



January 23, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council
333 W Ocean Blvd,
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Support for Agenda Item R-13: Digital Inclusion

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that we at AOC7 fully support, Item 13 on the January 23rd Council Agenda titled "Digital Inclusion", authored by Councilwoman Gonzalez.

The City of Long Beach is a leader in technology and innovation. This has been proven by numerous awards including recognition as a "Top Ten Digital City" by the Digital Cities Survey for seven consecutive years though 16% of households in Long Beach have no access to the internet and an additional 10% of households can only access the internet through a mobile phone connection. Far too many in our City are not reliably connected.

While the City's recent Fiber Master Plan addresses the need to connect all City facilities to the fiber network, it fails to address the needs of neighbors who cannot connect to the internet at home or from local businesses and corridors. Many community organizations have been working tirelessly to address the digital divide in underserved neighborhoods through digital literacy classes and publicly available computer labs. Digital Inclusion is important to me because We support Councilwoman Gonzalez on her Agenda Item to Digital Inclusion. AOC7 is an underserved community and most of our residents do not have access to the internet and affordable computers.

We wish to see everyone have the opportunity to access the internet affordably and reliably, regardless of where they live. With your assistance and affirmative vote for Item 13, we can make that wish a reality with a Roadmap to Digital Inclusion in Long Beach.

In Service,

Mary Simmons
AOC7



January 23, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council
333 W Ocean Blvd,
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Support for Agenda Item R-13: Digital Inclusion

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that we at Jenny Oropeza Community School fully support, Item 13 on the January 23rd Council Agenda titled “Digital Inclusion”, authored by Councilwoman Gonzalez.

The City of Long Beach is a leader in technology and innovation. This has been proven by numerous awards including recognition as a “Top Ten Digital City” by the Digital Cities Survey for seven consecutive years though 16% of households in Long Beach have no access to the internet and an additional 10% of households can only access the internet through a mobile phone connection. Far too many in our City are not reliably connected.

While the City’s recent Fiber Master Plan addresses the need to connect all City facilities to the fiber network, it fails to address the needs of neighbors who cannot connect to the internet at home or from local businesses and corridors. Many community organizations have been working tirelessly to address the digital divide in underserved neighborhoods through digital literacy classes and publicly available computer labs. Digital Inclusion is important to me because our participants could benefit from having access to the internet by advancing in their lives. They could learn English online, take online GED classes, look for employment, as well as seek resources that can enhance their families lives. This would not only impact them but also their school aged children. Kids could do their projects and homework that sometimes requires you have internet. In 2018, internet access is no longer a luxury but a necessity.

We wish to see everyone have the opportunity to access the internet affordably and reliably, regardless of where they live. With your assistance and affirmative vote for Item 13, we can make that wish a reality with a Roadmap to Digital Inclusion in Long Beach.

In Service,

David Chávez, MSW
Community School Director, Oropeza Elementary School
YMCA of GREATER LONG BEACH • Community Development



KPA

Khmer Parent Association

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1069 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, Ca. 90813

khmerparent.org

mail:

P. O. Box 91955

Long Beach, Ca.

90809

January 23, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council
333 W Ocean Blvd,
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Support for Agenda Item R-13: Digital Inclusion

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that we at the Khmer Parent Association fully support, Item 13 on the January 23rd Council Agenda titled "Digital Inclusion", authored by Councilwoman Gonzalez.

The City of Long Beach is a leader in technology and innovation. This has been proven by numerous awards including recognition as a "Top Ten Digital City" by the Digital Cities Survey for seven consecutive years though 16% of households in Long Beach have no access to the internet and an additional 10% of households can only access the internet through a mobile phone connection. Far too many in our City are not reliably connected.

While the City's recent Fiber Master Plan addresses the need to connect all City facilities to the fiber network, it fails to address the needs of neighbors who cannot connect to the internet at home or from local businesses and corridors. Many community organizations have been working tirelessly to address the digital divide in underserved neighborhoods through digital literacy classes and publicly available computer labs. Digital Inclusion is important to me because many of our low income clients are difficult to work with since their e-mail is often disconnected when we need to reach them with important information.

We wish to see everyone have the opportunity to access the internet affordably and reliably, regardless of where they live. With your assistance and affirmative vote for Item 13, we can make that wish a reality with a Roadmap to Digital Inclusion in Long Beach.

In Service,

Chan Hopson, Executive Director

Khmer Parent Association



www.digitalinclusion.org

January 23, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council
333 W Ocean Blvd,
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Support for Agenda Item R-13: Digital Inclusion

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) fully supports Item 13 on the January 23rd Council Agenda titled "Digital Inclusion", authored by Councilwoman Gonzalez.

NDIA represents leaders of local community organizations, public libraries, municipalities and other institutions working hard to reduce digital disparities among our neighbors. To improve the daily lives of all community members, we call for digital inclusion public policies that reflect our Affiliates expertise and diverse experiences.

NDIA represents organizations with a wide range of experience reducing the digital divide in the United States. The services of our affiliates include digital literacy training, public Internet access, home broadband programs and digital inclusion advocacy.

NDIA currently counts 303 affiliated organizations, in 38 states. Our local Affiliates include 23 municipal government bodies, 10 state government agencies, and 129 local nonprofit organizations. The full list of NDIA affiliates with links to their websites can be found at <https://digitalinclusion.org/members>.

Our approach is based in the knowledge that digital inclusion is most effectively promoted by community-driven efforts combining:

- Affordable home broadband service.
- Public broadband access.
- Appropriate affordable devices.
- Locally trusted technology training and support.

Sincerely,

Angela Siefer, Executive Director



Tuesday January 23, 2018

Dear Honorable Mayor Robert Garcia and City Councilmembers,

Thank you for creating this important opportunity to support a Digital Inclusive City. I am in support of each component: participation in the NDIA, Recycle, Innovation and Patents. And with that a request that personal identity protection is part of each of these strategies. Personal identity protection for threats that are known and those not yet developed would help increase participation, and thus effectiveness. In addition, it is important that the City of LB be an active member of the NDIA e.g. with its current efforts to retain the LifeLine program - key to protection of vulnerable programs.

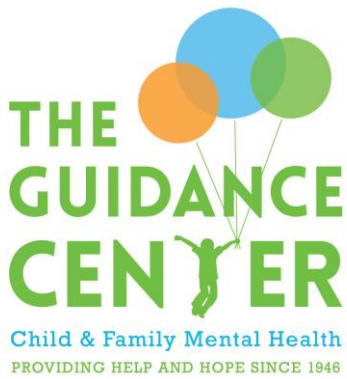
Here are some situations that I encounter routinely in my neighborhood and older adult work in the city of Long Beach. These might help shape the discussion and understanding of the importance of digital capability and access.

The homeless student - We have students in our neighborhood mentoring program that are homeless or lack permanent housing. They need to have daily access to their work effort "their portfolio). A cloud based solution would be useful. Further, if in high school they need to see their LBUSD status - a key to successful mentoring.

The older adult - there is no one group of older adults. But we have very low income older adults who need their household income for medications or to support grandchildren. A computer and a monthly cable fee is outside that budget. Everyone in the household needs access to thrive in their pursuits. For older adults in senior buildings - free Wi-Fi should be required. There are existing programs offered around the city "Tech Workshops" for older adults. These have been designed to assist those with limited English, limited literacy, limited hearing and limited vision. In-home training and set up by Senior Police Partners or other 'vetted' groups is warranted.

The renter - My neighborhood is a renter majority neighborhood, as are other neighborhoods. This will only increase. There is no single way to communicate and interact between our 'home-renters' and the larger community. I support incentives for property owners of multi-units, especially those in targeted use/geographical communities to include free Wi-Fi. There is also a gap in areas where there are no library or community centers. In these areas the use of business center model where businesses in a mixed use or commercial area are provided a public Wi-Fi system could strengthen the neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Swanson
621 Coronado Ave.



January 23, 2018

Honorable Mayor and City Council
333 W. Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Support for Agenda Item R-13: Digital Inclusion

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that we at **The Guidance Center** fully support, Item 13 on the January 23rd Council Agenda titled "Digital Inclusion", authored by Councilwoman Gonzalez.

The City of Long Beach is a leader in technology and innovation. This has been proven by numerous awards including recognition as a "Top Ten Digital City" by the Digital Cities Survey for seven consecutive years though 16% of households in Long Beach have no access to the internet and an additional 10% of households can only access the internet through a mobile phone connection. Far too many in our City are not reliably connected.

While the City's recent Fiber Master Plan addresses the need to connect all City facilities to the fiber network, it fails to address the needs of neighbors who cannot connect to the internet at home or from local businesses and corridors. Many community organizations have been working tirelessly to address the digital divide in underserved neighborhoods through digital literacy classes and publicly available computer labs. Digital Inclusion is important to me because **at The Guidance Center we envision a community where all children have the help they need to be healthy and happy, and the tools to lead positive, productive futures.**

Digital Inclusion means that a young boy from an under-resourced neighborhood can complete his online homework assignment that will ensure he advances in school.

Digital Inclusion means that a teen girl can apply for an internship online that will lead to job opportunities she would not have access to otherwise.

Digital Inclusion means that a single mom can more easily navigate empowering community resources online so that she can help her family build a brighter future together.

Like with life-saving mental health services, access is the most important factor to success. Digital Inclusion is an important step in advancing social and economic equity in our under-resourced neighborhoods.

We wish to see everyone have the opportunity to access the internet affordably and reliably, regardless of where they live. With your assistance and affirmative vote for Item 13, we can make that wish a reality with a Roadmap to Digital Inclusion in Long Beach.

In Service,

Patricia Costales, LCSW
CEO