

Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Board Meeting June 23, 2023

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

10F. Middle Mile Broadband Initiative Update

BRIEFING SUMMARY

Background

In July 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Senate Bill (SB) 156 to create an open-access middle-mile network to bring equitable high-speed broadband service to all Californians. SB 156 provides \$3.25 billion to build the necessary infrastructure to bring internet connectivity to homes, businesses, and communities. The middle-mile network is the physical fiber optic infrastructure needed to enable internet connectivity.

Under SB 156, California Department of Technology (CDT) was authorized to establish oversight of the Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN) project and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) was assigned the responsibility to construct up to 10,000 miles of broadband that spans the entire state of California. The MMBN must be constructed and completed by December 31, 2026. This project will encroach within the Central Valley Flood Protection Board's (Board) Adopted Plan of Flood Control at potentially 190 locations, where the encroachments need to acquire Board's permits, some of which are also within State Plan of Flood Control boundary and require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' permission.

Presentation

An information briefing will be presented to provide an update of recent activities that Board staff and CDT/Caltrans project team have taken to coordinate the development of an interagency agreement, which will provide the funding mechanism to support the increased workload.