A G E N D A

CFEE Telecommunications and Technology Conference

Going Big on Broadband, Resiliency, and the Technologies of Tomorrow

June 17-18, 2021

Following our slow conquest over COVID-19 and venturing out from our cyber sanctuary, our crash course on the extraordinary capabilities and lingering shortcomings of our virtual society have become more clear. This conference will examine what short and long-term steps must be taken to, at last, make California a Digital Promise Land, in which our dreams of universal broadband, resilient networks, and dynamic technologies become our everyday reality.

Virtual Conference Etiquette and Guidelines

Name: Please input your full name and organization when you join the 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 Webex 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 long 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 telco "glossary." You may also access these materials on our website at cfee.net/telco-tech.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

12:45 – 1:00pm	**Welcome – Conference Overview and Virtual Roundtable Introductions**

- Preview of conference topics, speakers, and goals

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE

	<u>Session 1</u> **From Amazing to Blazing: Taking "Broadband for All" to the Next Level**

While it is hard to believe that the Internet is still in its infancy, broadband has rapidly become an indispensable resource as the communications industry has gamely built out the infrastructure to meet society's voracious and evolving demand. As we enter the next phase, California seeks to permanently bridge the shrinking but most resistant Digital Divide. What must be done to take broadband from "amazing" to "blazing?"

1:00 – 2:25pm   <u>Part I. What is the Actual Gap Between the Broadband Haves and Have-nots?</u>
The precise gap between those who have fast, reliable, and affordable broadband access and those that do not remains an elusive data point. We'll kick off our conference with an illuminating data dive on how many residents still lack access or simply are not adopting, where they reside, and in what ways they cannot partake in a society where Internet/communications are an essential tool.

- What does broadband access in 2021 actually mean?
- How many Californians cannot access the modern communications network in their homes?
- Where are broadband deserts predominantly found?
- How many Californians have access but choose not to adopt?
- What data is still missing? And who might have it?
- How are schools impacted by broadband woes, and how can they be a partner in helping to solve this dilemma?

Robert Osborn, Director, Communications Division, California Public Utilities Commission *(5-10 min)*

Carolyn McIntyre, President, California Cable & Telecommunications Association *(5-10 min)*

Vinhcent Le, Technology Equity Legal Counsel, The Greenlining Institute *(5-10 min)*

Preston Thomas, Chief Services and Systems Officer, Oakland Unified School District *(5-10 min)*

Heidi Hill Drum, Chief Executive Officer, Tahoe Prosperity Center *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

| 2:25 – 2:35pm | Break |

| 2:35 – 4:00pm | **Part II. Real Talk on Universal Broadband: When and How Can We Get It Done?** |

Though steady progress has been made in recent years, a renewed and coordinated focus – along with time and money – will be needed to fulfill the aspirations of "Broadband for All." With the Governor's Task Force setting the stage for what comes next, what actions are being taken to achieve our big goals?

- Do we have a cohesive plan for leveraging and coordinating private and public sector resources?
- What realistic goals and timelines should we set for urban and rural broadband deployment?
- The CPUC estimates that between $5.6 to $6.7 billion of new investments will be needed to offer broadband to unserved and underserved communities – how will these costs be funded?
- How will public subsidies affect market competition?
- What are the technical challenges to deployment, and how are stakeholders working together to address those challenges?
- What cities are making progress on closing the Digital Divide, and how can we learn from their successes?

Greg Lucas, California State Librarian *(5-10 min)*

Sam Liccardo, Mayor, City of San Jose *(5-10 min)*

Rudy Reyes, West Region Vice President & Associate General Counsel, Verizon *(5-10 min)*

Marisol de La Vega Cardoso, Chief Administrative Officer, Family HealthCare Network *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

4:00 – 4:15pm	Break
4:15 – 5:30pm	**Session 2**
	The Resiliency Challenge: New Responsibilities for the Network

Following an increase in major wildfire events and public safety power shutoffs, the communications industry has been tasked with adapting to the "new normal" of climate change impacts as well as shoring up the resiliency shortcomings of the energy system. This will entail installing backup power and hardening the network to better withstand and operate during natural disasters and planned outages. What is the latest progress as network providers adjust to these new responsibilities, and how long is the path ahead to reach resiliency?

- How has the Public Utilities Commission directed industry to improve the resiliency of the communications network?
- For wireline companies working to comply with 72-hour backup power requirements, what has this process produced?
- Are there areas where redundant power sources will not be installed? Why not? What are the alternatives?
- How and where will customer bills increase as a result of resiliency investments? Will this inadvertently advantage some companies over others and make it difficult to maintain a resilient network?
- What state and local ordinances can hinder resiliency upgrades? How are local governments supporting this effort?
- What is the right response by the legislature to help move this along?

Mark DiNunzio, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Cox Communications *(5-10 min)*

John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate, Rural County Representatives of California *(5-10 min)*

Daniel Schweizer, Director of Government Affairs, Crown Castle *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

8:45 – 10:15am	Session 3
	The Federal Funding and Policy Picture – What Monies and Priorities Will Be Flowing to California?

In the midst of the uneven COVID-19 economy, the Biden/Harris Administration has sought to stabilize and jumpstart economic growth through increased federal spending. This is also connected to shifts in federal policy that seek to augment the nation's communications and digital infrastructure.

How this all pencils out for California is still on the horizon. As the state makes its push on universal broadband and other telco/tech priorities, what federal monies and policy support are available to help underwrite our critical investments?

- The American Rescue Plan Act (2021) appropriated over $500 billion for broadband, cybersecurity, and technology modernization projects – how is California putting those funds to immediate use to bolster broadband affordability, infrastructure, education, and telehealth?
- What is the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) designed to accomplish? How much RDOF funding is expected to be invested in California?
- What provisions in the planned infrastructure bill will be appropriated for communications infrastructure, and how can they best be used?

- Are there new policy ideas the Biden/Harris Administration is exploring that can help or hinder our state's priorities?

Congresswoman Doris Matsui, Vice Chair, Communications and Technology Subcommittee (*Pre-Recorded Video*) *(7 min)*

Mary Henze, Assistant Vice President of Federal Regulatory, AT&T *(5-10 min)*

Doug Brake, Director, Broadband and Spectrum Policy, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation *(5-10 min)*

Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chief Executive Officer, Livingston Community Health *(5-10 min)*

Jeff Campbell, Sr. Vice President, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Cisco Systems *(5-10 min)*

Roundtable Discussion

10:15 – 10:30am	Break
10:30 – 12:00pm	**Session 4** **Visions from the Future: Come and See For Yourself**

This session will feature hands-on demonstrations of some of the most dynamic machinery being hatched in research centers in California and across the country. Straight out of science-fiction movies, these groundbreaking gizmos may soon become staples of our day-to-day life. We will consider how Californians can best benefit from these new gadgets and the role of policymakers in facilitating their creation and rollout. Planned demonstrations include:

The App Doctor: The Hospital of the Future Comes To You
Ashish Atreja, M.D., Chief Information and Digital Health Officer, UC Davis Medical Center *(25 min, including Q&A and discussion)*

The Information Super Highway – Global Networks, Super Computers, and the High Stakes Quantum Competition
Jonathan Carter, Associate Laboratory Director for Computing Sciences, Lawrence Berkeley National Labs *(25 min, including Q&A and discussion)*

Down the Rabbit Hole…A Virtual Reality Experience
Steve Johnson, Founder, SeeBoundless *(25 min, including Q&A and discussion)*

12:00 – 12:15pm	Summary, Next Steps, and Adjournment

Jay Hansen, President & CEO, CFEE