

Augusta Charter Township
Washtenaw County, Michigan

RESOLUTION 21-18
**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT
AFFORDABLE COUNTYWIDE BROADBAND ACCESS**

At a regular meeting of the Augusta Township Board of Trustees, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at 8021 Talladay Road, Whittaker, Michigan 48190, on the 22nd of June 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Adams, Burek, Fuqua-Frey, Gonczy, Hall, Ortiz, Shelby.

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Gonczy and seconded by Adams.

WHEREAS, access to high-speed broadband service is critical to the township's mission of supporting the health, safety, well being, quality of life and productivity for all residents, educational pursuits, not-for-profits, medical services, and businesses throughout the township.

WHEREAS, access to high-speed broadband for many residents and businesses in the township is unavailable or prohibitively expensive; and

WHEREAS, since March of 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic has proven the absolute necessity of digital connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Broadband Task Force has taken measures to achieve countywide high-speed broadband coverage; through grant opportunities nearly 66% of the rural county will be digitally connected to high speed internet through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) program; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3,700 homes, countywide, will remain unserved after RDOF, a challenge the Broadband Task Force is addressing through the exploration of additional grant and public/private partnership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, President Biden's American Rescue Plan stimulus funding specifically identifies the construction of high-speed broadband infrastructure as an encouraged use of the funds; and

WHEREAS, allocation of ARP funding to incentivize a public/private partnership could close the digital divide that exists in Washtenaw County and bring high-speed internet access to 100% of county residents, regardless of their address, making Washtenaw the first county in the State of Michigan to do so

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Augusta Township Board of Trustees, encourages the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners to allocate ARP funding to a high-speed broadband public/private partnership that serves to connect every home and business in Washtenaw County , thus achieving true high-speed broadband equity and is conducive to the development and implementation of a robust, affordable and sustainable high speed broadband service for Augusta Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Augusta Township Board of Trustees continues to support the efforts of the Washtenaw County Broadband Task Force in its mission to bring affordable high-speed broadband to Augusta Township.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Gonczy, and supported by Board Member Adams.

Roll Call: Aye; Adams, Burek, Fuqua-Frey, Gonczy, Hall, Ortiz, Shelby. Nay; None. Absent; None.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.



Brian Shelby, Supervisor

CERTIFICATE

I, Kimberly Gonczy, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Augusta Charter Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Township Board of said Township, as presented at a regular meeting of said Board held on June 22, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

 6/23/2021
Kimberly Gonczy, Clerk