



For Immediate Release:

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Town of Breckenridge to Host “Fiber and the Future of Mountain Communities” Panel

The Town of Breckenridge invites residents across the county to join several experts in the field of fiber, broadband, and state and national fiber deployment for a discussion regarding the technology of fiber and the role municipal governments in securing this infrastructure for their communities.

The event will be held on September 12 from 5:30 to 7:00 at Town Hall in Council Chambers (150 Ski Hill Road, Breckenridge, CO 80424) and will be followed by a reception hosted by Next Century Cities. The panel will be discussing why towns and cities across the country are creating their own fiber networks and clarifying all the terminology, technology, and information regarding fiber and broadband. This will be an opportunity for people across Summit County to learn more about fiber and better understand the future of this technology.

The event will have representatives from the Governor's Office of Information Technology, Next Century Cities, a national organization focused on broadband and fiber based in D.C., and a Colorado fiber technology expert. The panelists will be Teresa Ferguson, Cat Blake, and Tim Scott.

Teresa Ferguson joined the Colorado Broadband Office (CBO) as Director, Federal Broadband Engagement, in April, 2019. In her role she will be the CBO's liaison for all federal broadband funding programs. Teresa will also engage communities with their broadband planning efforts. Before joining the CBO Teresa was a Senior Telecom Policy Analyst for the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) where she was actively engaged in, or led various proceedings to expand provider market entry, rewrite the Telecommunication Rules and advisor to the Commission in the NG911 ESInet proceeding. At the Commission Teresa held national leadership positions, engaging with the Federal Communications Commission, the Universal Service Administrative Company (administrator of the E-Rate, Rural Healthcare, Lifeline and Universal Service programs) and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissions, advocating on behalf of Colorado's interests. Prior to joining the CPUC Teresa spent 15

years in the private sector facilitating the deployment of broadband networks for schools and libraries, helping them tap into the Federal Universal Service E-Rate program.

Cat Blake is the Senior Program Manager at Next Century Cities, a nonpartisan, nonprofit membership organization that provides municipal governments with the tools and information they need to bring fast, affordable, reliable broadband to their constituents. Specifically, Cat researches and advocates for effective broadband policy at all levels of government, oversees member engagement and strategy, and coordinates organizational operations.

Tim Scott has an international, broad and diverse background across nearly 20 years of experience in the telecommunications and broadband markets. Well known across the fiber industry, Tim has spoken at various industry events sharing his passion and knowledge related to the benefits fiber infrastructure can bring to local communities.

The Town of Breckenridge will also be live-streaming the event on the [Town of Breckenridge Facebook page](#) for those who can't come but would like to watch.