



## News Release

### **AT&T Invests Nearly \$45 Million Over 3-Year Period to Boost Networks in Polk County**

LAKELAND, Fla., June 17, 2019. — At AT&T<sup>1</sup>, we've invested nearly \$45 million in our Lakeland and Winter Haven wireless and wired networks during 2016-2018. These investments boost reliability, coverage, speed and overall performance for residents and businesses. We've also improved critical services that support Public Safety and first responders using the FirstNet communications platform.

This investment has helped AT&T become the fastest wireless network in the nation, according to the first quarter 2019 results from tests taken with Speedtest<sup>®</sup> and analyzed by Ookla<sup>®</sup>.<sup>2</sup>

In 2018, AT&T made nearly 100 wireless network upgrades in Polk County. We added more capacity and bandwidth to cell sites to increase speeds and boost performance. We also turned on 2 new cell sites to expand coverage.

"The Winter Haven economic development community has a goal to become the 'smartest' smart city in Florida and to do that means strong partnerships," said Katie Worthington, president of the Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce. "For us to continue to thrive and attract new jobs and innovation, sustained investment by the private sector is crucial. By continuing to invest in state-of-the-art infrastructure in Polk County and statewide, AT&T is making business growth and industry diversification possible, while also assuring that our residents have the tools to stay connected and entertained."

This investment supports our plans to expand 5G Evolution and LTE-LAA. These technologies serve as a step in the path to 5G by boosting the existing LTE network and priming it for the future of connectivity.

"We're always looking for new opportunities to enhance coverage for our customers and FirstNet subscribers," said Matt Mucci, regional director, AT&T Florida. "This investment will help keep customers connected when and where they need it most. It will also pave the path to 5G mobile services in the years ahead."

The AT&T LTE network covers more than 400 million people in North America. By building out our 4G LTE network, we're boosting network speeds and capacity, as we continue to expand the availability of our network and upgrade our technology.

Additionally, for the 5th consecutive year we've landed on *Fortune* magazine's list of the "World's Most Admired" companies. It's also the 6th year in a row we've appeared on the Global Top 50 list – no other telecom company made the Top 50.



## Transforming Public Safety Communications

FirstNet is Public Safety's dedicated, nationwide communications platform. It is for all first responders – career and volunteer, urban, or rural. It's bringing public safety communications into the 21st century with new, innovative capabilities, helping first responders connect to the critical information they need – every day and in every emergency.

Building upon our current and planned investments in the Lakeland and Winter Haven areas, we continue to extend the reach and increase the capacity of the FirstNet communications platform:

- Deployed Band 14 spectrum in more than 600 markets nationwide, including Polk County. Band 14 is high-quality spectrum provided by the First Responder Network Authority. Its signal covers larger geographic areas with less infrastructure to better support rural communities, and it can better reach in-building in more urban areas as compared to higher-MHz spectrum.
- Local first responders enjoy the fastest overall experience on FirstNet, compared to any commercial network in the nation, thanks to the specialized capabilities enabled by the physically separate and dedicated FirstNet network core, like always-on priority and preemption.<sup>3</sup>
- Public safety agencies subscribed to FirstNet have 24/7 [access](#) to a nationwide fleet of 75 deployable network assets. These assets can either be deployed for planned events or called upon in emergencies to help first responders stay connected and operate faster, safer and more effectively when lives are on the line.

FirstNet is built with AT&T in a public-private partnership with the [First Responder Network Authority](#) – an independent agency within the federal government. This helps ensure that the FirstNet communications platform and service offerings meet the short- and long-term needs of the public safety community.

To learn more about our wireless coverage in Polk County or anywhere in the U.S., go to the [AT&T Coverage Viewer](#). For updates on the AT&T wireless network, please go to the [AT&T network news page](#).

<sup>1</sup> AT&T products and services are provided or offered by subsidiaries and affiliates of AT&T Inc. under the AT&T brand and not by AT&T Inc.

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## Cautionary Language Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

Information set forth in this news release contains financial estimates and other forward- looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially. A



discussion of factors that may affect future results is contained in AT&T's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. AT&T disclaims any obligation to update or revise statements contained in this news release based on new information or otherwise.

**\*About AT&T Communications**

We help family, friends and neighbors connect in meaningful ways every day. From the first phone call 140+ years ago to mobile video streaming, we innovate to improve lives. We have the nation's fastest wireless network.\*\* And according to America's biggest test, we have the nation's best wireless network.\*\*\* We're building [FirstNet](#) just for first responders and creating next-generation mobile 5G. With [DIRECTV](#), [DIRECTV NOW](#) and [WatchTV](#), we deliver entertainment people love to talk about. Our smart, highly secure solutions serve nearly 3 million global businesses – nearly all of the Fortune 1000. And worldwide, our spirit of service drives employees to give back to their communities.

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\*\*Based on analysis by Ookla® of Speedtest Intelligence® data average download speeds for Q1 2019.

\*\*\*According to America's biggest test as announced by Global Wireless Solutions last fall.

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To define a market, we rely on the Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSA), as established by the United States Office of Management and Budget. Minor differences, if any, between annual totals reflect annual updating of market boundaries in our record systems.

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