



# **Blueprint 2.0: FOCUS AREA RECOMMENDATIONS**

Economic Development Commission—January 10, 2022

## Digital & Economic Inclusion

# Focus Area Recommendations

## Mission Statement

Establish Long Beach as the “Most Digitally Connected City the World”, providing High Quality, High Speed, State of the Art Broadband and Affordable access and training to all its businesses and community members.

# Focus Area Recommendations

## Objectives

1. Provide Internet for All by expanding the network in all areas of the City with a focus on those areas that are underserved.
2. Provide Funding for sustainability and Staffing Resources for Implementation of Objective 1.
3. Foster Competition attracting and providing access to infrastructure to competing service providers, technologies and business models to encourage innovation, affordability, and access to support Objective 1, including ensuring equity and diversity in Contracting Vendors.
4. Increase infrastructure investment in underserved areas and in targeted key industry clusters to support Objective 1

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## Objectives

5. Establish Digital Inclusion has a key method to support racial equity and key measure to access the success of achieving economic equality, education, training and opportunity according to Objective 1
6. Create Accountability by establishing the Economic Development Department as the city department to coordinate, measure and manage 1-5 above.

# Focus Area Recommendations

## Recommendations

1. Establish the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 1 and 6 , as the responsibly body for developing the plan to manage the activities and coordination between the various city departments, commissions, businesses and other private and public partners.
2. Identify structural funding, according to Objective 2, to fund the Economic Development Department in perpetuity, including the Office of Digital Inclusion to coordinate ongoing implementation of the Digital Inclusion Roadmap, Racial Equity Framework Report, and Technology & Innovation Commission (TIC) recommendations, adopted by the City Council.
3. Create a working committee, under the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 1, 3 and 4, that will work with public and private partners to implement strategies for leveraging existing infrastructure (e.g. utilities, water, electricity, traffic) to bring more internet access to under served areas of the city.

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4. Establish the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 3, as the responsibility organization to Implement a strategy to promote competition in the marketplace to promote innovation, affordability and access.
5. Establish the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 1 and 3, to explore, promote, support and fund innovative models including a public option (Municipal Broadband)
6. Establish the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 5, as the entity to create, measure and report achievement of minimum standards for Broadband Bandwidth Speeds and quality of service (QoS) regardless of location provided to businesses and households citywide independent of a residents or business owners, race or income level.

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7. Establish the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 4, to lead and support a collaborative regional strategy to expand access to the internet and to promote regional economic competitiveness.
8. Establish, the Economic Development Department, according to Objective 4, to work with City departments, public and private utilities, and permitting agencies to implement a strategy to invest permit fees or provide financial incentives to Internet Service Providers to increase internet infrastructure investment in underserved areas.

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Thank You