

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Authorizing the Tohono O'odham Utility Authority to submit an Application for
Funding Opportunity Number: NTIA-SDECGP-2024, the State Digital Equity
Capacity Grant Program on behalf of the Tohono O'odham Nation)**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-022

1 **WHEREAS,** the Tohono O'odham Nation ("Nation") is a federally recognized Indian tribe,
2 organized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18,
3 1934 (48 Stat. 984; 25 U.S.C. § 476), which exercises sovereignty over its members,
4 enterprises, and lands; and

5 **WHEREAS,** the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation vests the Legislative Council with
6 the authority to "authorize, charter and regulate public or private corporations
7 and associations whether organized for profit, or for non-profit or charitable
8 purposes" and "to promote, protect and provide for public health, peace, morals,
9 education and general welfare of the Tohono O'odham Nation and its members"
10 (Constitution, Article VI, Section 1(c) and Section 1(c)(2)); and

11 **WHEREAS,** by Resolution No. 08-70, the Nation established the Tohono O'odham Utility
12 Authority ("TOUA"), formerly known as the Papago Tribal Utility Authority; and

13 **WHEREAS,** by Resolution No. 91-175, the Nation adopted the Second Restated Plan of
14 Operation of the Tohono O'odham Utility Authority ("TOUA Plan of Operation"),
15 24 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 1; and

16 **WHEREAS,** TOUA's purpose includes to "plan for, provide and furnish utility services to all
17 areas within the Tohono O'odham Nation, where such services are determined to
18 be feasible and economic," "promote the use of utility services where available in
19 order to improve the health and welfare of the residents of the Tohono O'odham
20 Nation," and to "acquire, construct, operate, maintain, promote and expand
21 utility systems . . . within the Tohono O'odham Nation." (24 Tohono O'odham Code
22 Chapter 1, Section 4.A.1, 2, and 3); and

23 **WHEREAS,** the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA")
24 published Funding Opportunity Number: NTIA-SDECGP-2024, the State Digital
25 Equity Capacity Grant Program making funds available to States, Territories, and
26 Native Entities to "identify the barriers to achieving digital equity faced by certain
27 populations" and "to promote: (1) the availability and affordability of access to
28 broadband technology; (2) online accessibility and inclusivity of public resources
29 and services; (3) digital literacy; (4) awareness of online privacy and
30 cybersecurity; and (5) the availability and affordability of consumer devices and
31 technical support for those devices."; and

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1 **WHEREAS, NTIA grant funds to be awarded to Native Entities by competitive application and**
2 **review include \$42,000,000 for fiscal years 2022 through 2024, \$3,000,000 for**
3 **digital equity planning purposes, and approximately \$300,000 of unclaimed**
4 **funds; and**

5 **WHEREAS, applications must be supported by a "Tribal Government Resolution"**
6 **authorizing the Native Entity "to file an application for either or both Digital**
7 **Equity Capacity Grant funds and Digital Equity Planning Grant funds on behalf of**
8 **the Native Entity"; and**

9 **WHEREAS, TOUA intends to apply for one or more NTIA digital equity grants to fund a digital**
10 **navigator program that will help educate tribal members how to use a computer**
11 **and the internet, and that will include training on internet safety; and**

12 **WHEREAS, the Legislative Council supports TOUA's proposal for the Digital Equity Capacity**
13 **Grant Program.**

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council authorizes**
15 **the Tohono O'odham Utility Authority to submit an application for Funding**
16 **Opportunity Number: NTIA-SDEC GP-2024, the State Digital Equity Capacity Grant**
17 **Program and apply for funding for either or both Digital Equity Capacity Grant**
18 **funds and Digital Equity Planning Grant funds on behalf of the Tohono O'odham**
19 **Nation.**

20 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 16TH**
21 **day of JANUARY 2025 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,016.2 FOR; -0-**
22 **AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and 247.1 [03] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council**
23 **by Article VI, Section 1(e) and Section 1(c)(2) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation,**
24 **adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy**
25 **Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the**
26 **Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).**

27
28 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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32 **Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman**

33
34 21st day of January, 2025
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(Authorizing the Tohono O'odham Utility Authority to submit an Application for Funding Opportunity Number: NTIA-SDECGP-2024, the State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program on behalf of the Tohono O'odham Nation)

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ATTEST:


Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

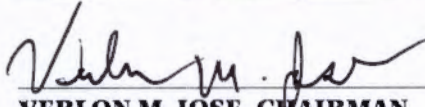
21 day of January, 2025

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 21st day of January, 2025 at 4:50 o'clock, P.M., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

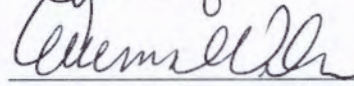
TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL


Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

APPROVED on the 21 day of January, 2025
 DISAPPROVED at 9:02 o'clock, P.M.


VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 22 day of
January, 2025, at 8:45 o'clock, A.M.


Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

ACTION: AUTHORIZING THE TOHONO O'ODHAM UTILITY AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: NTIA-SDECGP-2024, THE STATE DIGITAL EQUITY CAPACITY GRANT PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Moved: COUNCILWOMAN JANICE FELIX

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA HOBBS

DATE: JANUARY 16, 2025

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
BABOQUIVARI 394.2	1. LEANDER MASE (Francine Schooling) 2. JESSE NAVARRO (Alberta J. Ray)	197.1 197.1	X X			
CHUKUT KUK 354.7	1. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone) 2. MARLAKAY HENRY ()	177.35 177.35	X X			
GU ACHI 282.7	1. VICTORIA HOBBS (Tonya L. Joaquin) 2. JEROME F. JOAQUIN ()	141.35 141.35	X X			
GU VO 276.0	1. DALLAS LEWIS () 2. LESLIE LUNA ()	138.0 138.0	X X			
HICKIWAN 220.5	1. DELMA M. GARCIA () 2. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Loretta A. Ortega)	110.25 110.25	X X			
PISINEMO 236.2	1. EDWARD D. MANUEL () 2. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas)	118.1 118.1	X X			
SAN LUCY 257.6	1. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews) 2. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eiler)	128.8 128.8	X X			
SAN XAVIER 244.5	1. JANICE FELIX () 2. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III ()	122.25 122.25	X X			
SCHUK TOAK 191.8	1. DELISA M. RAMON (Sharon A. Francisco) 2. THEORIA CAMPILLO (Rebecca Ann Valentine)	95.9 95.9	X X			X
SELLS 558.0	1. EVELYN JUAN MANUEL (Arvada Liston) 2. JANET B. ELEANDO ()	279.0 279.0	X X			
SIF OIDAK 247.1	1. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA () 2. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez)	123.55 123.55				X X
	TOTAL	3,263.3	3,016.2	-0-	-0-	247.1 [03]