

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Yolo Broadband Strategic Plan – We want to hear from you!

(Woodland, CA) – As part of a countywide strategic planning initiative to formulate a long term sustainable broadband plan, the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is seeking feedback from Yolo County businesses and residents concerning their broadband needs and services via a survey posted on www.yolocounty.org.

As more of our daily lives are carried out online, access to affordable and reliable broadband Internet service is important to the future of the Yolo County community. The countywide region (including the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland, and all the unincorporated communities and rural areas within Yolo County) is embarking on a collaborative broadband Internet planning study to determine how to best ensure that Yolo County businesses, residents and community anchors have access to affordable, reliable broadband Internet service that will meet their long-term needs.

The goals of this study are to determine what Internet service is currently available and where there are gaps, to identify related community goals and ultimately, to produce a strategic "roadmap" of how to best close gaps in service and achieve community objectives.

Those who live and/or work in Yolo County are encouraged to assist in this effort by completing the short online survey and by encouraging family, friends and colleagues to do the same. The survey is important because, in addition to learning about the needs of Yolo County businesses and residents, it includes a "wireline" speed test that will gather important information about Internet speeds throughout Yolo County. This speed data, currently mapped by the California Public Utilities Commission, is based on Internet provider data, which can overstate actual speeds. Gathering accurate data of actual Internet speeds is a critical step in making Yolo County communities eligible for related state and federal grant funding.

"This is a unique opportunity for all of our residents and businesses to have a direct impact in the planning of Yolo County's broadband and Internet future and we thank them in advance for their participation," said Yolo LAFCo Executive Officer Christine Crawford.

To participate in the survey, go to <u>www.yolocounty.org</u> and selected the Yolo Broadband Survey link.