**CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION
ON THE ENVIRONMENT
AND THE ECONOMY**

A G E N D A

CFEE Telecommunications and Technology Conference

Cracking the Code in California…
How Do We Install Universal Connectivity and Smarter Uses of Technology?

June 16-17, 2022

With the ongoing deployment of new and advanced communications systems, more Californians are connected than ever before through an ever increasing diversity of devices. Yet there is work to be done to ensure that all Californians benefit from the world of opportunities presented by connectivity and technology. This conference will explore what additional investments and policy support is needed to crack the code on California's dreams of a digital wonderland, where universal access and beneficial applications of technology rule the day.

Hybrid Conference Etiquette and Guidelines

Name: Please input your full name and organization when you join by clicking the three dots in the upper right hand corner. Our guests and other participants appreciate knowing who you are. We also ask that whenever possible, you activate your video feed to help simulate the sense of attentiveness and respect that permeates our traditional in-person gathering.

Submitting Questions and Comments: You may 1) type your questions into the chat window or 2) use the "raise your hand" function on Zoom to indicate you would like to ask your question directly and you will be called on. We will provide an opportunity for 2-3 questions and comments immediately following each presentation. We will still reserve time after all panelist remarks for our traditional roundtable conversation. Please limit your comments and questions to two minutes.

Chatham House Rule - Cyber Edition: Those of you familiar with CFEE conferences are aware of the time-honored "Chatham House Rule" by which the Foundation operates. This means specific comments are not to be attributed to any one person in the goal of promoting a more candid exchange of knowledge and insights. At this time, video conferencing is an inherently less private forum and confidentiality is not guaranteed; however, we ask that you help us to uphold our longstanding and respected tradition. To that end, this conference will not be recorded, and we ask you not to record the discussions in any fashion or to share specific, attributable remarks. We appreciate you respecting and supporting the Chatham House Rule.

Materials. You have been emailed the final conference agenda, participant list, speaker biographies, and a telecommunications & technology glossary. You may also access these materials on our website at www.cfee.net/telco-tech.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16
Lakeside Ballroom

11:30 – 12:45pm	Arrival/Check-In and Lunch - Lower Cottage Green
12:45 – 1:00pm	**Welcome – Conference Overview and Roundtable Introductions**

- Preview of conference topics, speakers, and goals

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE

1:00 – 2:20pm	**Session 1** **Behind the Digital Curtain – What Goes Into Constructing and Operating Our Modern Communications Network?**

Though woven into the fabric of our every day life, the telecommunication networks that animate our Digital Era remain a mystery for many. This opening panel will peek behind the curtain to reveal how our communications infrastructure works, how it gets built, and what it will take to continue investing in and improving this remarkable techno-ecosystem.

- What's the difference between fixed and wireless broadband? 5G and 10G?
- What network speeds and capabilities are needed for households to conduct routine online activities? What CPUC requirements are currently mandated?
- How long does it take for new facilities to be permitted?
- What are the costs for different types of telecom infrastructure?
- How long does it take from project planning to operation?
- As California works to make its energy infrastructure more resilient to wildfires, how does this affect telecomm facilities? What opportunities do disaster recovery present for increasing service availability and reliability?

Daniel Davis, CEO and Co-Founder, Arcadian Infracom *(5-10 min)*

Alissa Cooper, Vice President & Chief Technology Officer for Technology Policy, Cisco Systems *(5-10 min)*

Jeff Votaw, Vice President of Engineering, Comcast *(5-10 min)*

Radha Sharma, Director of Engineering, NorCal/NV, Verizon *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

2:20 – 2:30pm	Break

2:30 – 4:05pm	Session 2 Avoiding the Splurge Into Squander…How Can We Ensure Our Billions of Dollars of Public Investments Is Money Well Spent?

California is in the midst of a generational influx of public investment in telecommunications that, if expended judiciously, could decisively move the state toward our "Broadband for All" ambitions. How do we avoid squandering this golden opportunity and make sure public dollars go to projects that will yield the greatest societal benefit?

- How many California households lack a reliable connection to broadband networks?
- How many households have access to broadband but, for one reason or another, have decided not to get online?
- How much money is tabbed for increasing adoption (i.e. enrolling more customers and getting more devices in households) versus improving accessibility (i.e. building closer, faster broadband facilities)?
- What can be done to address the Digital Device gap for those who cannot afford the technology?
- What types of investments will offer more cost-effective outcomes for getting more people online? Who is responsible for making decisions on where these funds are spent?
- Do we have a strategy for linking last-mile and middle-mile projects?
- How are local government leaders in places like Orange County and Chico investing these monies to close the broadband gaps in their communities?
- To whom, and how, are we teaching consumers to use these new tools?
- Should California consider creating a "Connectivity Chief" for coordinating this multi-agency, multi-stakeholder, and multi-billion dollar undertaking?

Jack Garamendi, Supervisor, Calaveras County *(5-10 min)*

Rochelle Swanson, Government Affairs Manager, Crown Castle *(5-10 min)*

Jacob Mejia, Vice President of Public and External Affairs, Pechanga
Development Corporation *(5-10 min)*

Gayle Miller, Chief Deputy Director, Policy, California Department of Finance
(5-10 min)

Roundtable Discussion

4:05 – 4:15pm	Break

4:15 – 5:30pm	**Session 3** **Getting Schooled – The Promises and Pitfalls of Distance Learning**

After the pandemic enrolled our school systems in a crash course on remote learning, it is time to take stock of this spontaneous experiment. How do we take the lessons learned from this experience to harness the promising qualities of virtual education while mitigating its shortcomings?

- What have been the positive applications of remote learning? Where has it fallen short of our expectations?
- How are school districts going about helping students to successfully participate on virtual learning platforms?
- What might distance learning look like going forward as we learn to co-exist with COVID-19?
- How can the state better support localities as they explore distance learning opportunities?
- What is digital literacy? To what extent are schools helping students and teachers have a productive relationship with technology?
- What is the state doing to help train teachers to be better equipped for online teaching?

Mark Warschauer, Professor of Education, UC Irvine *(5-10 min)*

Parvin Ahmadi, Superintendent, Castro Valley Unified School District *(5-10 min)*

Laurie Dodge, Executive Vice Chancellor Of Academic Affairs And Provost, University of Massachusetts Global *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

6:00pm	Reception and Dinner

The Reception will begin at 6:00pm on the Lakeside Ballroom Patio, just outside our conference space. Dinner will follow in Lakeside A.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17
Lakeside Ballroom

7:30 – 9:00am	Breakfast – Lakeside Ballroom
9:00 – 10:20am	**Session 4** Checking Up On Telemedicine – What's the Prognosis?

Our healthcare system is primed for a hearty embrace of telemedicine. As better networks are deployed, patient preferences evolve, and healthcare providers embrace new modes of treatment and care, we need to prepare for dramatic shifts in the delivery of healthcare as we know it.

- What does telemedicine look like in 2022? How is it evolving and what technologies are needed to facilitate digital healthcare today and in the future?
- What types of healthcare are suitable for telemedicine?
- What technology training is needed for healthcare professionals and patients?
- What is the potential for improving health equity by leveraging digital infrastructure? What new infrastructure is needed in rural areas to partake in the rise of telehealth?
- How are privacy and security considerations being addressed as more healthcare data is being shared and stored in the ever treacherous cyberspace?
- What opportunities are there for remote patient monitoring? Will digital devices for consumers be considered reimbursable healthcare costs?
- What cost savings can providers and patients alike expect from this paradigm shift?

Ashish Atreja, M.D., Chief Information and Digital Health Officer, UC Davis Health *(5-10 min)*

Pooja Mittal, M.D., Medical Director of Health Equity, Health Net *(5-10 min)*

Richard Thorp, M.D., Rural Physician and Former President of the California Medical Association *(5-10 min)*

Katie Heidorn, Executive Director, Insure the Uninsured Project *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

10:20 – 10:30am	Break

10:30 – 12:00pm	**Session 5** **Ghosts in the Machine – Policymaking and the Telecommunications Industry**

In a world of regulated industries, telecommunications and technology remain a vexing subject for policymakers. On one hand, the desire for robust connectivity and concerns about technological downsides have attracted the earnest attention of public officials. On the other hand, telecommunications are difficult-to-regulate transnational enterprises that have largely thrived thanks to the private sector's self-guided fulfillment of consumer wishes. In this complicated space of mixed jurisdictions and interests, how should policymakers engage to ensure Californians are maximizing the benefits between a laissez-faire approach and in-state regulation?

- What aspects of California's technology and communication systems demonstrate success stories? What policies have helped to drive these successes?
- How did California's communications infrastructure perform during the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic when there was more traffic on the network than ever before?
- When should companies be left to their own devices to make decisions about their infrastructure, prices, and services?
- How are telco networks regulated in Europe? Are they faring better or worse than California in key cost, quality, and availability metrics?
- With supply chain disruptions still reverberating globally, should California consider onshoring the manufacturing of the technologies that go into communications infrastructure?

John Reynolds, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission *(5-10 min)*

Robert Atkinson, President, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation *(5-10 min)*

Chris Boyer, Vice President - Global Security and Technology Policy, AT&T
(5-10 min)

Janus Norman, President, California Cable & Telecommunications Association
(5-10 min)

Matthew Rantanen, Director of Technology for the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association and Director of the Tribal Digital Village *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

12:00pm	**Summary, Next Steps, and Adjournment**

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE