



NOTICE OF CEQA EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: City of Ukiah
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482

X County Clerk: County of Mendocino
501 Low Gap Rd # 1020
Ukiah, CA, 95482

PROJECT TITLE: City of Ukiah Gigabit Fiber Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

The project includes the construction of approximately 154,000 feet of fiber into a network backbone (connecting to the statewide Middle Mile Network) forming the cornerstone of the project that will feed 375 unserved locations and a total of 2,558 locations. The project includes high- and low-level network design, aerial fiber construction, underground construction, permitting, construction management, utility pole replacement/repair and temporary poles, and central office access equipment. Equipment that will be installed as part of the project includes an edge router, a core router, switches, access network cable drops, software to manage the network, security software, customer service software, billing software, IP services, replacement spares for critical switches, routers, and other components, optical network units, NID enclosures, RG Management software, subscriber provisioning software, and fiber management software. Roughly 96% of the network backbone will be aerial installation using existing City of Ukiah Electric Utility Department poles, while ~4% will consist of underground installation.

By interconnecting City facilities, including City Hall, police and fire stations, the Civic Center, water treatment plants, and critical electrical utility facilities, local schools, parks, residential and other targeted locations, the City can strategically build out its broadband infrastructure, ensuring equitable access, fostering community engagement, improving administrative efficiency, and enhancing critical services.

The project is funded primarily by the FFA Last Mile grant and is consistent with the Ukiah 2040 General Plan Goals (ED-2, ED-8, PFS-6, PFS-10) and (ED-2.1, ED-8.1, ED-8.2, PFS-6.1, PFS-6.2, PFS 10.5).

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: City of Ukiah Community Development Department

DATE OF APPROVAL: October 25, 2024 **CONFORMED COPY**

NAME OF PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Ukiah

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CEQA EXEMPTION STATUS:


- Ministerial [Section 21080(b); 15268]
- Declared Emergency [Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)]
- Statutory Exemption Section:
- Categorical Exemption Section: 15301(b)(c)(d), 15303(d), 15304(f)
- General Rule [Section 15061 (b)(3)]

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: 15301(b)(c)(d) - The project consists of the operation, permitting, and minor alteration of existing public facilities used to provide utility services such as wired connectivity within existing City streets, sidewalks, and other City public rights-of-way, and restoration of damaged facilities (utility poles). 15303(d) - The project consists of the construction, location and installation of small new equipment (fiber optic lines, edge router, core router, switches, access network cable drops, replacement spares for critical switches, routers optical network units, NID enclosures, etc.). 15304(f) - The project consists of the minor trenching for the installation of fiber optic lines, and backfilling where the surface will be restored. The project would not fall within any of the categories of exceptions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person Katherine Schaefers
Planning Manager
Phone Number (707) 463-6207
Email KSchaefers@cityofukiah.com

This is to certify that the record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

Community Development Department, Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, CA 95482

 Signature (Public Agency) October 25, 2024 (Date) Planning Manager (Title)