August 2, 2022

California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

## **RE:** Letter of Support for the South Bay Cities Council of Government's CPUC LATA Grant Application

Dear California Public Utilities Commission – Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant Review Team,

On behalf of the City of the City of Carson, this letter expresses our support and partnership for the South Bay Cities Council of Government's CPUC Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) grant application.

The impact from the Covid-19 pandemic has shown how critical internet access is. The pandemic exposed the historical challenges and inequities within our community to provide residents and businesses with fast and reliable broadband. Planning to address these "digital gaps" is paramount to providing for future "last-mile" infrastructure that will support telework, telehealth as well as digital learning and work-force training – critical digital resources for our community.

As a partner on the SBCCOG's application, the City of Carson welcomes the opportunity to support the SBCCOG and its consultants' scope of work which will provide data, observations, and the plan that will lead to applications for funding to extend our middle mile network to neighborhoods and residents who are currently un- or under-served.

We look forward to supporting the proposed scope of work that will include city-specific as well as sub-regional deliverables, including:

- Market Analysis
- Needs Assessment
- Asset Inventory and Analysis
- Technical Overlays for Building Last-Mile Connections Using the SBFN

Our city and its stakeholders believe having access to faster, reliable internet is a top priority for our community. We support the South Bay Cities Council of Governments in the work from of the LATA grant. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael George in our City Manager's Office at 310-952-1731 or mgeorge@carsonca.gov.

Sincerely,

City Council