

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

among

The Honorable Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri,

The Honorable Mayor of Kansas City, Kansas,

University of Missouri-Kansas City,

the University of Kansas

and

KC Digital Drive

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understandings among the named parties to pursue their mutual interest to research, develop, deploy and evaluate technology and analytically based solutions to the problems facing the systems and infrastructure that serve the quality of life and economy of the Cities of Kansas City, MO (“KCMO”) and Kansas City, KS (“KCK”), other municipalities and counties in the Greater Kansas City area, along with other communities, cities, and metropolises around the globe.

### **Background**

The University of Missouri-Kansas City (“UMKC”) and the University of Kansas (“KU”) are establishing an initiative to connect problems in the community to research and educational projects that might help solve them. The Mayors of Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS have clearly emphasized their Cities’ willingness to be a test bed for innovation to achieve more effective and efficient government and improve the lives of its citizens. The two cities have established KC Digital Drive (“KCDD”) as a non-profit organization to serve as a regional hub for civic technology innovation. All parties wish to showcase the Greater Kansas City metro area (“the City”) as a vibrant, innovative and sustainable community while developing technologies, methods, and models for use across the country and around the world. All parties also wish to create a pathway for students to remain in and contribute to the City after graduation.

### **Purpose**

The primary purpose of this MOU is to ensure the communication and coordination necessary to implement research and educational projects agreed upon by the parties. This MOU does not represent a commitment on behalf of any party to pursue specific projects or partnerships. Future projects may require subsequent agreements among the parties and may be subject to the approval of each City’s council.

A secondary purpose is to mutually pursue partnerships with other parties to share and expand our knowledge and pursue research, development and deployment projects with multiple universities and communities.

**Commitment**

This purpose will be accomplished through the following process:

1. The Mayors of KCMO and KCK, the chancellors of UMKC and KU, and the Board of Directors of KCDD shall each designate a lead person on behalf of their respective organizations.
2. The Mayors and their leads will identify problems that UMKC and/or KU research and/or educational projects might address;
3. UMKC and/or KU, as applicable, and the lead(s) will identify research and/or educational projects that might help address City problems;
4. Representatives from all parties will meet on a regular basis to discuss the potential projects identified by the Mayor and/or either university and:
  - a. Reach agreement on which projects to pursue;
  - b. Concur on a plan for implementation for each agreed upon project;
  - c. Monitor progress and prospects for each project.
  - d. Coordinate mutual support for fundraising from third parties in support of agreed upon projects. Proposals shall be submitted to UMKC, and to the University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc. on behalf of KU, as applicable, for review and approval prior to submission to a potential third party sponsor.
5. This partnership shall be referred to within the MetroLab Network as "Greater Kansas City" to reflect the bistate partnership and accessibility to other regional partners.
6. Additional municipalities, counties, or universities within the Greater Kansas City area can join this MOU with the signature of the mayor, county executive or chancellor.

**Funding**

This MOU is not a commitment of funds to any party on behalf of any other party. All costs for activities conducted by any party prior to the execution of a definitive research agreement shall be the responsibility of the party incurring the costs. When funding is needed by a party to pursue an agreed upon project, then the expectation is that the funding may be pursued by one party with the endorsement and support of the others. No party will commit any other party to funding projects within or outside the scope of this partnership without that party's consent. Projects funded by other parties or other organizations are not in any way bound or restricted through this partnership.

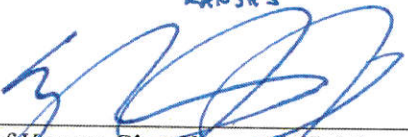
**Duration**

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from each party. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the appropriate parties representing each party.

**Approval Signatures**

  
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City of Kansas City, ~~Missouri~~-Official  
*KANSAS*

Date: *Aug. 28, 2017*

  
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City of Kansas City, ~~Kansas~~ Official  
*MISSOURI*

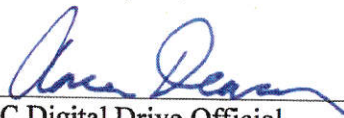
Date: *June 13, 2017*

*Barbara A. Buchelmeier*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
University of Missouri-Kansas City Official

Date: *July 21, 2017*

*Neeli Bendapudi*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
University of Kansas Official:  
Neeli Bendapudi, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

Date: January 19, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KC Digital Drive Official  
*Aaron Deacon, Managing Director*

Date: *March 21, 2017*