



# California Advanced Services Fund



## Public Workshop

April 23, 2020



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves**



# CPUC COVID-19 Response

Residential **electric usage has increased 15 to 20 percent in recent weeks** compared to the same period last year. CPUC actions to avoid added hardship for people suffering economically due to COVID-19:

- **Reducing residential and business energy bills** over the coming months by utilizing the California Climate Credit: [www.cpuc.ca.gov/ClimateCredit](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/ClimateCredit)
- All CPUC regulated Investor Owned Utilities are **suspending service disconnections** due to non-payment for both residential and commercial customers until further notice.
- **Suspending renewal requirements for key low-income programs**, including California LifeLine, California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE), and Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA): <https://bit.ly/3ehiaZq>
- For SDG&E customers, the CPUC eliminated a summer rate increase, delayed an increase on small business gas bills, and proposed changes to High Use Charges.
- Many other new consumer protections measures. More information here: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/covid19protections/>
- All CPUC COVID-19 Actions mentioned available here: [www.cpuc.ca.gov/covid](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/covid)



# CPUC Telco Actions

**Mar 23, 2020 Executive Director Letter to 5 largest wireless and 10 largest internet providers on COVID-19 Protections during State of Emergency:**

- Elimination of data caps and overage charges
- Commitment to suspend disconnections
- Affordable Plan offerings
- Efforts to meet K-12 needs
- Bi-weekly calls with Communications Division



# CPUC Telco Actions

## **Apr 21, 2020 California Teleconnect Fund Guidance to**

**Schools:** [www.cpuc.ca.gov/ctf/](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/ctf/)

- \$25M Cooperative Effort with CA Dept of Ed
- Provides 50% discount on monthly recurring service charge for mobile data services to enable distance learning for K-12
- Intended to assist public rural, small and medium districts



# CPUC Telco Actions

## Apr 13, 2020 Lifeline Assigned Comm's Scoping Memo and Ruling (Shiroma):

- Should we adjust the Program's Specific Support Amounts and/or minimum service standards to support policy goals: voice services as federal subsidies for voice services decline, our policy goals for increasing program participation, and access to broadband services?
- Given the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, should the Commission consider any expedited and/or temporary program modifications?
- *Full document available here:*  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M332/K175/332175052.PDF>



# Summary & Next Steps

- Thank you to CASF team for your leadership & swift response to COVID-19!
- Interactive Broadband Map = Great resource and opportunity
- COVID-19 has highlighted importance of CASF (both Adoption and Infrastructure)
- We have a lot of work to do!



# CASF Presenters

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- ❖ **Selena Huang**, *Program Manager, Broadband, Video & Market Branch*

## PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ **Overview of the CASF Infrastructure** - Jessica Honeyfield, Engineer, *Infrastructure & Market Analysis Section*
- ❖ **Line Extension Program** – Phil Enis, Analyst, *Infrastructure & Market Analysis Section*
- ❖ **High Density Eligible Areas and Use of the California Interactive Broadband Map** - Carlos Jennings, GIS Analyst, *Infrastructure & Market Analysis Section*
- ❖ **Consortia Engagement and Finding CASF Projects** – Grace Liu, Analyst, *Adoption & Access Section*
- ❖ **FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)** – Peter Pratt, Senior Analyst, *Video Franchising and Broadband Analysis Section*





## CASF Actions

- March 26, 2020—Assigned Commissioner Ruling (ACR)
  - Reply comments due on April 27
- March 30, 2020—Communications Division Letter on CASF Projects and Customer Support
  - <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/casf/>
- April 17, 2020—CASF Adoption Account Draft Resolution
  - Comments due on April 27; reply comments due on May 1.



# CalSPEED Home Study

- Communications Division is currently seeking participants
- Study Ordered in Decision (D.) 16-12-025 Analyzing the California Telecommunications Markets
- Sign up at <https://calspeed.net/> to receive a measurement box

**CALSPEED**  
HOME BROADBAND STUDY





**Thank You**