

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**APPROVAL OF PARKWAY PLACE BROADBAND SERVICES**

**Item No. 5H**

WHEREAS, Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA) is committed to bridging the digital divide among its residents; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has further revealed the extent of the digital divide in public housing; and

WHEREAS, LMHA staff selected Spectrum Community Solutions dba Spectrum Mid-America, LLC (Spectrum) through a competitive RFP process to provide Broadband services to all Parkway Place households for two years; and

WHEREAS, LMHA entered into an installation and bulk services agreement with Spectrum for up to two years of Broadband services that began May 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, LMHA wishes to continue the provision of Broadband to Parkway households for the second year of the agreement through Spectrum in the amount not to exceed \$237,683.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that the Executive Director and Contracting Officer, Lisa Osanka, is hereby authorized to continue the agreement with Spectrum in the amount of \$237,683.00 for year two of the two-year agreement.

## RESOLUTION BACKGROUND STATEMENT

### APPROVAL OF PARKWAY PLACE BROADBAND SERVICES

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#### I. STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to expose inequities surrounding the digital divide, especially in the ability to conduct Non-traditional Instruction (NTI) for school aged children and to work remotely. Currently the 616 Parkway Place households include 502 school aged children and 591 working aged adults.

Over the past year, Spectrum has provided up to 471 Parkway Place families with 200 MB/second Broadband along with a Wi-Fi router. For the second year of this agreement, this will represent a savings to these households over a twelve-month period of nearly \$268,470.00 (471 x \$47.50 x 12). The speed of the Broadband provided is enough to meet any family's needs for NTI, remote work as well as entertainment.

Staff rated the service provided by Spectrum as average on the Contract Renewal Evaluation Form.

LMHA staff continues to work with Parkway families and contacting new Parkway residents to encourage them to sign up for Broadband internet with Spectrum.

At the end of this second year of Broadband service, Spectrum will notify residents that the paid service is ending. Parkway residents will be able to continue the Broadband service at the regular Spectrum rate, switch to a lower cost plan, switch providers or drop internet service all together. Many who continue service will qualify for a \$30 per month subsidy through the Affordable Connectivity Program.

#### II. ALTERNATIVES:

- A. Approve continuing service with Spectrum Community Solutions for \$237,683.
- B. Discontinue services with Spectrum Community Solutions.

#### III. RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Alternative "A."

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**IV. JUSTIFICATION:**

Spectrum is providing an internet speed of 200 megabytes per second the same speed offered most residential customers in Louisville and fast enough to cover all the needs related to school, work and leisure for Parkway Place families.

Spectrum's standard monthly bulk rate price for 200 mbps service is \$47.50 per household, but they are providing that same service to LMHA for Parkway Place families for \$31.14 per household. Spectrum invested a total \$118,878.35 in infrastructure and wiring to prepare Parkway Place to receive the 200 megabytes per second service.

Providing access to broadband services to Parkway Place's 636 households for this second year will total \$237,683.00.

Approval of this resolution will provide Parkway Place residents with broadband services through the end of May 2023. While Louisville and Kentucky have entered a new phase of the COVID pandemic with fewer infections and hospitalizations providing this service will allow families some much needed monthly savings as they work to recover financially from the last two years.

Prior to the end of this year off service, the Special Programs team will assist residents in evaluating their options and choosing the best plan for the future.

**V. BUDGET APPROVAL:**

Funding for this project is provided from Capital funds.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Larsson, Director of Finance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**VI. PROCUREMENT CERTIFICATION:**

The procurement of this contract is in compliance with the Louisville Metro Housing Authority procurement policies and procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Webb, Purchasing Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Submitted by: Dan Farrell  
Director of Special Programs  
April 19, 2022