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Associated Press

Internet funding rule could favor rural areas over cities

Cities and urban counties across the U.S. are raising concerns that a recent rule from President Joe Biden's administration could preclude them from tapping into \$350 billion of coronavirus relief aid to expand high-speed internet connections. Mr. Biden has set a goal of delivering fast, affordable internet to every American household. The massive American Rescue Plan took a step toward that by including broadband infrastructure among the primary uses for pandemic aid flowing to each city, county and state. But an interim rule published by the U.S. Treasury Department has narrowed the broadband eligibility. It focuses on areas that lack reliable broadband, which connects devices to the internet through a cable or data line, at download speeds of at least 25 megabits per second and upload speeds of at least 3 Mbps.

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Associated Press
Biden Approves Major Disaster Declaration In Pennsylvania

President Biden has declared a major disaster in Pennsylvania due to heavy rains, severe flash flooding and tornadoes in the commonwealth from the remnants of Hurricane Ida. Biden approved a request from Gov. Tom Wolf for a major disaster declaration allowing assistance to individuals for Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York counties, the White House said Friday night. "Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster," the announcement said.

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Pennlive
**Op-ed by former PA Lieutenant Governor and Acting Governor Mark Singel (D):
Sen. Pat Toomey deserves respect from both Republicans and Democrats**

In candid conversations, every Republican I know has told me they accept that Biden won in 2020. They may have lingering concerns about the mechanics of mail-in voting, but they understand that no evidence of widespread election fraud exists. To a person, these politicians – some of them key Pennsylvania leaders – say privately it's time to move on. Does this mean they are willing to repudiate calls for phony audits and election "reforms?" Hardly. A recent conversation with one Republican leader went this way:

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