

# THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

in a Post-Pandemic Marin

## CALLS TO ACTION

**Problem Statement:** *Marin County is not prepared to bridge the digital divide as it moves from COVID-19 response to recovery.*

### **Local Call to Action**

#### **County/Cities/Towns**

- Educate yourself about the digital divide in Marin including information available at [www.GoDigitalMarin.org](http://www.GoDigitalMarin.org)
- Adopt or commit to the Digital Infrastructure Strategic Plan (developed by Digital Marin)
- Make government process and permitting rules easier
- Dig once (coordination) policy enhancement and enforcement
- Require landlord of multi-unit dwellings to allow access to any ISP to empower to renters
- Ask local elected officials to get involved in state and federal policy change
- Allocate funding to pay for greater access, increased speed, and devices and digital literacy training for end users
- Utilize CARES Act funding for broadband projects at <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2020/11/states-tap-federal-cares-act-to-expand-broadband>

#### **School Districts**

- Make digital literacy a higher priority for K-12 and adult and continuing education, workforce development, employment opportunity
- Commitment to a beyond the borders approach for access to areas surrounding schools and libraries

### **State Call to Action**

- Learn about California State Broadband Action Plan at <https://broadbandcouncil.ca.gov/action-plan/>
- Learn about AB-34 Broadband for All Act of 2022 at [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB34](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB34)
- Tell your state senator and assembly member to support the bullet items above

### **Federal Call to Action**

- Tell your senators and representative to vote for the Accessible, Affordable Internet for All Act. Go to <https://act.eff.org/action/tell-congress-americans-deserve-fast-reliable-and-affordable-internet>
- Send letter to FCC to investigate the practice of "digital redlining," which has resulted in a gaping digital divide that impacts communities of color the most. Go to <https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/news/fcc-investigate-digital-divide-redlining-cities/596832/> and [sample letter https://drive.google.com/file/d/19TE2bsEyytPoHlrPFqI2XtvB7xZtHoAq/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19TE2bsEyytPoHlrPFqI2XtvB7xZtHoAq/view)