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MMTC Supports the Biden Administration's Passage of the Landmark Infrastructure Legislation

WASHINGTON, DC. (November 15, 2021): MMTC supports the Biden Administration's passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) – also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. The IIJA provides \$65 billion in broadband deployment and affordability funding that will help all Americans, especially those in marginalized communities, gain reliable access to the internet.

With increased funding from the IIJA, the FCC will establish an Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) that expands the work it has done under the temporary Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program. The ACP represents a long-term subsidy program that gives eligible low-income families a \$30 per month discount toward a broadband service plan from a participating provider.

The NTIA has been allocated \$42 billion for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program that will offer formula-based grants to states to speed broadband deployment. Ten percent of this funding will be used to support unserved high-cost areas. In addition, the NTIA will use \$2.75 billion in funding to establish two new grant programs that will promote digital inclusion and equity in communities nationwide under the Digital Equity Act of 2021. According to MMTC Vice President of Policy Dr. Fallon Wilson, "This presents a great opportunity to eradicate large parts of the digital divide at the State and municipal level. States will have to develop plans that address digital equity to qualify for these funds."

"We look forward to working with the FCC and NTIA on ensuring that all communities have affordable broadband access and are the beneficiaries of digital inclusion and equity," said MMTC President and CEO Robert E. Branson.

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About MMTC:

The Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC) is a non-partisan, national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media, telecom, and broadband industries, and closing the digital divide. MMTC is generally recognized as the nation's leading advocate for minority advancement in communications. MMTC's vision is to achieve a fully connected, educated, healthy, and empowered society in which all communities thrive. Visit MMTC's website [here](https://www.mmtconline.org).