

**Digital Access During COVID-19**

Given that many Federal, State and local resources are only provided online, it is critical that the County continue to expand digital connectivity, hardware access and digital literacy to all parts of our unincorporated communities.

Recently, students in the areas of the unincorporated area of Whittier lacked internet connection and struggled with on-line instruction. Small business owners had difficulty in accessing loan and grant opportunities because of the lack of internet or a computer. Promoting digital connectivity during an active emergency proclamation of Covid-19 should be a priority.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the CEO, ISD and relevant departments to develop a report back in 15 days with a plan to provide access to communities that lack digital connectivity. Access to the internet for residents and businesses is necessary to apply for any economic relief programs; and
2. Direct the CEO and ISD to work with private partners to increase access to hardware, internet access, and digital literacy training for residents and businesses; particularly in areas of the unincorporated areas that lack the high-speed, quality internet access at home.

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JH:lo

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_