

## RESOLUTION NO. 080698

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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### RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A COMMITMENT TO CONSIDER EQUAL ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET AS A PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR EVERY HOME, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, TRAINING FACILITIES AND BUSINESSES IN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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**WHEREAS**, the County of San Mateo recognizes that reliable and affordable high-speed internet access is essential for every resident, educational institution, training facility, and business within the County, thereby contributing to the overall public welfare and economic growth; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 7% of County of San Mateo residents have little to no access to high-speed internet; and

**WHEREAS**, many lower-income communities can be disproportionately excluded from access to high-speed internet, which exacerbates existing inequities in opportunities for telehealth, education, employment, and business development; and

**WHEREAS**, digital inclusion efforts, including educational and training programs, are vital for bridging the digital divide and empowering residents with the skills necessary to thrive in a digital economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board supports initiatives aligned with state and national goals for universal broadband access, recognizing that equitable internet access is a public necessity; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has previously initiated efforts to assess and improve digital connectivity, including the development of a digital connectivity map to identify existing infrastructure and gaps in service; and

**WHEREAS**, like electricity and water, internet access should be considered a public utility, as it is essential to equality of opportunity, access to other public goods, and access to education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County declare a commitment to work towards and advocate for treatment of equal access to high-speed internet as a public necessity for all residents, educational institutions, training facilities, and businesses in San Mateo County.

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Regularly passed and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024

*AYES and in favor of said resolution:*

*Supervisors:* \_\_\_\_\_ *DAVE PINE*

\_\_\_\_\_ *NOELIA CORZO*

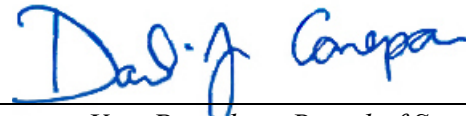
\_\_\_\_\_ *RAY MUELLER*

\_\_\_\_\_ *DAVID J. CANEPA*

*NOES and against said resolution:*

*Supervisors:* \_\_\_\_\_ *NONE*

*Absent Supervisor:* \_\_\_\_\_ *WARREN SLOCUM*



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*Vice President, Board of Supervisors  
County of San Mateo  
State of California*

***Certificate of Delivery***

*I certify that a copy of the original resolution filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County has been delivered to the President of the Board of Supervisors.*



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*Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors*