

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

March 9, 2021

**Support for Increased Broadband Internet
Access in Orange County**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates the need for easy, affordable access to broadband internet services in our communities; and

WHEREAS, high speed broadband gives residents access to medical services and gives public health officials an improved ability to respond to threats like COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused schools to shift to distance learning; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the “digital divide” in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, high speed broadband access is critical for businesses, schools, and other community institutions, and particularly for residents to work, live, learn, and thrive in our community; and

WHEREAS, high speed broadband facilitates remote working, increases job efficiency, connects customers and businesses worldwide, and helps with regional economic growth; and

WHEREAS, effective emergency services rely on high speed broadband to access and relay lifesaving information in real time, protecting individuals from natural and manmade threats; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Board of Supervisors:

1. Supports high speed broadband internet access for all residential and business customers in Orange County; and
2. Supports the adoption of consistent fees and simple broadband permitting processes across all collaborating jurisdictions; and
3. Supports the efforts of the Southern California Association of Governments, working with its members, to encourage and affect positively the deployment decisions of broadband providers; and
4. Supports the concept of “Dig Once” whenever possible whereby conduit is installed for future or immediate use for wireless towers, fiber optic or other comparable broadband network installation, whenever underground construction occurs in a roadway.