

<p>To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044</p>	<p>From: (Public Agency): Golden State Connect Authority _____ 1215 K Street, Suite 1650 _____ Sacramento, CA 95814 _____</p>
--	--

County Clerk of: Alpine; Monterey; Nevada

Project Title: Approval and execution of Memorandums of Understanding Regarding the Construction, Improvement, Operation, and Maintenance of Broadband Internet Access Service in Golden State Connect Authority Project Areas

Project Applicant: Golden State Connect Authority (“GSCA”)

Project Location - Specific: Alpine County (unincorporated area) at appx. 700 to be determined locations; Monterey County (unincorporated area), and Cities (incorporated areas) of: Greenfield, Gonzales, and King at appx. 11,000 to be determined locations in both the unincorporated and incorporated areas; Nevada County (unincorporated area) at appx. 8,000 to be determined locations; and to be determined locations within any or all of the 39 GSCA Member Counties

Project Location - City: Greenfield; Gonzales; King City; Soledad, and to be determined other cities and unincorporated areas located within the 39 GSCA Member Counties

Project Location - County: Alpine; Amador; Butte; Calaveras; Colusa; Del Norte; El Dorado; Glenn; Humboldt; Imperial; Inyo; Lake; Lassen; Madera; Mariposa; Mendocino; Merced; Modoc; Mono; Monterey; Napa; Nevada; Placer; Plumas; Santa Barbara; San Benito; San Luis Obispo; Shasta; Sierra; Siskiyou; Sonoma; Solano; Sutter; Tehama; Trinity; Tulare; Tuolumne; Yolo; Yuba (“GSCA Member Counties”)

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

GSCA proposes to construct and operate open-access, public benefit municipal broadband infrastructure in selected project areas located within GSCA’s 39 Member Counties. In order to proceed with project planning in GSCA project areas, GSCA must enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with each affected local government. GSCA will initially enter into MOUs with the County of Alpine; County of Nevada; County of Monterey, City of Greenfield, City of Gonzales, King City, City of Soledad, and/or South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority) regarding the installation of broadband infrastructure within their jurisdiction. GSCA will enter into additional MOUs with other to be determined Member Counties, cities located within the boundaries of Member Counties, and or Joint Powers Authorities as necessary and appropriate to facilitate these future projects. The MOUs will grant GSCA the authority to place infrastructure within the public rights-of-way, and establish a cooperative framework for permitting, technical assistance, and financial assistance applications relating to the future infrastructure. The purpose of the future project(s) which the MOUs will assist in facilitating, is to provide broadband access to unserved and underserved communities. The beneficiaries of the proposed future broadband projects will be the residents of the communities in which the projects are located.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Golden State Connect Authority

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Golden State Connect Authority; Alpine County; Monterey County; Nevada County; South Salinas Valley Broadband Authority JPA; GSCA Member Counties

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 (14 CCR § 15301); Class 3 (14 CCR § 15303; Class 4 (14 CCR § 15304); “Common Sense” Exemption (CCR § 15061(b)(3)_____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The Lead Agency has determined that this is not a project under CEQA pursuant to CCR § 15378. Notwithstanding, if the approval and execution of the MOUs were a project, the project is exempt pursuant to Class 1 exemption for operation, repair, etc. of existing public facilities, etc., Class 3 exemption for the construction of utilities, including a limited number of new facilities or utility extensions; Class 4 exemption for minor alterations to public land; and is further covered by the "common sense" exemption (because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the MOUs may have a significant effect on the environment).

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Maggie Chiu

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 447-4806

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes

Signature: *Brian Briggs* Date: 6/24/22 Title: Deputy General Counsel, GSCA

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.