



## News Release

### **Two Reidsville Business Parks Designated as AT&T Fiber Ready**

*Designation Reflects Presence of Fiber-Based, High-Speed Internet*

**Reidsville, NC, June 14, 2016** — As part of AT&T's continuing efforts to drive economic development and investment in North Carolina, [AT&T\\*](#) and representatives from the City of Reidsville and Reidsville Economic Development today announced that Reidsville Industrial Park and Watlington Industrial Park have been designated AT&T Fiber Ready, the first business parks in the Triad to receive this designation.

In a global economy, connectivity is vital to new employers and businesses of every type. The AT&T Fiber Ready designation helps economic development leaders more effectively position their communities for site selection by emphasizing the availability of high-speed, fiber-based services.

"Advanced communications capabilities and networks are essential for the economic health and future of communities like ours as we compete against larger cities across North Carolina and the southeast," said Mayor Jay Donecker. "In today's global, information-based economy, fiber optic facilities, and the services they carry, stimulate and facilitate innovation, helping create the clean, sustainable high-paying jobs we want for Reidsville."

The AT&T fiber network provides the bandwidth needed to support data intensive services such as video, collaboration, cloud services and more through products such as Ethernet, Virtual Private Networking, Managed Internet Service, AT&T GigaPower<sup>SM</sup> and AT&T Business Fiber. Customers can complement their high-speed Internet with network security options and online backup to help protect and virtualize their business-critical information.

"The availability of fiber-optic facilities and high-speed communications infrastructure is always among the top priorities a business has in evaluating a potential site for relocation or expansion," said Jeff Garstka, Reidsville's economic development director. "By highlighting the immediate availability of advanced technology, this Fiber Ready designation will be a valuable tool in our efforts to aggressively recruit 21<sup>st</sup> century businesses and industries."

In January, AT&T announced that it had added 1 million additional business customer locations – including more than 23,500 in North Carolina – to its fiber network since 2012 when the company began its aggressive fiber expansion program. The expansion helped extend the AT&T U.S. fiber network another 76,000 route miles, bringing the total to nearly 500,000. AT&T offers business customers high-speed Internet products on its fiber network in every major metro in the company's 21-state footprint.

"We are excited to welcome Reidsville Industrial Park and Watlington Industrial Park to the list of places across North Carolina where AT&T's fiber infrastructure is in place and ready to help local businesses grow," said Kathleen Evans, regional director of external affairs for AT&T North Carolina. "Every day, AT&T's employees use our billions of dollars of investment to deliver high-speed Internet for consumers and businesses. Those investments are possible in large part because of the smart, pro-investment policies championed by our state leaders and by local leaders such as Mayor Donecker."



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