



City of Dublin

Office of the City Manager  
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**Memo**

**To:** Members of Dublin City Council  
**From:** Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager   
**Date:** April 30, 2015

**Re: Resolution 47-15 - Intelligent Community Forum's Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community**

## **Background**

### What is the Intelligent Community Forum?

The Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) is a think tank that studies the economic and social development of the 21st Century community. The ICF conducts research, creates conference content, offers educational and advisory services, establishes Institutes and presents annual awards, all in an effort to:

- Identify and explain the emergence of the broadband economy and its impact at the local level.
- Research and share best practices by communities in adapting to the changing economic environment and positioning their citizens and businesses to prosper.
- Celebrate the achievements of communities that have overcome challenges to claim a place in the economy of the 21st century.

As Council is aware, the City of Dublin has been recognized by the ICF on the global stage as a four-time Smart21 community (2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011) and as a two-time Top7 community (2010 and 2011).

Dublin continues to use the list of Intelligent Community Indicators as a guidepost for its economic development efforts. The five indicators provide a conceptual framework for understanding all of the factors that determine a community's competitiveness in the Broadband Economy. These indicators include:

- Broadband Connectivity
- Knowledge Workforce
- Innovation
- Digital Inclusion
- Marketing and Advocacy

### What is a Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community?

The Global Institutes of the Intelligent Community Forum are local research institutions established in partnership with ICF by universities, local governments and other organizations to expand the world's knowledge about the creation of Intelligent Communities. The ICF and its Foundation have approached the City of Dublin suggesting the City could be a host for such a global institute. In

seeking a global institute in the City of Dublin, ICF's primary objectives are:

1. To expand the base of awareness regarding issues central to the development of communities in the 21st Century "Broadband Economy" or digital age.
2. To develop a network of thought leaders to look at relevant aspects of the community for the purpose of enhancing economic and social development within communities through applied research, publishing and/or events and activities.
3. To establish the Institute as a regional hub where leaders, investors and other stakeholders will go to become familiar with the ICF process. The Institute will serve as a facility where interested parties may learn the principles of the Intelligent Community and its awards program and accelerate their transformation.
4. To connect the Institute to the ICF Foundation, an international group of 134 Intelligent Communities and their leadership. The leadership includes businesses, schools and civic institutions.
5. To connect the Institute to ICF's other institutes around world.
6. To connect ICF to other institutes and organizations that will allow it to better understand the needs of communities.

There is currently only one institute in the world. Mississippi State University currently hosts an Institute for the rural imperative assists and educates rural communities on how to plan for, transition to, and prosper in the digital age. Formerly, Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio hosted the first ICF Institute.

#### Why would the City of Dublin want to host a global institute?

As mentioned, the City of Dublin has leveraged the ICF's Intelligent Community Indicators as a guidepost in its economic development efforts. As a result, the City of Dublin has and continues to prosper in the Broadband Economy. The ICF has helped the City to determine how to leverage Dublin to levels achieving significant return on investment. Dublin has become an example and thought leader for others to emulate as a result. Hosting a global institute would provide significant exposure on a global level on an ongoing basis. The City would host certain events that would draw regional, national and potentially global participation here in Dublin. Being an ICF Global Institute will provide the opportunity to leverage collaboration on a regional and state level and potentially beyond. Given the City's growing information technology cluster, launch of its 100-gigabit program, credibility as an ICF Top7 Community, and personally having been recognized as an ICF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, the City of Dublin can leverage these attributes and activities relative to its collective effort to seek global recognition as a technology based community and promote further its creative class. As importantly, the City can help others to achieve economic and social development as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century community. Dublin is at a unique intersection to bring together the suburban, urban, rural and state-level broadband imperatives to collaborate and promote the next new thing in the broadband economy. The Institute would be a multiplier to Dublin.

### How would the City of Dublin host a global institute?

Creating and hosting a global institute is not necessarily a bricks and mortar proposition. Instead, it is first a programmatic one. The City of Dublin can easily leverage its reputation and relationships to establish such an institute. The City would do the following to establish and grow the program:

1. Establish a collaborative working group of municipalities, corporations, schools, academia, State agencies, residents and the ICF to participate.
2. Use City facilities or the DEC to host these meetings.
3. The City Manager's office will use its intern position to staff the working group. Redirect a portion of existing consultant time (Greg Dunn and Aquarian Technology Systems) to also support the working group.
4. The City could host, with sponsorship, Master Classes and/or conferences/symposiums that draw communities and leaders from the region, state, nationally and potentially internationally to learn and see first-hand the ICF indicators at work. The City has participated in these events at Walsh University and hosted participants in Dublin, as a case study, as recently as 2014.
5. Task the working group with applied research in line with the ICF's objectives but with the opportunity to further develop, promote and evaluate new innovative ideas. As mentioned earlier, there is great opportunity, due to our geographic location, to attract and leverage the partnership and brainpower of a working group.
6. I estimate the costs to host an institute, in addition to staff/consultant support, to be approximately \$75,000 in the first year for licensing fees and the City's portion to support the working group, its research and contributions towards events.
7. Implementing an Institute is a five (5) year commitment.
8. As the Institute matures, sponsorship from collaborators and partners will likely help to curb certain costs. The intent will be to create return on investment on top of what Dublin currently generates. This may not be as measurable, but an Institute would add significant value.

### **Recommendation**

I recommend Council pass Resolution 47-15 authorizing the City Manager to pursue and implement an Intelligent Community Forum's Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community in Dublin, Ohio, USA.

# RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Dayton Legal Blank, Inc., Form No. 30045

47-15

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Passed \_\_\_\_\_

20\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTELLIGENT COMMUNITY FORUM AND ITS FOUNDATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING A GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE INTELLIGENT COMMUNITY IN DUBLIN, OHIO, USA**

**WHEREAS**, Intelligent Communities are those which have – whether through crisis or foresight – come to understand the enormous challenges of the Broadband Economy, and have taken conscious steps to create an economy capable of prospering in it; and

**WHEREAS**, the Intelligent Community Forum is a think tank that studies the economic and social development of the 21st Century community; and

**WHEREAS**, through foresight, Dublin has been a worldwide leader in providing technology that enhances the community and its broadband economy specifically with the DubLink project; and

**WHEREAS**, Dublin has been recognized on a global scale by the Intelligent Community Forum as four-time Smart21 Community and two-time Top7 Community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Intelligent Community Forum and its Foundation have established the Global Institutes for the Study of the Intelligent Community in order to expand its methods, influence, knowledge and to establish applied research centers for the furtherance of the sharing of best practices among the world's regions, cities, towns and villages; and

**WHEREAS**, the global institutes primary objectives are to: expand awareness of and development of communities relative to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century "Broadband Economy"; develop a network of thought leaders, investors and stakeholders in support of the intelligent community process; serve as a facility for others to visit and learn by example; to connect to the Foundation membership of over 134 global members; connect to other institutes around the world; and connect the Intelligent Community Forum to others to better understand the needs of communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Intelligent Community Forum and its Foundation desires Dublin, Ohio to be the host of a Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community; and

**WHEREAS**, Dublin has the ability to promote the collaboration among partnerships and sponsorships to establish and build a programmatic institute; and

**WHEREAS**, a Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community will bring global recognition to the City of Dublin as a community worthy of the opportunity to host such an institute and serve as a leading example of an Intelligent Community for others throughout the world.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio \_\_\_\_\_ of the elected members concurring, that.

Section 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized to develop and negotiate the terms, conditions and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to host the Intelligent Community Forum and its Foundation's Global Institute for the Study of the Intelligent Community for a five year term.

Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to establish a working group of willing participants to include, but not be limited to, other municipalities, State agencies, corporations, academia, schools and resident(s).

# RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Dayton Legal Blank, Inc., Form No. 30045

Resolution No. 47-15

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Section 3. The City Manager will allocate the appropriate time of City Staff and existing consultants within the current approved budget to establish and support the working group.

Section 4. The City's costs associated with the establishment and operation of such a global institute shall not exceed \$75,000 in the initial year of the institute.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take affect and be enforced on the earliest date permitted by law.

Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor – Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council