

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Finance Committee

October 19, 2021

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND (ECF)
FUNDING COMMITMENTS AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS TO
PURCHASE ELIGIBLE CONNECTIVITY EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR
REMOTE ACCESS**

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act, which included the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) to provide \$7.17 billion to help schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period; and

WHEREAS, The ECF is administered by Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) with oversight from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); and

WHEREAS The ECF Program will reimburse schools and libraries 100% for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and broadband connections used to help students, staff, and patrons who otherwise lack access to be able to engage in remote learning; and

WHEREAS, These funds fall under the federal E-Rate program and Cleveland Public Library qualifies to apply for E-Rate and is therefore eligible to participate in the ECF Discount Program; and

WHEREAS, On August 8, 2021, the Cleveland Public Library filed two FCC Form 471s: One for Hotspots and Service in the amount of \$128,379.60 and one for Fixed Connections for 500 households in the Central Neighborhood in the amount of \$337,640, for total funding requests of \$466,019.60 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, On October 12, 2021, the Library received an ECF Funding Commitment Decision Letter notifying the Library that the funding request for the Fixed Connections has been approved. The Library has not yet received the funding status for the Hotspots and Service request; now therefore be it

EXHIBIT 14

RESOLVED, The Board of Library Trustees accepts the Emergency Connectivity Fund Funding Commitments up to \$466,019.60; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Trustees authorizes Library management to move forward with the funding requests filed on the FCC Form 471s, including those in excess of \$25,000, and authorizes the Executive Director, CEO or his designee, to execute agreements to purchase eligible connectivity equipment and services for remote access, subject to the approval of the Director of Legal Affairs.