



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WTC Announces Plans to Bring Fiber Services to McFarland, KS

Wamego, KS, 09-24-2020 — McFarland, Kansas is soon to be on the fiber Internet map. Another small community abandoned in the Internet race, McFarland is on the path to have access to Internet speeds of up to 1 Gig. Following a successful application for a Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG), WTC has announced plans to bring fiber technology to McFarland by the end of 2020.

“In today’s environment, the importance of a reliable Internet connection, with the speed to support remote work, has become more critical than ever,” stated Angie Boeckman, resident of McFarland.

“Although we have experienced poor connectivity for years, last spring showed us how far behind we actually were. As students and employees were forced to work from remote locations, many of us either didn’t have the access or the access was so limited, we just couldn’t be productive.”

Created to address the increased need for Internet connectivity in Kansas due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CERG funds are focused on improving access to unserved and underserved areas of Kansas to address the increased needs of telework, telehealth, distance learning and other remote business services. Although a great opportunity to bring better Internet access to areas of the State that have not had that luxury in the past, the inherent challenge is that the entire project, from start to finish, must be completed by the end of 2020.

“As we worked through the grant application process, the support we received from the community of McFarland was tremendous. From letters of support from area residents to the community members going door to door to gather information, everyone was onboard from the start. To see their reaction to this opportunity shows an incredible amount of community commitment,” stated Jeff Wick, General Manager of WTC. “WTC understands the challenges of delivering advanced communication services in

today's connected environment, so having the opportunity to bring fiber to McFarland is exciting for us," Wick added.

WTC is headquartered in Wamego (KS) and provides a full line of Voice, Internet and Video services to residential, government, education and commercial clients. For more information about WTC, please visit www.wtcks.com or call 785-456-1000.