



## NEWS RELEASE

### Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford

**CONTACT:**  
Scott Vanhorne  
Communications Director  
(909) 387-4839  
[svanhorne@sbccounty.gov](mailto:svanhorne@sbccounty.gov)

May 1, 2018

---

## Supervisors Support Effort to Bring Broadband to Lytle Creek

---

**SAN BERNARDINO**— On Tuesday, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a resolution supporting Frontier Communications' request for state funding to install fiber-optic broadband infrastructure in the unincorporated canyon community of Lytle Creek, an area currently unserved by broadband internet service.

"Broadband internet is as commonly available as electricity and water service in most urban and suburban communities, but because of Lytle Creek's remote location, residents have no access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet," said Supervisor Janice Rutherford, whose district includes Lytle Creek. "With no federal broadband funds available and no other service provider willing to come to the table, Frontier Communications has launched an ambitious campaign to secure the funds needed to provide the community with broadband. I am pleased the Board of Supervisors joined Lytle Creek residents in urging the California Public Utilities Commission to approve this vital project."

Frontier has applied for for a \$1.8 million grant to serve Lytle Creek from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) program administered by the California Public Utilities Commission. Last year, the Legislature authorized an additional \$330 million to the CASF program to fund broadband projects in remote, rural, high-cost communities like Lytle Creek that still lack Internet access.

If Frontier's application and request for full funding is approved, the project would enable broadband service of up to 1 Gigabit to 339 households, plus businesses, public agencies, and anchor institutions. It also would enable high-speed Internet service to San Bernardino County Fire and U.S. Forest Service stations in Lytle Creek, enhancing public safety in an area designated by Cal-Fire, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, as a "community at risk" due to high-fire-danger.

"Frontier is committed to participating in the Commission's CASF program to help close the Digital Divide in Lytle Creek and other unserved communities in California," said Joe Gamble, West Region senior vice president for Frontier Communications. "We understand the unique nature of serving remote, rural, high-cost communities and are pleased to join the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and Lytle Creek community in urging the Commission to approve this application with full funding so we can begin the build quickly."

Legislation enacted last year expressly authorized the Commission to award full funding for broadband projects in communities lacking access due to the high cost to deploy infrastructure and provide service. Frontier's application requests full funding because the cost of extending internet service about five miles into the remote Lytle Creek canyon through public lands make the project economically infeasible otherwise.