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arielle.devorah@phoenix.gov**For Planning Purposes Only*******MEDIA ADVISORY***FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY*******FCC CHAIRWOMAN ROSENWORCEL AND MAYOR KATE GALLEGRO TO VISIT BURTON BARR CENTRAL LIBRARY TO PROMOTE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM ENROLLMENT*****In Collaboration with the City of Phoenix, the FCC Ramps Up Efforts to Promote the Nation's Largest Broadband Affordability Program***

PHOENIX, May 9, 2023—Federal Communications Commission Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel will visit Phoenix, Arizona on Tuesday, May 9 to promote the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) in collaboration with Mayor Kate Gallego and the City of Phoenix. Chairwoman Rosenworcel will visit the Phoenix Public Library's Burton Barr Central branch for a kick-off event to promote the ACP and the City of Phoenix's recent FCC outreach grant that will support innovative local enrollment and awareness raising efforts to help close the digital divide.

The Affordable Connectivity Program provides a discount up to \$30/month off the cost of internet service for qualifying households. These households can also receive a one-time discount up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from qualifying providers.

Arizonans with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (\$60,000 for a family of four) are eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Households can also be eligible if one or more members participates in SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefits, free or reduced-price school lunch, Federal Pell Grant, or Lifeline.

Following Tuesday's media kick-off event, the FCC will train community partners to help Phoenix residents learn more about and apply for the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Members of the media are welcome to attend. Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Mayor Gallego will take a few questions from the press.

WHO: Federal Communications Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel
Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego

WHAT: Affordable Connectivity Program Awareness Event Kick-Off

WHEN: Tuesday, May 9, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. MT
Media availability at start of event

WHERE: [Burton Barr Central Library](#)
Phoenix Public Library
1221 N Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

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The following statements from the Chairwoman and Mayor are made available for media use, and for planning purposes:

“Since the launch of the Affordable Connectivity Program, over 17 million households have enrolled and are receiving monthly discounts on their internet bills. The response to this program demonstrates that an internet connection is vital for success in today’s world, but there are still more families we can reach,” **said FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel.** “I’m grateful to Mayor Gallego and our local community partners for collaborating with us to ensure families can get online and stay online, no matter who they are or where they live.”

“Too many families still don’t have access to high-speed internet, which is why the City of Phoenix is proud to have been awarded a \$700,000 grant that will connect more of our community members to affordable internet services,” **said Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego.** “This critical link will help Phoenicians access additional opportunities, from remote work options to education. I am excited to welcome Chairwoman Rosenworcel to Phoenix to help spread the word to those who might need assistance getting online.”

“The Phoenix Revitalization Corporation is excited to partner with the City and help our community members bridge the digital divide so all our residents have access to online resources for education, workforce training, telehealth, and so much more,” **said Eva Olivas,** Phoenix Revitalization Corporation Executive Director/CEO.

The City of Phoenix has been addressing the digital divide since 2017. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City collaborated with school districts (elementary, high school, and community college) to address the educational needs of students who lack internet access. The collaboration is currently in the proof-of-concept stage for the Phoenix Digital Education Connection Canopy, a large-scale internet service distributed by a Private LTE network connecting students at home, 24/7, to their school networks.

About Phoenix

Phoenix is the fifth-largest American city, home to 1.7 million people. The most populous state capital, it was named the 2017 “Highest Performing City” by Governing Magazine. Key industries include advanced business and financial services, technology, health and life sciences, hospitality, and advanced manufacturing. At 517 square miles, with world-renowned mountain trails and opportunity for diverse lifestyles, Phoenix has the shortest average commute times among the 12 largest U.S. metropolitan areas. Founded in 1868, Phoenix’s wild-west roots grew to host major events in a dynamic downtown for the Super Bowl, NCAA championships and music festivals. For more information, visit <https://www.phoenix.gov/>

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