



Louisville Metro Government

601 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Action Summary - Tentative Committee on Equity and Inclusion

Chair/Council President David James (D-6)

Vice Chair Nicole George (D-21)

Committee Member Barbara Shanklin (D-2)

Committee Member Keisha Dorsey (D-3)

Committee Member Markus Winkler (D-17)

Committee Member Robin Engel (R-22)

Committee Member James Peden (R-23)

Monday, August 24, 2020

3:00 PM

Council Chambers

Call to Order

Chair James called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Chair James introduced the committee members and non-committee members present. A quorum was established.

***NOTE: All committee members and non-committee members present attended virtually.**

Present: 6 - Chair Person David James (D-6), Vice Chair Nicole George (D-21), Committee Member Keisha Dorsey (D-3), Committee Member Markus Winkler (D-17), Committee Member Robin Engel (R-22), and Committee Member James Peden (R-23)

Excused: 1 - Committee Member Barbara Shanklin

Non-Committee Member(s)

Council Member Barbara Sexton Smith (D-4); Council Member Bill Hollander (D-9); and Council Member Kevin Kramer (R-11)

Support Staff

Travis Fiechter, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Natalie Johnson, Jefferson County Attorney's Office

Clerk(s)

Sonya Harward, Clerk
Connie Dearing, Assistant Clerk

Special Discussion

1. [ID 20-1093](#)

Digital Inclusion - Presentation by Ed Blayney

Attachments: [Smart Russell - Public Wifi.pdf](#)

Ed Blayney, Civic Innovation and Technology, gave a presentation (see attached).

The following also spoke to this item:

- Vice Chair George
- Chris Seidt, Civic Innovation and Technology
- Grace Simrall, Civic Innovation and Technology
- Committee Member Dorsey
- Council Member Hollander
- Committee Member Winkler
- Committee Member Peden

The following was discussed:

- Cost to have a hot spot in a particular area for public use -- cost is location specific and examples were given for the costs for two parks that currently have hot spots
- Measuring outcomes for future funding purposes -- can currently measure inputs and outputs, outcomes will take more effort and partnerships
- Possibly mapping places where public can access Wi-Fi
- Average range of hotspot is 300 feet
- Not relying on any revenue to provide access
- Breakdown of costs for 30-34 hot spots to be installed, including upfront costs and reoccurring costs
- Setting up outdoor access to Wi-Fi in an area that has a government-owned building (such as Algonquin Community Center) to house the hardware -- cost depends on whether there is fiber nearby and how much cabling is needed
- Libraries possibly having outdoor access -- libraries operate independent of Metro's I.T. Department
- Accessing dark fiber from commercial entities -- available at a cost and usually requires a 3- to 5-year contract
- Typical access point would allow 30 to 60 people to log on, and after that it becomes overloaded and not useful to anyone
- Question about stats on digital divide (Ed Blayney will follow-up) -- provided stat regarding people that have home internet access have fewer hospital visits
- Cost of Spectrum (\$20/mo) and AT&T (\$10/mo) for students in low-income households or students receiving SNAP or Social Security Income benefits
- Twenty-eight percent of Louisville households did not have a fixed internet connection in their homes in 2018
- The problem is not only in low-income areas of Louisville, and families are currently experiencing issues with proper technology to accommodate three students in one household for schoolwork
- Outdoor Wi-Fi has been available at Highview Park for about the last 10 years
- Need long-term sustainment of the network
- Outdoor Wi-Fi access usage drops in winter months due to weather

2. [ID 20-1094](#)

Update and Feedback on Opportunity Youth Funding

This item was not discussed.

3. [ID 20-1095](#)

Follow-Up:

- LDC Diagnosis - Are there pieces we want to move on in advance of PDS's recommendations?

- Deflection - Would we want to hear from Denver or Philadelphia?

This item was not discussed.

Adjournment

Without objection, Chair James adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.