

**SCIO TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RES #2021-16**

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT
AFFORDABLE COUNTYWIDE BROADBAND ACCESS**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of Scio Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held via Zoom, on the 25 of May 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Hathaway, Palmer, Flintoft, Jerome, Knol, Vogel.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Courteau.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Jerome and supported by Clerk Flintoft.

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 Scio 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 Scio Township.

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

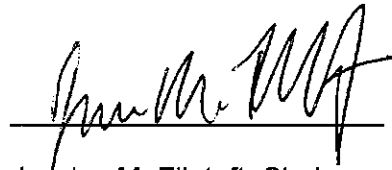
A vote on the above Resolution was taken and was as follows:

ADOPTED: 6-0.

YEAS: Hathaway, Palmer, Flintoft, Jerome, Knol, Vogel.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Courteau.

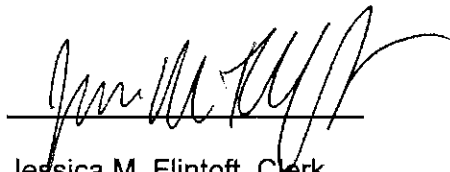


Jessica M. Flintoft, Clerk
Scio Township

DATED: May 25, 2021

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessica M. Flintoft, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of Scio Township, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on May 25, 2021 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica M. Flintoft', is written over a horizontal line.

Jessica M. Flintoft, Clerk

Scio Township