



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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MENDOCINO COUNTY JOINS SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AND CALIFORNIA CITIES AS NEXT CENTURY CITIES LEADER FOR HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg announced today that Mendocino County has joined Next Century Cities, a bipartisan initiative dedicated to ensuring the availability of next-generation broadband Internet for all communities in California and across the nation.

"The Board of Supervisors has long recognized that in order for Mendocino County to thrive economically in the 21st century, and to be a place where our kids can have good jobs and raise families, affordable high-speed broadband is essential. Cities and towns that are able to offer high-speed broadband have experienced tremendous benefits. We need to create such opportunities for Mendocino County residents," said Hamburg.

The county is currently in the process of forming a Broadband Working Group to develop "Goals and Strategies" for the County, and to develop a Broadband Plan. Next Century Cities can provide needed resources to assist with these efforts.

"Next Century Cities welcomes Mendocino County, the latest community to join us in support of high-speed Internet," said Deb Socia, Executive Director of Next Century Cities. *"We encourage all cities and counties that recognize the benefits of these investments to join this initiative."*

To date, over 130 cities and their elected leaders have joined Next Century Cities in recognition of the importance of leveraging gigabit-level Internet to attract new businesses and create jobs, improve health care and education, and connect residents to new opportunities. Next Century Cities will support communities and their elected leaders across the country as they seek to ensure that all have access to fast, affordable, and reliable Internet.

For more information, see their website at <http://nextcenturycities.org> & <http://nextcenturycities.org/member-cities/#post-2027>

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