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RESOLUTION NO. 170957

**A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Gainesville,
Florida, making the City of Gainesville the most connected city
in America; and providing an effective date.**

WHEREAS, there was a time when having an electric or telephone line connected to a home or a business was a luxury. Both quickly became necessary tools of 20th century life, commerce and education. Here in the 21st century, a robust, universal and affordable connectivity, including broadband internet connection, is no longer a luxury, and success in work, education and life often depends on your ability to connect with the rest of the world from your desk at work, your kitchen table at home, or your mobile phone while walking.

WHEREAS, it is well understood that no modern business is going to move to, or young person will stay long in, a community that lacks robust connectivity. Home values and sales are now linked to the level of connectivity to the home, as are healthcare options, educational opportunities, and public safety.

WHEREAS, children in every neighborhood of our community deserve access to the same learning and productivity tools as their peers, and we have a community obligation to be certain those tools are available.

WHEREAS, by becoming the most connected city in America, the City of Gainesville will continue to develop and establish innovative products and initiatives that will use data, applications, and technology to help people and goods move more quickly, cheaply, and efficiently. In addition, the City of Gainesville will continue to attract the best people and businesses necessary to compete in the global knowledge economy.

WHEREAS, through GRUCom, the citizens of Gainesville own roughly 600 miles of the area's only all-fiber-optic network across Alachua County. The all-fiber-optic network serves the citizens, schools, governments, communities and businesses' internet, data transport and networking needs through connections to hundreds of locations around the world.

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville, through its General Government and Gainesville Regional Utilities, the University of Florida and Cox Communications are developing initiatives to enhance connectivity for the citizens including plans for smart city applications and advanced metering infrastructure and communications systems. With these assets and potential investments, the City of Gainesville is in a unique position to become the most connected city in America.

41 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE**
42 **CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:**

43 **Section 1.** The City Commission will continue to work towards the goal of making the
44 City of Gainesville, Florida, the most connected city in America.

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46 **Section 2.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

47 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16th day of August, 2018.

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LAUREN B. POE, MAYOR

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ATTEST:

Approved as to form and legality:

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OMICHELE D. GAINERY
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

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NICOLLE M. SHALLEY
CITY ATTORNEY

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