

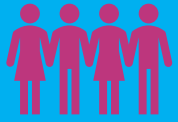
Digital Equity & Empowerment Digital Inclusion Fund Update

Jill Bourne, City Librarian
Abigail Shull, Broadband Officer
Ann Grabowski, Division Manager – Digital Equity



Recommendation

1. **Accept the report** from Neighborhood Services and Education Committee on December 8, 2022
2. **Transfer fiscal management** of the San José Digital Inclusion Fund Grant Program (Grant Program) from the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to the San Jose Public Library Foundation (SJPLF), and
3. Adopt a resolution:
 - a. Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement between the City and the SJPLF to manage small cell usage fee revenue allocations (from City to SJPLF), subject to appropriation of funds, and matching fundraising revenue to administer the funding of the Grant Program as fiscal agent from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2029.
 - b. Authorizing a \$500,000 payment from the Digital Inclusion Fund (DIF) to SJPLF to distribute grant awards pursuant to the City's agreement with SJPLF.



Partners

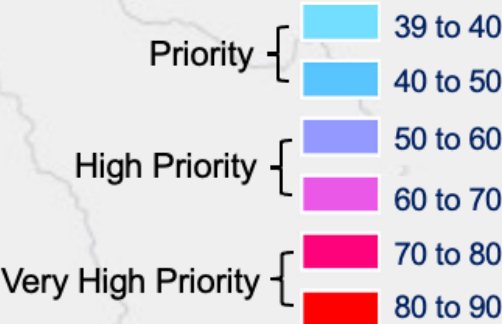


Centering Equity

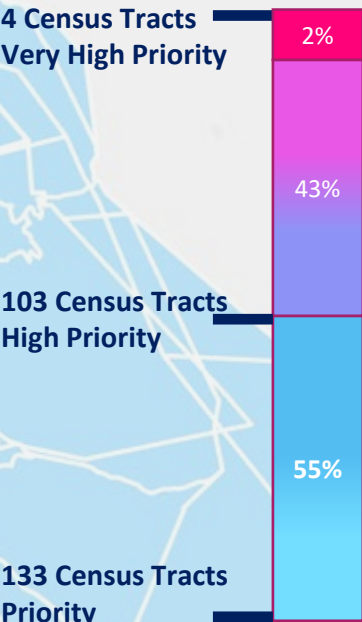
Priority Index is a ranking from 0 to 100 indicating the relative need within a census tract for digital access based on:

- Household income
- Households without access to Broadband

A higher index value indicates a greater need or higher priority.



Citywide Priority Breakdown



45% of City, measured by census tracts, is very high and high priority



2022-2023 Workplan



8,031 Hotspots in Use



2,225 Chromebooks & iPads in circulation to residents

~98%

Hotspots in circulation to residents



**Community Wi-Fi
6 attendance areas operational (176k);
1 in final testing (10.7k);
1 in construction**



**SJ311 Service Add
-
Outreach Campaign**



Updated Needs Assessment & Evaluation



SJ Access – Community Wi-Fi

Network Name: SJ Access Free Wi-Fi

Currently Serving: ~ 176,800 residents

James Lick	200 APs	} 44,200 Households ~ 176,800 residents
Overfelt	200 Aps	
Yerba Buena	200 APs	
Independence	340 APs	
Andrew P Hill	200 APs	
Oak Grove	243 APs	} 2,678 Households ~ 10,700 residents
Mt Pleasant	200 APs	
Silver Creek	200 APs	

Current speed: up to 20 Mbps.

Currently scoping infrastructure changes to increase speeds to 100/100 Mbps, Citywide.

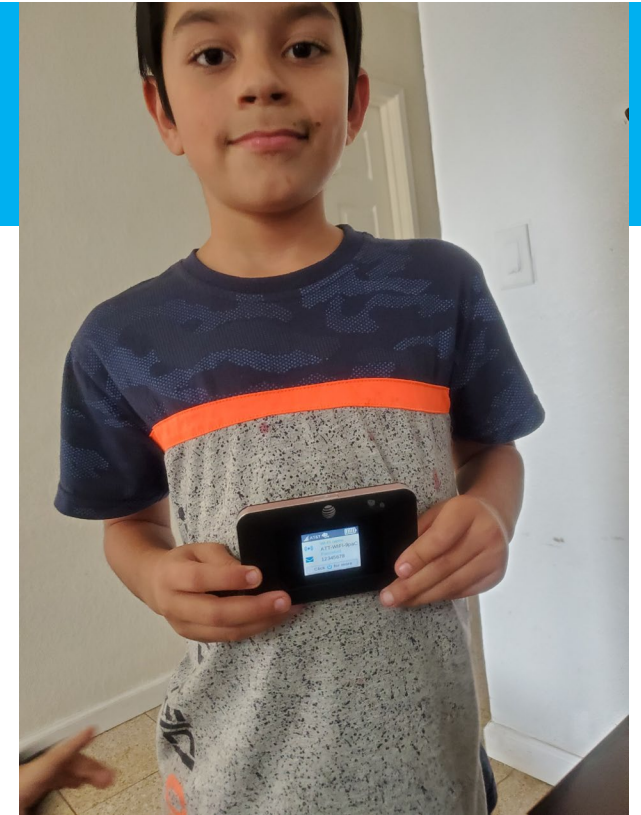


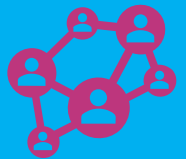


Hotspots & Devices

Device	Quantity	Check-Out Rate	Funding Source
Hotspot - Unfiltered	4,090	99%	American Rescue Plan
Hotspot – Filtered	3,941	85%	Emergency Connectivity Fund
Wi-Fi Chromebook – Unfiltered	600	80%	General Fund (2021 purchases)
LTE Chromebook – Filtered	1,500	75%	Emergency Connectivity Fund
Wi-Fi iPads	120	100%	Grant Funded
Laptop Kits	35	100%	Grant Funded

8,031 filtered and unfiltered hotspots, and 2,255 computing devices available at Library branches





Digital Inclusion Grant Program

- Digital Inclusion Fund
 - Funded by fees paid by telecommunications companies to attach small-cells to City-owned streetlights
 - Originally estimated to generate \$32,000,000
 - Pandemic and industry shifts have caused a reduction in revenue to the fund
 - 55% decrease from original: Currently projected to generate \$14,500,000
- Digital Inclusion Fund Grant Program
 - Funding for CBO's to help un/under connected households:
 - Sign up for an affordable internet plan
 - Access a computing device that they can keep
 - Complete digital literacy trainings
 - Originally estimated to offer \$1M in grants per year
 - Currently providing \$500,000 in grants per year



Digital Inclusion Grant Program

2020

Awards: \$787,750

Grantees: 21

Adoptions: 3,151

SCCOE: \$1.39M for distance learning

2021

Awards: \$393,750

Grantees: 9

Adoptions: 1,121

2022

Awards: \$752,500

Grantees: 13

Adoptions: 560 July -Dec

Cumulative

Awards: \$2,784,223

Grantees: 30

Adoptions: 4,832



Recommendation Rationale

- Technology changes and pandemic impacts has reduced revenue to the Digital Inclusion Fund
- Shift to the San Jose Public Library Foundation allows for:
 - Greater sustainability of the Digital Inclusion Fund, preserving funding for future grant rounds
 - Alignment to the City's Council Policy 0-30 – Education & Digital Literacy Strategy, and alignment to the Digital Literacy Quality Standards
 - Leverages the staffing and operational capabilities of the Library



2023-2024 Workplan

Affordability

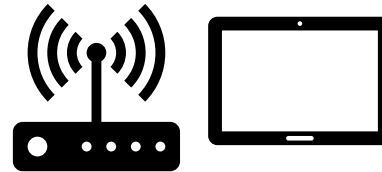


**Support enrollment in the
Affordable Connectivity Program;
lessen reliance on City devices and
WiFi**



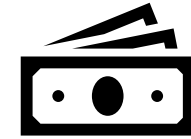
**Operate and Optimize
8 Community WiFi areas
Identify any improvements needed**

Access



**Manage device
lending program**

Adoption



**Implement DIF Grant Program
Round 4 with SJPLF**



**Expand Library Digital Skillbuilding;
8 new pathways/training modules**

Administration & Management

Finalize Needs Assessment & Program Evaluation

Seek all available State/Fed funding



State Digital Equity Plan Meeting

In Partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education & the County of Santa Clara:

SAVE THE DATE

State Digital Equity Plan Regional Meeting

Friday, May 5, 2023

10:00am – 2:30pm

Santa Clara County Office of Education

1290 Ridder Park Drive

Meeting Outcomes:

Identify challenges and strategies to overcome the digital divide in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, which will be included in the State Digital Equity Plan.



Recognition

Thank you to the Citywide Team that has carried this programmatic work forward:
(core team bolded)

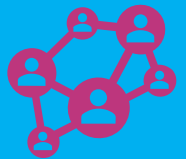
DOT: Ho Nguyen, Brian Macias

Housing: Mindy Nguyen

ITD: **Shirley Dương, Uarporn Nopmongcol**, Ed Kim, Tommy Kuu

Library: **Karla Alvarez, Bobby Rodrock, Samantha Cramer, Yadirha Orozco-Lemus, Mike Lobach, Nancy Macias, Moises Moreno**, all Public Services staff

Public Works: **Marlon DeLeon, Antonio Hueso**, Mario De Leon



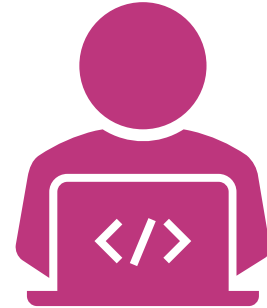
Recognizing CETF



Thanks to CETF for their work to incubate the
Digital Inclusion Fund Grant Program in San Jose

Sunne McPeak
Charlene Tatis





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