



**TO:** Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager  
**FROM:** Amy Clancy, Media & Communications Office  
Jeff Lueders, MCO Division Manager – Franchise Services *J.L.*  
**COPY:** Government Performance and Finance Committee; Andy Cherullo – Executive  
Liaison; Chantra Real - Staff  
**PRESENTER:** Jeff Lueders, MCO Division Manager – Franchise Services  
**SUBJECT:** Request for a Telecommunications Franchise Agreement between the City of  
Tacoma and Forged Fiber 37, LLC (AT&T)  
**DATE:** September 25, 2025

**PRESENTATION TYPE:**

Request for Action

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this item is to Request an Ordinance for a 10-year Telecommunications Franchise Agreement between the City of Tacoma and Forged Fiber 37, LLC (AT&T). We have reviewed their request, negotiated terms, and reached a tentative agreement pending City Council consideration and approval. Based on Forged Fiber 37, LLC's (AT&T) Financial and Technical abilities, and History as a provider and vendor, we are recommending passage of this Request for Ordinance during the October 21, 2025 Government Performance and Finance Committee meeting.

**BACKGROUND:**

This department's recommendation is based on State and Local Law which requires a Telecommunications Provider to have a Franchise Agreement to operate in the City of Tacoma Public Right of Way.

**ISSUE:**

A competitive Telecommunications marketplace allows all residents and businesses to have choices when selecting services and reduced prices due to competition. A robust marketplace increases livability, service availability and potential employment opportunities. Having multiple service providers increases competition, which in turn provides competitive pricing and improves the quality of life. The increase in infrastructure allows businesses to have choice and get the services they need at competitive prices to move their businesses forward and improves the overall perception of the Tacoma economy.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

There are no alternatives presented.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is recommending passage of this Request for Ordinance by the City Council. This recommendation will allow a new telecommunications provider into our community to do business, providing services desired by residents, governmental agencies, and businesses.



Upon City Council Approval, Publication and Enactment the estimated Effective Date: December 12, 2025.