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C-8

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January 5, 2010

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution of the City Council of the City of Long Beach Declaring Support for ***Get Connected!*** and a Call to Action.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to your request, this office has prepared and submits the above-described resolution for your consideration.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney

By 
J. CHARLES PARKIN
Principal Deputy

1 RESOLUTION NO.

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH DECLARING SUPPORT FOR **GET**
5 **CONNECTED!** AND A CALL TO ACTION
6

7 WHEREAS, closing the Digital Divide is vital to the economic prosperity and
8 quality of life for residents in the City of Long Beach and throughout California; and

9 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach finds and declares that high-speed
10 Internet access—referred to generically as “broadband” and including both wireline and
11 wireless technologies—is essential 21st Century infrastructure in a digital world and global
12 economy; and

13 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach recognizes that California is home to a
14 wellspring of innovation that has given rise to the evolution of broadband and other
15 information technologies, however Californians’ adoption and use of broadband
16 technology is only approximately equivalent to the national average; and

17 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach acknowledges that 38% of all
18 Californians, 40% of low-income households, are not connected to the Internet with
19 broadband, leaving more than 14 million Californians without high-speed Internet access
20 at home; and

21 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach supports the strategy of **Get**
22 **Connected!** of using a multi-lingual website in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean
23 and requests **Get Connected!** add Khmer to the multi-lingual website; and

24 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is committed to helping families and
25 children be healthy, productive and self-sufficient and realizes that the use of broadband
26 can save both time and money for residents while helping them bridge the economic
27 divide; and

28 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is committed to helping Long Beach

1 residents obtain the highest-quality education possible incorporating digital literacy and
2 understands that high-speed Internet connectivity and the availability of computing
3 devices both at school and at home are critical teaching and learning tools for academic
4 achievement; and

5 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is committed to reducing its carbon
6 footprint and recognizes that broadband is a strategic “green” technology that decreases
7 greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on foreign oil by enabling e-government and
8 the provision of more services online; and

9 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is committed to Digital Inclusion and
10 increasing citizen participation in the public process through expanded engagement using
11 broadband; and

12 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach recognizes that it has the opportunity to
13 impact broadband deployment and adoption in its several local government roles and
14 responsibilities, including as a policy leader, planning body, land use approval agency,
15 purchaser-consumer of communications equipment and information technology, and a
16 service provider; and

17 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach welcomes the opportunity to partner
18 with the California Emerging Technology Fund along with the Governor, Legislature,
19 other local governments, civic leaders, community organizations, employers, labor
20 representatives, educators, and policymakers to encourage adoption of broadband
21 technology;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
23 follows:

24 Section 1. That the City of Long Beach hereby joins with the California
25 Emerging Technology Fund in launching and promoting **Get Connected!**—a public
26 awareness program to close the Digital Divide—and declares 2009 and 2010 as target
27 years for all residents, businesses and community organizations to **Get Connected!**

28 Section 2. That the City of Long Beach City Council requests all of their

1 departments and agencies to review scopes of responsibilities, work plans, and services
2 to identify and report back to the City Council within six (6) months on the strategic
3 actions that will remove barriers to and promote the deployment and adoption of
4 broadband among residents, customers, and recipients of public services.

5 Section 3. That the City of Long Beach City Council directs that
6 appropriate policies promoting and supporting the deployment and adoption of
7 broadband be promulgated and incorporated into the General Plan and other appropriate
8 land use and economic development plans.

9 Section 4. That the City of Long Beach City Council directs the City
10 Manager and other appropriate departments to determine how to optimize the use of
11 broadband technology to inform and engage residents to increase citizen participation in
12 the public processes of governance and expand Digital Inclusion.

13 Section 5. That the City of Long Beach City Council will seek to
14 cooperate and share the results of **Get Connected!** with neighboring jurisdictions and
15 other public agencies and shall post this resolution on the city website and send a copy to
16 the Council for appropriate distribution to other local governments.

17 Section 6. That the City of Long Beach City Council authorize the use of
18 their names as champions of **Get Connected!** on the websites of the California Emerging
19 Technology Fund (www.CETFund.org and www.GetConnectedToday.com) and in printed
20 materials pertaining to **Get Connected!**

21 Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
22 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2010 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk