

Broadband Internet In SoCal To Get Major Investment And Overhaul From Biden Infrastructure Bill

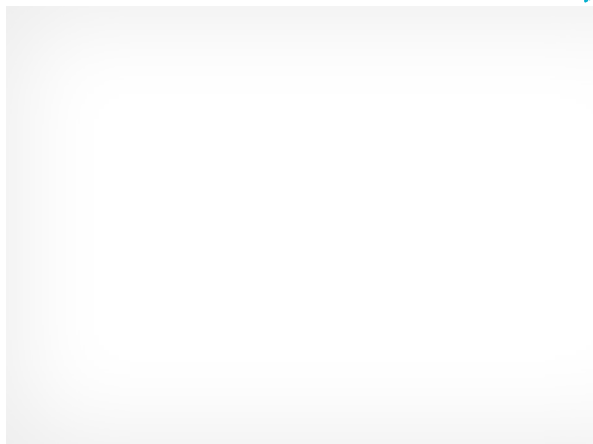
By CBSLA Staff November 16, 2021 at 8:30 pm Filed Under: [Broadband](#), [CBS2](#), [Infrastructure Bill](#), [President Biden](#), [Southern California](#)



LOS ANGELES (CBSLA) – The \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill signed by President Joe Biden Monday is expected to bring billions of dollars to Los Angeles County for public transit projects, wildfire preparation, bridge and road repair, electric vehicle charging networks and broadband internet.

Broadband, which is a lifeline for many Southern California families, especially during the pandemic, is set to get a major overhaul.

ADVERTISING



READ MORE: [Staples Center To Be Renamed Crypto.com Arena In Largest Naming Rights Deal In History](#)

OUR | NEWSLETTER



Sign up and get our latest headlines delivered right to your inbox!

Email address

Subscribe Now!

MOST VIEWED



Caught On Camera: DoorDash Driver Seen Using Brentwood Lobby As Toilet



George Clooney Reacts To Fatal Shooting Of Cinematographer On Set Of Alec Baldwin Western Film 'Rust'



Father Shot And Killed In Front Of His Children

"It will be a huge shot in the arm," said Sunne Wright McPeak, CEO of California Emerging Technology Fund.

The organization's mission is to get broadband access to unserved and underserved communities. Their CEO said building better broadband infrastructure will take a collaboration of the public and private sector.

"We are pledging to the county of Los Angeles that in the next year, we can get every household that is in a publicly subsidized complex connected. There should be high-speed internet infrastructure improvements throughout California in the next three years," McPeak said.

RELATED: [New Infrastructure Bill To Bring Billions To LA, Officials Say](#)

California is set to get \$100 million in federal funds for broadband alone. That's on top of a \$6 billion state fund already set aside for improving internet access. The federal infrastructure bill is



expected to expand

broadband to 545,000 Californians.

"I didn't realize how much internet we needed," said Irma Villalpando, the mother of two daughters in the Los Angeles Unified District high schools.

READ MORE: [Deal Reached Mere Hours Before Thousands Of UC Instructors Were Set To Strike](#)

She said during the pandemic, with the whole family at home, they struggled with staying connected because of the strain on their service.

"Our logging in slowed down, trying to have the video on and the speaker and devices on was a little challenging, kept freezing. I kept getting disconnected," Villalpando said.

For some families, no internet meant their information access was cut off.

"Our principal did share with us about one family and they would park outside the schools, so they could get the connection from the school here," said Villalpando.

McPeak said that certainly within the next five years, we should see major changes to our broadband infrastructure.

MORE NEWS:



Mysterious Loud Boom And Rattling Felt Along Orange And San Diego County Coastlines Early Monday Morning



Suspect Crashes Into Back Of Semi-Truck During CHP Pursuit



Booster Shot Confusion As California Goes Against Current CDC And FDA Recommendations



Fugitive Couple Convicted In \$18 Million COVID-19 Loan Fraud Scheme Sentenced In Absentia



Manhunt On For Armed Prowler Terrorizing Shadow Hills Neighborhood



Long Beach Police Officer Chris Zamora Found Dead In Substation Parking Lot Of Apparent Suicide



Judge Orders Vanessa Bryant To Disclose Mental Health Records In Kobe Crash Photos Lawsuit