

Resolution #22-0539
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**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CITY'S ALLOCATION OF
CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (CLFRF) TO PARTNER
WITH WINSTONNET FOR THE FORSYTH COUNTY DIGITAL EQUITY
COMMITTEE PILOT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in August 2021, in a Special Meeting of the City Council, City staff presented a framework with a phased approach for spending the City's \$51.7 million allocation of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CLFRF) from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which included a \$5 million earmark for digital divide initiatives; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2022, City staff provided the Mayor and City Council an ARPA update, which included a presentation for a pilot program from the Forsyth County Digital Equity Committee; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program will provide services such as technology/digital literacy, digital equity and internet training, job seeker services training, connections to wraparound service resources, smart boards, the CAM lab, and updated specialty computer technology at the Martin Luther King Community Center. The project will also provide internet-ready devices to at least 1,250 city residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposal target populations are marginalized communities within qualified census tracts (QCTs).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with WinstonNet to act as a federal subrecipient of ARPA CLFRF funding to perform the services and build-out of the digital divide pilot initiative in an amount of \$2,000,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council that WinstonNet and the Forsyth Digital Equity Committee will provide regular updates to the elected body regarding the progress and performance of this initiative.