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City of Centennial and Ting Internet Sign Long-Term Fiber Lease

(Centennial, COLO) The City of Centennial and Ting Internet executed an agreement for Ting's lease of fibers in the central ring of Centennial's fiber optic backbone. Ting will lease 12 fibers from the City's 432 strand fiber backbone for a term of 20-years. The City will receive a one-time payment of \$302,500 for the lease as well as an annual payment of \$4,325 (with a 3 percent annual escalator) for operations and maintenance. The lease payment and operations and maintenance payment are consistent with industry standards.

This fiber lease agreement is the first for Centennial, since construction of the City's fiber backbone began in 2016 when Centennial City Council approved the \$5.7 million Fiber Master Plan. The Plan demonstrates the potential benefits that a neutral, carrier-grade fiber backbone can provide to the City and its stakeholder agencies. The City completed construction of its 20-mile central ring of fiber, with construction on the west and east rings of fiber currently underway. The entire 50-mile City-owned fiber backbone will be completed by end of this year.

"The City is very pleased to see this agreement with Ting executed. Voter approval of the ballot question in 2013 allowed the City this opportunity to use our existing fiber network to complete a backbone to improve technology and attract private sector telecommunications providers to Centennial. It is very exciting to see the goals from just a few years ago come to fruition," said Mayor Stephanie Piko. "We are looking forward to our businesses, community anchor institutions and residents benefiting from the completion of the City's fiber network."

When complete, the fiber backbone will connect and complete the City's underground infrastructure, connecting to key City sites and other community anchor institutions. Centennial's backbone will enable both existing and new broadband providers an additional option with the goal of making it more feasible for broadband providers to deliver superior and more competitive choices and services for consumers.

"Municipal broadband is essential 21st century infrastructure and vital for economic development," said Centennial Fiber Commission Chair Ken Lucas. "When City Council approved the Fiber Master Plan, the intent was to allow opportunities for open access to the City's backbone, enhancing Centennial's infrastructure for businesses, residents and government agencies. Entering into this agreement with Ting demonstrates opportunities that will result from the execution of the Master Plan."

From specific connection points on the City's fiber backbone, Ting will construct its own local fiber network within select neighborhoods in order to offer its Gigabit services to residents and businesses.

Ting has begun construction of local fiber to residents in the Willow Creek, Walnut Hills and Hunters Hill areas with plans to expand throughout the City.

"We're excited to bring fiber Internet to Centennial," said Adam Eisner, Ting's Vice President of Networks. "With network construction now underway, the City's fiber backbone will be a key component of our deployment."

Ting is a subsidiary of Tucows Inc., a public company, based out of Toronto, Canada.

[View](#) information about Centennial's FiberWorks Program.