

ISABEL AGUAYO Mayor

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO Vice Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS Councilmember

September 21, 2023

## To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Paramount would like to express its support of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments' (GCCOG) CPUC's Federal Funding Account Last Mile Grant application.

Our community has suffered from digital inequities and the lack of connectivity has adversely affected our citizens, young and old. The impact from the COVID-19 pandemic has shown how critical internet access is to our community members. With continued and increased reliance on the internet for homework, remote learning, telemedicine, telework, and other everyday activities, our community has an urgent need for fast and reliable broadband internet service.

With Last Mile funding, the GCCOG will be able to connect unserved and underserved households and important community institutions in our community with high-speed broadband service. The benefits from this build will bring economic prosperity and digital equality our community. It all will begin with the funds from Last Mile.

As one of the six original cities promised to receive equitable, high-speed broadband service, the City offers full and strong support to the GCCOG for the work that will be completed with the Last Mile funds to ensure the Paramount community has access to high-speed broadband service. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

Isabel Aguayo

Mayor

CC. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities

Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association