

## RESOLUTION 2023 – 7

### DECLARING HIGH SPEED WI-FI IN DOWNTOWN MASON TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE CITY INVOLVEMENT IN SUCH A PROJECT

WHEREAS, Altafiber, formerly Cincinnati Bell, has a Smart City technology solution called UniCity that utilizes their existing fiber network to provide free public Wi-Fi to business districts; and

WHEREAS, the technology has been deployed in many business districts throughout the Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Dayton region, including: Newport, Covington, Fountain Square, The Banks, Mt. Healthy, Springfield Township, Montgomery, Cheviot, Lockland, Loveland, Wyoming, Kettering, Dayton and many others; and

WHEREAS, the technology would allow downtown visitors to access the Wi-Fi with an easy to use marketing and engagement platform, but would also provide valuable data analytics that can be used to drive business growth; and

WHEREAS, Altafiber is recommending 10 access points be installed that would provide Wi-Fi coverage for the Main Street and Reading Road area including the plaza area; and

WHEREAS, the ambition is for the MADE CDC to authorize an agreement with Altafiber, including an upfront implementation fee and a 36-month agreement; and

WHEREAS, it has been proposed that the City would financially support this initial effort and during this initial period the MADE CDC would seek sponsorships, ads and marketing revenue to both continue and expand the free Wi-Fi service availability in downtown; and

WHEREAS, the City's support would allow City access to the MADE CDC data as well as opportunities to promote things such as the Community Center, Downtown events and activities, City events, tourist opportunities and public safety messages on the platform; and

WHEREAS, Council now desires to confirm the public purpose of such proposed financial support.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council for the City of Mason, Ohio six members elected thereto concurring:

Section 1. That Council hereby determines that City participation in a project to bring high speed Wi-Fi to the downtown area qualifies as a valid public purpose for the expenditure of public funds.

Section 2. That the City Manager is authorized to explore and negotiate any and all necessary agreements with third parties to bring such a Wi-Fi project to fruition.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall be in effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

---

Mayor

Attest:

---

Clerk of Council