scope of projects funded, an update on the execution of the projects, and an assessment of the program;

    b.   Coordinate with each participating department to produce and submit to the Mayor and Council a detailed project proposal for each new project or program requesting disbursement from the Digital Equity Fund.

    c.   Working with the Connectivity and Digital Inclusion Working Group, Report to Mayor and Council on a spending plan for the $10M intended for Broadband for Low-Income Communities in the Unappropriated Balance

Miguel Sangalang
Executive Director, Bureau of Street Lighting

ATTACHMENTS
    A. BSL Co-Location Map
    B. BSL Smart Node Map
    C. Proposed Spending Plan

ATTACHMENT C: Proposed Budget by Department and Program

Category	Lead Dept	Amount	Program Name	Description
Access (Service)	RAP	$225,000	Computer Labs and WiFi in Parks and Recreation Centers	This funding would allow for the refresh of computer assets and look to expand WiFi infrastructure and create comfortable access locations through associated furniture, shade structures, or other investments.
Access (Service)	BSL	$350,000	Angeleno Connect Access Card/Program	Contractor to manage Internet Access at Free WiFi spots
Access (Service)	BSL	$150,000	Connecting Canoga Park Pilot	This funding will be used to explore how digital inclusion efforts can be included in neighborhood-scale infrastructure projects in disadvantaged neighborhoods.
Access (Service)	Mayor	$200,000	Promotion, Outreach and Engagement	This funding would improve awareness of connectivity-related programs through new messaging and branding on City websites, in paid advertisements, and through a social media campaign.
Access (Device)	LIB	$225,000	Expand Tech2Go	The Tech2go program seeks to connect families to technology and internet access via a lending model. Patrons are able to borrow devices for a 6-week period to utilize at home. Funding would provide for 100 laptops and hotspot devices.
Access (Device)	ITA	$755,000	Expand OurCycle LA	This funding would allow for 1500 computers, with connectivity for one year and technical support, to be distributed at low-cost or no-cost.
Access (Device)	HACLA	$200,000	Modernize HACLA Computer Labs, starting at Mar Vista, Nickerson Gardens, and Ramona Gardens	This funding would provide for five of the labs to be modernized with a subset of the computer assets purchased intended to be higher-end models, for the purposes of computer-aided graphics and other intensive programming, and laptops to allow for a "tech2go"-like program at the sites.
Access (Device)	LIB	$150,000	Tech Kiosks	This funding provides for an automated self-service device that offers 12 laptops at no cost to the patron. Devices are checked out via the TechKiosk for a 2-hr window to be used inside the library. All devices feature cloud based word processing as well as connection to the library's Wi-Fi. Funding will

				provide for 3 kiosks with a total of 36 laptops
Digital Literacy / Workforce	LIB	$145,000	Tech Try Out Carts	This funding provides for a movable cart that offers a selection of mobile devices for patrons to test and play with. It's intended use is to teach patrons how to utilize the library resources and e-media apps in a device they are comfortable using. Additionally, users can bring their own device and learn how to use library resources in it. Devices purchased will be eventually part of OurcycleLA.
Digital Literacy / Workforce	BSL	$300,000	Digital Literacy Grants Program	This funding is starting a new program which proposes a small-grants program to support community organizations as "trusted messengers" in hosting digital skills training programs for job search, online learning, City services access, and financial literacy. The intended size of the grants are $25,000 to $100,000 with the number of grants dependent on the proposals.
Digital Literacy / Workforce	YDD	$1,000,000	AngelenoCorps FutureCorps	This funding provides for a FutureCorps cohort that will be placed in tech support positions or other roles that help bridge the digital divide, such as City computer labs and recreational facilities at RAP.
Digital Literacy / Workforce	EWDD	$1,000,000	Vision Lab	This funding begins work on the Vision Lab, a programmed space in South LA that will co-locate multiple technology-related workforce development and digital literacy programs, including a technical training center, a business incubator focused on digital inclusion, a business transformation center for existing businesses to improve their presence in the digital economy, and learning centers for students to study, access WiFi and computers, and learning curriculum.
Program Support	BSL	$300,000	Strategy Development and Coordination	This funding provides for short-term administrative and research support to guide the Digital Inclusion Program from a strategic development and programmatic alignment and coordination perspective. This includes consultant support for tracking federal and state legislation, as well as a contracted baseline study with best practices recommendations.
	TOTAL	**$5,000,000**		