



736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

City Manager
(707) 822-5953

Police
822-2428

Recreation
822-7091

Community Development
822-5955

Finance
822-5951

Transportation
822-3775

Environmental Services
Streets/Utilities
822-5957

Environmental Services
Community Services
822-8184

Engineering
& Building
825-2128

December 23, 2019

Via Email

President Marybel Batjer
Commissioner Liane Randolph
Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves
Commissioner Cliff Rechtschaffen

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

RE: Support for Inyo Networks' request for additional funding from the California Advanced Services Fund for Digital 299 Broadband Project

Dear President Batjer and Commissioners:

The City of Arcata is writing to express our complete support for Inyo Networks' application for additional funding from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) for a middle and last mile project along Highway 299 in Humboldt and Trinity Counties. The project is known locally as the "Digital 299 Broadband Project" and has wide support here in Arcata.

The City of Arcata has been a strong supporter of broadband connectivity here in Arcata and throughout Humboldt County. We have a transitioning economy and several current unmet public safety communication needs in Arcata. The City supported early efforts to bring people together to create a regional plan for broadband and fiber optic line connections and yet we know that we still have some of the slowest and least reliable internet connections in California. We work regularly with businesses that wish to invest and expand in business development here in Arcata and are limited by internet capacity and reliability.

To date, through the City's planning with Inyo Networks, they have demonstrated a professionalism to steward CASF funds and the project as a whole. They have expressed their interest and willingness to work with the City and assist in coordinating the needs of the various state and federal agencies to determine the requirements for network construction and environmental permits. In parallel, Inyo Networks has been working hard to secure required matching funds from local institutions and the private sector for this critical regional project.

The City of Arcata urges the Commission to provide the requested additional funds essential to complete the Digital 299 project for Humboldt County. We really hope to push this project across the finish line in 2020.

If you need any further information feel free to contact City Manager, Karen Diemer at 707-822-5953.

Sincerely,



Michael Winkler
Mayor

cc:

Senator Mike McGuire, Senator.McGuire@senate.ca.gov & VIA FAX: (916) 651-4902

Congressman Jared Huffman, John.Driscoll@mail.house.gov

Assembly Member Jim Wood, VIA FAX: (707) 445-6607 & (916) 319-2102

Sara Sanders, League Regional Public Affairs Manager, sanders@cacities.org

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