I write this letter in support of the American Printing House’s endeavor to make Louisville the most accessible city in the nation, by utilizing innovative technology. Enabling indoor navigation with Bluetooth beacons is an excellent solution to a critical problem facing the blind and visually impaired.

Through the Office of Civic Innovation, Louisville Metro Government has partnered with the American Printing House for the Blind to install these beacons in public buildings, and map these indoor spaces for accessibility and public usage for use in the Nearby Explorer mobile app. It is an exciting and innovative opportunity to improve accessible indoor navigation for all in our community.

This technology was recently promoted and demonstrated to an audience from the NewDEAL organization (Developing Exceptional American Leaders), a national network of progressive state and local leaders. This innovative solution will continue to be highlighted throughout Louisville Metro Government to organizations that would benefit from the adoption of this technology.

As mayor, I am so proud to have the American Printing House for the Blind headquartered in our city. They embody one of our city’s core values, lifelong learning. By creating accessible products, they enable people who are visually impaired to attain educational goals and become citizens capable of reaching their full potential. The Museum of the American Printing House also helps preserve a strong sense of historical identity for our community.

I give the proposed Indoor Navigation beacon project my fullest support and will encourage all businesses in Louisville to make their buildings more accessible for people who are blind and visually impaired by permitting the American Printing House to install beacons and map their indoor public spaces. Thank you for your consideration in making this innovative technology a solution for our community and visitors.