



CITY SNIPPETS

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COMMSCOPE, CITY PARTNER TO BRING PUBLIC WI-FI DOWNTOWN

Visitors to Union Square in Downtown Hickory will soon enjoy free public Wi-Fi thanks to a generous \$275,000 product donation by Hickory-based CommScope.

“The City of Hickory is very fortunate to be home to a global communications networks provider that is committed to improving the lives of its neighbors here in Hickory, as well as communities around the world,” said Hickory City Manager Warren Wood.

“The installation of public Wi-Fi downtown further promotes the connectivity we are building throughout

the city with the Hickory Trail and our other bond projects. This donation from CommScope will help Hickory residents and visitors continue to connect, engage, and thrive while enjoying our beautifully-renovated Union Square,” added Hickory Mayor Hank Guess.

CommScope will provide various connectivity technologies to the Union Square Wi-Fi project. Segra, one of the largest fiber infrastructure companies in the eastern United States and headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., will deliver the high-speed connectivity from its own state-of-the-art fiber network. The City of Hickory will cover ongoing maintenance and the annual service contract.

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The aerial photo above shows an updated view of Union Square with additional outdoor seating and enhanced amenities. Union Square renovations were completed in fall 2019 as part of the City Walk project.

ADDRESS	WEBSITE	PHONE	ISSUE
76 North Center Street	HickoryNC.gov	828.323.7400	June 2020

HICKORY CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, July 21
7 p.m.

Julian G. Whitener
Municipal Building (City Hall)



COVID-19 UPDATES

For a listing of City of Hickory operational changes and updates regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit the COVID-19 Updates webpage: <https://www.hickorync.gov/content/covid-19-updates>

This webpage includes links to Catawba County Public Health, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as important information and resources for businesses.

A link to the COVID-19 Updates page is located in the top navigation of the City's website, HickoryNC.gov.

Please use these reliable and trusted sources for COVID-19 information.



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Downtown guests will have access to the free public Wi-Fi signal throughout the Union Square plaza and in part of Lowes Foods City Park.

"Whether it is in the ground, in building, or through the air, CommScope understands that networks and cities must evolve to meet the demands of an increasingly connected society," said Burk Wyatt, Chief Legal Officer, CommScope. He also serves as chairman of the City's Bond Commission.

"People expect the apps on their smartphones or tablet to work without any interruption of service," Wyatt continued. "With CommScope being founded in Hickory more than 40 years ago, we are honored to help the residents and visitors of Hickory's Union Square remain connected by donating our solutions to this important project. This donation helps demonstrate that CommScope supports the City's Bond Commission efforts to continue to improve and revitalize our community."

At its May 19 meeting, Hickory City Council officially accepted the product donation from CommScope and approved a public facility naming request to honor the sizable donation and its impact to the community. The newly added multipurpose shade structure on Union Square will be named "The CommScope Stage."



The new Wi-Fi equipment will be installed this month, with service expected to be operational this summer. The new signage for the multipurpose structure will be installed and dedicated this summer.

REMINDER FOR RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order 124, which regulated billing assistance for residential utility service, was set to expire at the end of May.

Hickory residential utility customers will be responsible for paying for all usage and any balances accumulated during the period covered by the executive order.

Those who need to do so may set up a payment arrangement plan by contacting the Collections Division at (828) 323-7424.

Please continue to check the City's COVID-19 Updates webpage on HickoryNC.gov for the latest information on this and future executive orders, as well as current billing and payment procedures.

NEW AND IMPROVED ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM COMING

The City of Hickory is preparing to launch a new online payment system. Customers will be required to set up a new account under the new system. Stay tuned for more details.

