

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18

RESOLUTION BY THE FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING THE CAPITAL PROJECT – DIGITAL DIVIDE – AND TRANSFER OF \$50,000.00 FROM CONTINGENT FUND 2020 BUDGET TO CAPITAL PROJECTS 2020 BUDGET AND TRANSFER OF \$100,000.00 WITHIN THE CAPITAL PROJECTS 2020 BUDGET

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, Racine County has identified expanding internet access as a needed sustainable system change to connect residents to critical services and preventative health information, particularly as related to the novel strain of the coronavirus (“COVID-19”) that has been declared by the World Health Organization as a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, sustainable internet access is needed to proactively address longstanding social determinants and racial disparities in health equity and better ensure vulnerable populations are not disproportionately impacted during COVID-19 and future public-health crises; and

WHEREAS, unemployed residents, individuals without health insurance, and residents experiencing mental health concerns have the greatest need for health care and emergency services within Racine County, yet they are among the most socially isolated during the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, over 12,000 households in Racine County lack internet access; and

WHEREAS, according to U.S. Census data for Racine County, internet access is more strongly correlated to key social determinants than level of education and the unemployment rate is most strongly correlated to internet access; and

WHEREAS, lack of internet access has an equally strong correlation to a lack of health insurance for residents age 35-64 years old as bachelor’s degree attainment and minority population; and

WHEREAS, lack of internet access highlights a tremendous opportunity to remove barriers and expand access to medical and mental health services; and

WHEREAS, expanded internet access is in furtherance of Racine County’s commitment under Wis. Stat. § 59.53(4) to comprehensive health planning – promoting and assuring access to high levels of health attainment for the entire community in an environment which contributes positively to healthful individual and group living; and

WHEREAS, greater access to technology and better connectivity is consistent with and supports Racine County’s long-term digital vision as reflected by the fact that internet access was frequently cited as a crucial need by members of the public who provided input during that project; and

WHEREAS, Racine County has facilitated a funding partnership with the Gateway Technical College Foundation, Racine Unified School District, and local municipalities whose constituents will directly benefit from expanded internet access; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the comprehensive health planning project – referred to as the “Digital
5 Divide” project – is intended to create additional access points for the health benefit of the
6 Racine County community, driven by data that identifies and validates high-need areas; and
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8 **WHEREAS**, the entire project is estimated at \$150,000.00 with over 25 internet access
9 points, including six west of I-94.

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11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors
12 that the use of and the transfer of funds, as set forth in Exhibit “A” that is attached hereto, of
13 \$50,000.00 from the Contingent Fund 2020 Budget to Capital Projects 2020 Budget, and
14 transfer of \$100,000.00 within the Capital Projects 2020 Budget, to be used toward the cost of
15 internet service, network infrastructure, equipment, labor, and marketing and outreach in
16 support of the Digital Divide capital project is hereby authorized and approved; and
17

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that any two
19 of the County Clerk, the County Executive and/or the County Board Chairman are authorized to
20 execute any contracts, agreements, amendments, or other documents necessary to carry out
21 the intent of this resolution.
22

23 Respectfully submitted,

24
25 1st Reading _____

**FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE**

26
27 2nd Reading _____

28
29 BOARD ACTION _____

Robert N. Miller, Chairman

30 Adopted _____

31 For _____

32 Against _____

33 Absent _____

Q.A. Shakoor, II, Vice-Chairman

34
35 VOTE REQUIRED: 2/3 M.E.

Rusty Russell Clark, Secretary

36
37 Prepared by:
38 Corporation Counsel

Nick Demske

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41 _____
John A. Wisch

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43 _____
Thomas Pringle

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46 _____
Donald J. Trottier

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48
49 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of
50 Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

51 **Approved:** _____

52 **Vetoed:** _____

53
54 **Date:** _____

55
56 _____
57 **Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive**

EXHIBIT "A"

Fiscal Year: **2020**

ACCOUNT NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT BALANCE	TRANSFER	BUDGET AFTER TRANSFER	BALANCE AFTER TRANSFER
CONTINGENT FUND	2020 BUDGET PAGE 7-2					
CONTINGENT ACCOUNT	15900000.515500	2,717,620	2,717,620	(50,000)	2,667,620	2,667,620
CAPITAL PROJECTS	NOT IN BUDGET BOOK					
TVCCOG REVENUES	NEW ACCOUNT	0	0	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
	TOTAL SOURCES			(150,000)		
CAPITAL PROJECTS	NOT IN BUDGET BOOK					
IT DIGITAL DIVIDE PROJECT	NEW ACCOUNT	0	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
	TOTAL USES			150,000		
				0		

DESCRIPTION : TOTAL PRICE

AT THE END OF THIS PROJECT ANY FUNDS UNUSED FROM THE CONTINGENT ACCOUNT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE RETURNED TO ACCOUNT 15900000.515500

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

After reviewing the Resolution/Ordinance and fiscal information supplied, your Finance Committee recommends FOR--AGAINST adoption.

REASONS

FOR	AGAINST