



Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 2:11pm PDT

Matsui connects with \$205M for broadband

Sacramento Business Journal - by [Ron Trujillo](#) Editor

Congresswoman Doris Matsui wants to fill the need for speed — at least on the Internet.

California will receive \$205 million for seven broadband projects from the federal stimulus, giving mostly low-income communities access to high-speed Internet access.

The Foundation for California Community Colleges will collect almost \$11 million for outreach, training and support to greatly increase digital literacy and broadband use with fiber-optic cables installed up and down the state. The Los Rios Community College District in the Sacramento region will benefit under the program.

“In our increasingly connected world, it is important that all Americans have access to, and comfort with, broadband technology,” Matsui said in a news release Wednesday. “These awards will assist both urban and rural communities throughout California in bridging the digital divide and ensuring that our citizens are able to be active participants in all aspects of society.”

Matsui and Rep. Anna Eshoo, a Palo Alto Democrat, members of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet, urged the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to award more money under the stimulus to California for broadband projects.

Despite being the center of the high-tech industry and numerous high-speed communities, more than 44,000 square miles — about the size of Kentucky — are unserved or underserved without access to broadband, said Sunne Wright McPeak, president and chief executive officer of the **California Emerging Technology Fund**.