

November 11, 2020

WHEREAS, internet access is central to increasing economic mobility and 60-70% of total job openings are posted online; and

WHEREAS, internet access is central to effective education systems, and the homework gap – students who lack Internet access at home – has become an increasingly wide national problem; and

WHEREAS, lack of home Internet access disproportionately impacts low-income families and people of color; and

WHEREAS, Dallas was identified in the 2016 United States Census American Community Survey report as one of the major United States cities with the highest percentage of households (42.3%) with no fixed Internet access; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent closure of schools has exacerbated these issues by precluding students without home Internet access from fully participating in robust education and related services; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas Independent School District (“the District”) initiated the Internet for All coalition in March 2020 recognizing that students need robust and reliable home Internet to facilitate asynchronous or “virtual” learning during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the District, the City of Dallas (“City”) and nearly a dozen other public education institutions in the Dallas metroplex have joined an Internet for All coalition with a shared vision of ensuring robust, affordable Internet service for all Dallas residents; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”) (as provided under the Operation Connectivity guidance attached and incorporated herewith for all purposes as Exhibit A) envisions and encourages local municipalities to assist with the District's financial obligations under the TEA bulk order program by way of certain reimbursement of monies from the local Coronavirus Relief Fund(s) (“CRF”), received by municipality pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), for expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings and virtual learning to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions; and

WHEREAS, the interlocal agreements are made under the authority of Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

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SECTION 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute four Interlocal Agreements with **(1)** Dallas Independent School District in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00; **(2)** Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District in an amount not to exceed \$53,000.00; **(3)** Richardson Independent School District in an amount not to exceed \$260,000.00; and **(4)** Rylie Family Faith Academy, Inc. dba A+ Charters School, Inc., in amount not to exceed \$22,400.00, approved as to form by the City Attorney, as part of the Operation Connectivity bulk order program to cover expenses incurred providing distance learning to students residing in the City of Dallas.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to implement the Operation Connectivity bulk order program, including amendments, approved as to form by the City Attorney.

SECTION 3. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 to Dallas Independent School District from the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds; Fund F620, Department MGT, Unit 926F, Object 3070, Encumbrance/Contract No. FHO-2020-00014796, Vendor VC0000004937.

SECTION 4. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$53,000.00 to Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District from the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds, Fund F620, Department MGT, Unit 926F, Object 3070, Encumbrance/Contract No. FHO-2020-00014798, Vendor VS96251.

SECTION 5. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$260,000.00 to Richardson Independent School District from the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds, Fund F620, Department MGT, Unit 926F, Object 3070, Encumbrance/Contract No. FHO-2020-00014790, Vendor VS0000065846.

SECTION 6. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$22,400.00 to Rylie Family Faith, Inc dba A+ Charter Schools, Inc. from the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus Relief Funds, Fund F620, Department MGT, Unit 926F, Object 3070, Encumbrance/Contract No. FHO-2021-00014900, Vendor VS0000057568.

SECTION 7. That this project will spend funds from the Coronavirus Relief Funds authorized by City Council on April 22, 2020.

SECTION 8. That this resolution does not constitute a binding agreement upon the City or subject the City to any liability or obligation with respect to the Agreements, until such time as any Agreements are duly approved by all parties and executed.

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SECTION 9. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.