

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2021**

**A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AT&T FOR ITS COMMITMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT AND THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO**

**BY: COUNCILMAN JAMES E. GREEN**

**WHEREAS**, AT&T has operated as a telecommunications company in the City of Shreveport for over 123 years since March 4, 1898; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T has office buildings, work centers, central offices, and other facilities located throughout the City of Shreveport including two corporate retail stores, two authorized dealer retail stores, and five Cricket retail stores; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T is the largest communications company in the world with over 230,000 employees across the globe in over 50 countries; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T the “Once in a Millennium Moon” public-art mural on the AT&T McNeil Street Building is iconic in the downtown Shreveport skyline and one of the largest publicly funded art murals in the U.S. It took two years to complete and required the work of 2,600 painters and artists; it depicts the unique cultural aspects of Shreveport; and

**WHEREAS**, in Louisiana, AT&T has invested nearly \$1.1 billion in wired and wireless networks, including nearly \$80 million in the Shreveport-Bossier area; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T has more than 2.2 million miles of fiber strands deployed across Louisiana, keeping businesses and residents connected; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T is proud to have the nation’s best and fastest wireless network, as well as the largest network in North America; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017, AT&T launched its fiber broadband product in the City of Shreveport with launch event in the MLK Neighborhood in Shreveport, and since then has been deploying in neighborhoods throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, shortly after the City of Shreveport passed a small cell ordinance in 2018, AT&T began deploying small cells in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T launched 5G cellular service in Shreveport in early 2020. 5G is the next generation of wireless network technology, offering higher speeds, lower latency, and greater capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T was selected in March 2017 by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) as a private partner to build, operate and evolve the nation’s first wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. First responders are using FirstNet today in Louisiana to communicate during their daily operations and emergency events; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T was one of the first corporations in the U. S. to have a supplier diversity program starting in 1962. In 2018, AT&T spent \$15 billion (over 25% of the corporate spend) through the supplier diversity program; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T met its goal of hiring 20,000 veterans by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, AT&T's citizenship and sustainability programs have included Aspire which targets innovation in education; "It Can Wait", which launched in 2010 to educate about the dangers of distracted driving and has inspired over 40 million Americans to take the "It Can Wait" pledge; and a three year, \$2 billion commitment to help bridge the digital divide and homework gap by offering discounted wireless solutions to more than 135,000 public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities, providing low-cost broadband through the Access from AT&T program, Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) eligible plans, and AT&T Connected Learning, which helps stem the tide of learning loss, narrow the homework gap, and create compelling educational content; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2014, AT&T has contributed and sponsored over 150 organizations and events in the City of Shreveport and is proud to be an active member of the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, the Shreveport-Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce, and the North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP), which supports business and economic activities in the City of Shreveport and region.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in due, legal and regular session convened, that the City Council recognize AT&T for its commitment and contributions to the City of Shreveport and the State of Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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City Attorney's Office