

# **ADOPT PUBLIC Wi-Fi PROJECT PROPOSAL - FOR PUBLIC POSTING**



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**ADOPT\_WiFi\_OrgName\_GeographicIdentifier\_PublicProposal**

**Please include:**

**1. An executive summary of the project:**


Mokan Communications is proposing the placement of 21 high speed Public Wifi access points in Paola Park Square and around Wallace Park. There will also be approximately 3.53 miles of buried fiber for high speed connectivity. The backhaul is existing back to the Louisburg network. High Speed Public Wifi will deliver speeds of 100/20Mbps with latency below 100 ms.

Project completion time is approximately 8 months from start of project.

**2. A description of partners involved, and anticipated improvements.**

Key partners include Creek Enterprises, Arista Platforms and Radios, AccelTex, Power & Tel Supply, etc.

Several supporters include Paola City, Greater Miami County Economic Development Corporation, Miami County Commissioners, Miami County Fair Association, the Mid-America Regional Council, Paola Chamber of Commerce, and The American Legion.



### **3. Goals of the project and community benefit including whether a compelling need is served.**

The goals of the project addressed the lack of adequate internet access and speeds. There is currently no Public WiFi in Paola. Offering a free high speed public WiFi will improve the community in a number of ways. Placer.ai, a location and foot traffic intelligence software places the approximate number of annual visits within our proposed network corridor at 391,900. The entire city of Paola, Kansas represents over 3 million visits - so the reach and potential impact of our proposed Public WiFi is tremendous.

The city would have a robust network that would allow for both thousands of users to have high speed capabilities at once.

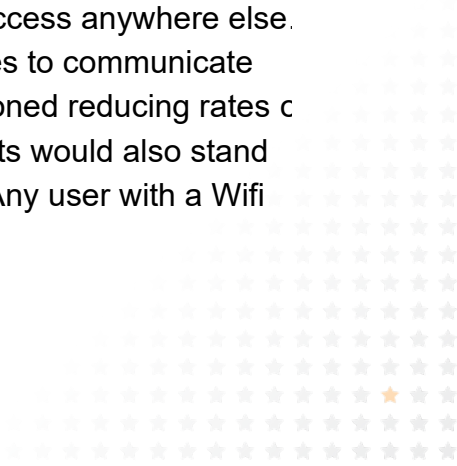
A sampling of civic engagements that would be improved with estimated general attendance numbers are shown below.

### **4. How the project will improve Internet access in the public area.**

With no current Public WiFi available in the area - there are a host of limitations currently experienced. With large crowds- there is a potential for network saturation that stress the existing cellular carriers in the area with potentially lower speed for large events. This would be alleviated with a robust public network system.

Secondly - broad - free public WiFi would assist with communities/individuals that are at risk. Job seekers would be able to access WiFi in these public areas. Applications for assistance on housing, electric bills, vocational rehabilitation and others could also be within reach for those that don't have high speed broadband access anywhere else.

The Miami County Sheriff's office references the ability for inmates to communicate with families and seek mental health assistance. They also mentioned reducing rates of recidivism and helping with public safety. Large civic engagements would also stand to benefit from making sure events are technologically inclusive. Any user with a Wifi



**5. The short and long-term investment benefit to the community.**

Build and maintain a digital equity and broadband infrastructure that addresses the needs of the community today and in the future. The Pandemic changed our access to the "information grid" forever. Implementing this grant opportunity will provide high-speed internet access to many services that have become essential. These include telehealth services, virtual classrooms, working remotely, etc. The positive impact it has to our Students, Teachers, Public Offices, Remote Workers, Small Business, First Responders, Health Care Workers, etc. creates an avenue to the physical, emotional and economic health for Miami County.

