

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



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09/01/21
04:59 PM

*Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding
Broadband Infrastructure Deployment and
to Support Service Providers in the State
of California*

Rulemaking 20-09-001
(Filed August 6, 2021)

**FOOTHILL-DE ANZA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS**

Dr. Judy C. Miner
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September 1, 2021

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OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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I. Introduction

Foothill-De Anza Community College District (FHDA) respectfully moves for party status in this proceeding in accordance with Section 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure.

II. Statement of Interest in this Proceeding

FHDA is the largest provider of higher education in Santa Clara County having served 53,251 students during 2020-2021. As a long-time leader in online learning within the California Community Colleges, we are proud to sponsor the California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI). Composed of high-quality online courses, resources for students, and technology, CVC-OEI represents a comprehensive and collaborative program that leverages effective practices and technology to significantly increase the opportunity for higher education degree attainment in California. FHDA is committed to using all available resources to achieving student equity in access and success.

As our colleges pivoted to nearly 100% online instruction in March of 2020, we confronted the harsh reality of an exacerbated digital divide among our students. Broadband access was as much a need as access to hardware and software. Reports from students and employees surfaced stories of interruptions in education or additional challenges to learning as a result of broadband being unavailable, unreliable, or unaffordable. This inequity must be addressed if there is to be true access to higher education for all Californians.

FHDA's interest in this proceeding is to ensure the broadband infrastructure essential to fulfilling our mission of providing high quality transfer and workforce preparation. Broadband access needs to be supported as a utility that is as all-important as electricity and water.

III. Notice

Service of notices, orders, and other correspondence in this proceeding should be directed to Foothill-De Anza Community College District at the address set forth below:

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IV. Conclusion

Foothill-De Anza Community College District's participation in this proceeding will not prejudice any party and will not delay the schedule or broaden the scope of the issues in the proceeding. For the reasons stated above, Foothill-De Anza Community College District respectfully requests that the CPUC grant this Motion for Party Status filing.

Dated: September 1, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Judy C. Miner

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