1	ORDINANCE NO.
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3	AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A FRANCHISE TO UNITI FIBER, LLC, AS
4	A TELECOMMUNICATION AND FIBER OPTICS SERVICE PROVIDER;
5	TO PERMIT THE USE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND AIRSPACE WITHIN
6	THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK,
7	ARKANSAS; TO RESERVE FOR BOTH PARTIES THE RIGHT TO SEEK
, 8	MODIFICATIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY
9	CHANGES IN FEDERAL OR STATE LAW; TO DECLARE AN
10	EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10	EWIERGENCT, AND FOR OTHER TURI USES.
12	WHEREAS, Uniti Fiber, LLC ("Uniti"), is a Fiber Optic Telecommunications Network that intends
13	to provide fiber optic, cable telecommunications and other services, through a network for users within the
14	corporate limits of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas ("the City"); and,
15	WHEREAS, in order to provide these services Uniti, like other such providers, will need access to the
16	streets, alleys, airways and other public rights-of-way within the corporate limits of the City; and,
17	WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement that is incorporated in this ordinance the City is allowed, and
18	does, assess a Franchise Fee as a rental payment which Uniti agrees to pay.
19	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY
20	OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:
21	Section 1. Uniti is hereby granted a Non-Exclusive Franchise to occupy City streets, alleys, airways
22	and other public rights-of-way within the corporate limits of the City, pursuant to Regulations and Statutes
23	of the Federal Government, the State of Arkansas, and the City.
24	Section 2. The terms and conditions of this franchise include the following:
25	UNITI FIBER LLC
26	TELECOMUNICATIONS NETWORK
27	FRANCHISE AGREEMENT
28	
29	This Agreement is entered into this day of March, 2022, between the City of Little Rock,
30	Arkansas, a municipal corporation duly organized pursuant to the laws of the State of Arkansas,
31	and Uniti Fiber, LLC, a limited-liability corporation duly organized pursuant to the laws of the
32	State of Delaware, and authorized to do business in the State of Arkansas,
33	

1		WITNESSETH
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3		WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock, Arkansas (the "City"), recognizes that
4	tele	ecommunications services are essential to health, safety, welfare and economic development of
5	the	businesses, residents and of the City; and,
6		WHEREAS, Uniti Fiber, LLC, a limited-liability corporation organized pursuant to the laws
7	of	the State of Delaware (hereafter "the Company") and licensed to do business in the State of
8	Ar	kansas, has asked for a Franchise to use the public rights-of-way including, but not limited to,
9	stre	eets, alleys, sidewalks and air rights (to the extent air rights are related to facilities attached to or
10	bet	ween poles) that belong to the City, to install conduit, fiber optic cable and a telecommunications
11	net	work that will facilitate the connection of businesses, residences and public agencies located
12	wit	hin the City to a telecommunications network; and,
13		WHEREAS, the parties agree that the Company is a utility with which a written Franchise
14	Ag	reement may be entered into pursuant to A.C.A. 14-200-101.
15		NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE COVENANTS AND
16	AG	REEMENTS SET FORTH BELOW, THE PARTIES DO HEREBY CONTRACT AND
17	AG	GREE AS FOLLOWS:
18		DEFINITIONS
19		
20	1.	<i>Event of Default.</i> The events set forth in this Agreement that are a basis for the involuntary
21		termination of this Franchise.
22	2.	Fiber Optic Telecommunications Network, Network or Telecommunications Network. The
23		Company's system of cables, wires, lines, towers, wave guides, optic fiber, microwave, laser
24		beams, and any associated converters, equipment, and facilities designed and constructed for
25		the purpose of producing, receiving, amplifying, or distributing, by audio, video, or other forms
26		of electronic signals, authorized telecommunications services to or from subscribers or
27		locations within or through the City.
28	3.	Gross Revenue. All revenues, (excluding sales tax, extension, terminal equipment, toll, access,
29		yellow pages and miscellaneous equipment revenues) collected by the Company: for local
30		Intrastate Wireline Telecommunications Services provided by the Company and billed to its
31		end user customers, in both respects, within the corporate limits of the City and from operation
32		of the Company's Network installed pursuant to this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing
33		definition, the term Gross Revenues shall not include the following: (I) those revenues that the
34		Company has received or will receive from another telecommunications service provider and

upon which the other telecommunications provider has paid or will pay a Franchise Fee; and
 (2) revenues that the Company has received from its corporate parent, subsidiary, or an affiliate.
 *Public Rights-of-Way or City Rights-of-Way.* Streets, avenues, alleys, bridges, viaducts, rights-of-way, easements, grounds and other similar public places owned or controlled by, leased to or granted to the City.
 <u>SECTION 1</u>
 <u>GRANT OF AUTHORITY</u>

8 **1.1** Grant of Franchise. The Company is hereby granted a Franchise (the "Franchise") to 9 occupy and use the public rights-of-way and airways within and belonging to the City in order to 10 construct, operate, maintain, upgrade, repair and remove a Telecommunications Network subject 11 to the terms and conditions of this agreement.

- 12 **1.2 <u>Term of Agreement</u>.** This Agreement shall commence on March \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 and shall
   13 continue in force in accordance with A.C.A. § 14-200-103 or unless the Franchise is terminated by
   14 abandonment or by agreement of the Parties. Upon expiration or termination of the Franchise, all
   15 rights and obligations of the Company granted under this Agreement shall cease.
- 16 **1.3** <u>Nonexclusive Franchise</u>. The Franchise is nonexclusive. Nothing in this Agreement shall
   17 limit or otherwise restrict the right of the City to enter into agreements with other companies for
   18 use of the City's rights-of-ways and airways.
- 19 **1.4** <u>Scope of Franchise</u>. The scope of the Franchise awarded pursuant to this Agreement is 20 limited to the incorporated area of the City. The Parties agree that their entrance into this Agreement 21 is without prejudice to any positions they may have taken previously, or may take in the future, in 22 any legislative, regulatory, judicial, municipal, or other public forum addressing any matters, 23 including matters related to the same types of arrangements covered in this Agreement. This 24 Agreement does not give the Company any right to use or occupy any public right-of-way 25 controlled by a city utility unless agreed to by such utility.
- 26 **1.5** <u>Reservation of Authority</u>. The City reserves the right to perform any necessary public 27 works or make any necessary public improvements to the City's rights-of-ways or airways (to the 28 extent airways are related to facilities attached to or between poles) during the term of this 29 Agreement. If, as a result of any action by the City, or by any action authorized by the City for the 30 benefit of the public good, re-location of any of the Company's conduit or other facilities required, 31 such relocation shall be accomplished at the sole expense of the Company. Nothing in this 32 Franchise shall be deemed a waiver of the City's right to require the Company to comply with all 33 applicable zoning and other applicable regulatory ordinances or to pay any reasonable permit fees 34 or to seek appropriate authorizations from the Company to perform any work in connection with

the Franchise. Should the City close, eliminate, or discontinue use of any public street during the
term of this Franchise, or any renewal term, this Franchise shall cease with respect to such streets
upon the date of final action by the City with respect to the closure, elimination or discontinuance
of such streets.

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**1.6** <u>Notice of Intention to Construct</u>. The City has vested interest in assuring that any disruption of the flow of traffic, or the digging or creation of a trench in any of the streets, be kept to a minimum. In order to facilitate this interest, the City and the Company agree to the following:

8 1.6.1 Upon application by the Company for a construction permit to open the street, the City 9 shall provide notice to other utilities in accordance with applicable ordinances of the City. During 10 such time period provided the ordinance, the City shall withhold approval of any such permits so that any other public utility that desires to do so will be allowed to ask to simultaneously lay 11 12 conduit, or other appropriate equipment, in any trench opened by the Company. The Director of 13 Public Works may extend time for emergency situations if another public utility so desires. The 14 Company will permit that public utility to simultaneously lay conduit, or other appropriate 15 equipment, in any trench opened by the Company provided: (i) the other utility shares in the cost 16 of opening and repairing the trench; and (ii) the utility's desire to so participate does not 17 unnecessarily delay the Company's construction schedule.

18 **1.6.2** The Company agrees that if, pursuant to a similar application from other public 19 utilities, it receives notice from the City of a request for a permit to open the streets, the Company 20 shall determine whether to participate in the opening of any trench by that utility and shall 21 participate in such a project pursuant to the terms of this subsection.

1.6.3 For purposes of this subsection, "public utility" means any of the following entities operating within the City: gas provider, cable television company, electric service provider, interexchange, long distance or local exchange telecommunications services provider, any entity (including the State of Arkansas) operating a fiber optic telecommunications network in the City, Little Rock Water Commission, Little Rock Sanitary Sewer Committee, and any other entity laying pipes, cables, conduits, or wires on, over, or beneath City rights-of-way and that have a Franchise from the City.

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## SECTION 2 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

32 2.1 <u>Quality</u>. All work involved in the construction, operation, maintenance, repair, upgrade,
 33 and removal of the Network that is permitted by this Franchise shall be performed in a safe,
 34 thorough, reliable manner using materials of good and durable quality in accordance with generally

1 accepted construction standards. If, at any time, it is determined by the City that any part of the 2 network is harmful to the health or safety of any person, then the Company shall at its own cost 3 and expense, promptly correct all such conditions. For purposes of this subsection, promptly shall 4 mean twenty-four (24) hours, or a longer period of time if and only if additional time is granted in 5 writing by the Director of Public Works acting with the advice and consent of the City Manager.

6 2.2 Aesthetic Construction Requirements. Before the Company constructs, extends or 7 replaces its Network, except in the case of minor maintenance as may be defined by the City, it 8 shall file with the City's Director of Public Works a written work description, including scale 9 drawings, showing the Network's location and, if applicable, estimated depth of the facilities. The 10 plans will be reviewed by the Director of Public Works and any comments will be provided to the 11 Company within ten (10) business days. The City agrees to expedite its review when conditions 12 warrant. Before the Company repairs its Network, the Company shall give notice to the City's 13 Director of Public Works as to the time and location of the proposed repairs and obtain permits 14 required by the City Code. The Company will provide a thirty (30) day schedule of planned work 15 at the beginning of each month. When an emergency occurs, repairs shall be performed by the 16 Company and notice shall be given to the Director of Public Works within twenty-four (24) hours 17 following emergency repairs. Any construction project shall be completed within thirty (30) days 18 from the date that the Public Works Department issues any necessary permits, provided that the 19 Director of PublicWorks may allow reasonable extensions due to weather or Acts of God, or other 20 reasonable circumstances that in the sole discretion of the Director of Public Works justifies an 21 extension of the project target completion date. If the City requires the Company to remove, alter, 22 change, adapt, or conform its Network to enable any other person or entity to use, or to use with 23 greater convenience, the rights-of-way, or in connection with dedication or street buildout 24 requirements related to third party action, the Company shall be obligated to make such changes to 25 its Network only if said person or entity commits and post appropriate bond, if required by 26 Company, to reimburse the Company for any loss and expense which will be caused by or which 27 will arise out of such changes to the Company's Network.

28 2.3 No Liability to the Company. Neither the City nor its Officers, employees, agent (except 29 independent contractors), attorneys or consultants shall have any liability, except in the case of 30 intentional acts or omissions of the City, to the Company for any liability as a result of any 31 disruption or damages to the Network that occur as a result of or in connection with any protection, 32 breaking through, street cave-in, movement, removal, alteration or relocation of any part of the 33 Network by or on behalf of the Company or the City in connection with any emergency public 34 work of any nature whatsoever, improvement, alteration of municipal structure, any change in the grade or line of any street, or the elimination, discontinuation, and closing of any street, as provided
 for in this Agreement. Except, however, the City shall reasonably attempt to avoid any damage to
 the Company's Network and shall, except in emergency situations, provide reasonable notice to the
 Company so as to allow the Company to protect its Network.

5 2.4 New Construction or Extension of Facilities. Before the Company constructs new 6 Network facilities or extends existing Network facilities, or before it uses Network facilities that 7 were in existence in the City prior to the effective date of this Agreement, the Company shall, as 8 reasonably possible, provide to the City's Public Works Director its Network location data in 9 conformance with the City's standards. The City shall be notified of any extension of the network, 10 construction, including other preparation for the extension of conduit or any facilities within public rights-of-way (not including lateral connections under sidewalks that do not interfere with the 11 12 normal flow of traffic on the City streets or public rights-of-way for which permits have been 13 issued).

## <u>SECTION 3</u> COMPENSATION TO THE CITY

3.1 Franchise Fees – Amount.

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18 3.1.1 The Company shall pay to the City Franchise Fees beginning with the calendar year 19 immediately following its generation of Gross Revenues, an amount equal to 5% of Gross Revenues 20 as defined in this Agreement. The rate shall be 5% unless or until agreed otherwise between the 21 parties or otherwise changed by law and shall be ratified annually by the City as appropriate. In 22 addition to the Franchise Fee, Company shall provide City, upon City's request, the exclusive use 23 of two (2) fiber pairs per each location where Company has installed fiber optic facilities that 24 include at least ninety-six (96) fibers. Company shall have no obligation to provide City any 25 Optronics, electronics, power or other services or facilities in connection with such two (2) fiber 26 pairs. City's exclusive use of the two (2) fiber pairs provided by Company shall be limited solely 27 to governmental functions and shall not be used directly or indirectly or made available directly or 28 indirectly for use by thepublic or for compensation.

3.1.2 The payment of a Franchise Fee by the Company in no way limits the right of the
City to charge fees for any permits the Company is required to obtain for any construction project;
nor does the payment of a Franchise Fee preclude the right of the City to assess a reasonable
Business License Fee.

- 1 **3.2 Franchise Fees – Payment.** All such payments of Franchise Fee required by this Section 2 shall be made quarterly and, in any event, no later than fifteen (15) days after March 31<sup>st</sup>; June 30<sup>th</sup>; 3 September 30<sup>th</sup>; and December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.
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3.3 Franchise Fee Payments Subject to Audit; Remedy for Underpayment. All Franchise 5 Fee payments shall be made pursuant to a form provided by and acceptable to the Finance 6 Director and Treasurer of the City. No acceptance of any Franchise Fee payment by the City shall 7 be construed as an accord and satisfaction that the amount paid is in fact the correct amount, nor 8 shall acceptance be deemed a release of any claim the City may have for further or additional sums 9 payable pursuant to this Franchise. All amounts paid shall be subject to audit and recomputation 10 by the City in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

3.4 Authority to Pass Franchise Fee Payments on to System End Users. To the extent 11 12 provided by law, the Company is permitted to collect any franchise fee assessed by the City from 13 its customers.

# **SECTION 4 OVERSIGHT AND REGULATION**

17 **4.1 The City's Right of Oversight.** The City shall have the right to oversee and periodically 18 inspect the construction, operation, maintenance and upgrade of the Network, and all parts thereof, 19 in accordance with the provisions of this Franchise and applicable law. The City reserves the right 20 to adopt such rules, regulations, orders, or other directives governing the Company's construction 21 and maintenance of the Network as it shall find necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its 22 police power, and such other orders as the City shall find necessary or appropriate pursuant to and 23 in furtherance of the purposes of this Franchise. The Company, without waiving its right to appeal 24 or to seek a stay or injunctive relief, expressly agrees to comply with all rules, regulations, orders, 25 or other directives issued pursuant to this Section. No rule, regulation, order, or other directive 26 issued pursuant to this Section shall constitute an amendment to this Franchise.

27 4.2 Proprietary Information as Property of the Company. The City and the Company 28 recognize that in order to comply with all the terms and conditions of this Franchise it may, on 29 occasion, be necessary for the Company to provide the City access to certain proprietary 30 information. To the extent that such information is individually noted and marked "Proprietary" by the Company, the City acknowledges that such information will always be considered to be in the 31 32 sole custody and control of the Company, that the information will only be reviewed by the City 33 and, that despite the immediate location of such material, the Company shall never be deemed to 34 have provided it to the City for its possession and control nor to include such information as a part of any public record. In the absence of a court order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, or a subpoena duly issued according to law, should any person request access to such information solely upon the basis of State or Federal Freedom of Information Laws, the City shall immediately return the information to the Company with notice of the request, shall refuse access to the records to the requesting party, and shall complete any necessary review at the Company's office.

6 **4.3 Financial Reports.** The Company shall, subject to appropriate proprietary treatment and 7 protection, make available to the City not later than three (3) months after the endof the Company's 8 annual fiscal periods with respect to the period just ended: a copy of the Company's appropriate 9 financial statements as necessary, which statements shall, unless otherwise agreed to by the City, 10 be certified by the Company's Chief Financial Officer in accordance with generally accepted 11 accounting principles; and a statement of the gross revenues subject to Franchise Fees under this 12 Agreement and a calculation of fees due the City certified to be true and correct by the Company's 13 Chief Financial Officer. The parties shall mutually agree on the appropriate reporting format to be 14 utilized by the Company.

## <u>SECTION 5</u> <u>RESTRICTIONS AGAINST ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER TRANSFERS</u>

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18 5.1 <u>Transfer of Franchise or Interest Therein</u>. The Company may not, except to a wholly owned subsidiary or entity under common ownership to Company, assign, sell, or transfer in any 19 20 manner, in whole or in part, its right, title or interest in any part of the Network. The Company shall 21 give notice to the City of any such assignment, sale, or transfer. The Company shall have the right 22 to mortgage or pledge a portion or all of the Network in order to secure financing of the Company's 23 operations obtained in the ordinary course of business of the Company. Notwithstanding the 24 foregoing, no mortgage or pledge entered into by the Companyshall relieve any person, including 25 the Mortgagor or pledgor, of any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Should any person, 26 including the Company, default or otherwise be deemedin violation of the terms of this Agreement, 27 the City shall be permitted to exercise all its rights, privileges, and remedies pursuant to this 28 Agreement.

### SECTION 6 SPECIFIC RIGHTS AND REMEDIES

6.1 <u>Nonexclusive Remedies</u>. The Company agrees that the City shall have the specific rights
 and remedies set forth in this Agreement. These rights and remedies are in addition to and
 cumulative with any and all other rights or remedies, express or implied, now, or hereafter available

to the City at law or in equity in order to enforce the provisions of this Franchise. Such rights and
remedies shall not be exclusive, but each and every right and remedy specifically provided or
otherwise existing or given ay be exercised from time to time and as often an in such order as may
be deemed expedient by the City. The exercise of any such right or remedy by the City shall not
release the Company from its obligations or any liability under this Franchise, except as expressly
provided for in this Franchise or as necessary to avoid duplicative recovery from or payment by the
Company or its Grantor.

6.2 Events of Default. The Company agrees that an Event of Default shall include, but shall
not be limited to, any of the following acts or failure to act by the Company or any Affiliated
Person:

6.2.1 Failure to obtain any applicable permits from the Public Works Department of the City
before making material expansions to the Network.

6.2.2 Failure to supply insurance, bonds, or letters of credit as may be required by the City
to assure the proper completion of any restoration or repair performed pursuant to the Franchise.

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**6.2.3** Failure to make any of the payments set forth in this Franchise.

6.2.4 Failure to pay any permit fees, or substantial failure to comply with any applicable
 rules, regulations, orders, or directives of the City as set forth in this agreement.

18 19 6.2.5 Failure to materially comply with agreed construction and repair schedules.

**6.2.6** Filing of bankruptcy.

6.3 <u>City Action upon Occurrence of an Event of Default</u>. Upon the occurrence of anEvent
 of Default under Section 6.2.1, 6.2.4, or 6.2.5 Company may be subjected to appropriate fines or
 penalties as provided by the City and with respect to Events of Default specified in Section 6.2.2,
 6.2.3 or 6.2.6, the City may, in accordance with the procedures provided for in this Franchise:

6.3.1 Require the Company to take such actions as necessary to cure the Event of Default;
or

26 6.3.2 Seek money damages from the Company as compensation for such Event of Default
27 or revoke the Franchise by termination of the Agreement.

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**6.4** <u>**Procedure to follow upon Breach.**</u> The City shall exercise the rights set forth in this Section in accordance with the following procedures:

6.4.1 The City Manager shall notify the Company, in writing, of an alleged Event of Default.
This written notice shall set forth with reasonable specificity the facts the City believes are the basis
for declaring that an Event of Default has occurred. The Company shall, within thirty (30) business
days of the date the notice is postmarked, or such additional time as the City Manager may specify
in the notice, cure the alleged Event of Default, or, in writing, present for review by the City

1 Manager a reasonable time frame and method to cure the Event of Default. The Company, in lieu 2 of the cure of the Event of Default as set forth herein, may, present written facts and arguments as 3 to why the Company disagrees that an Event of Default has occurred.

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If the Company presents a written response that challenges whether an Event of Default 6.4.2 5 has occurred, the City Manager shall within ten (10) days review the submitted materials and 6 determine again whether an Event of Default has occurred. If the City Manager reaffirms that an 7 Event of Default has occurred, the Company shall be notified in writing of this decision and shall, 8 within thirty (30) days, cure the alleged Event of Default.

9 If the Company fails to cure the Event of Default so declared pursuant to this Section 6.4.3 10 within the time permitted by the City Manager, the City Manager shall prepare a written report to 11 the City Board of Directors and recommend action to be taken. If the City Board of Directors, 12 after consideration of this report, agrees that and Event of Default has occurred, it may order an 13 appropriate remedy as set forth in Section 6.

14 6.5 <u>Removal</u>. In addition to the rights under this Section, the City, upon any termination, may, at its sole discretion, direct the Company to remove, at the Company's sole cost and expense, any, 15 16 or all of the Network from all streets, rights-of-way and other public property within the City, 17 subject to the following:

18 6.5.1 The City may determine that removal of buried fiber optic cable or conduit, is not 19 necessary.

20 **6.5.2** In removing any part of the Network, the Company shall refill and compact, at its 21 own expense, any excavation that shall be made by it and shall leave all streets and other property 22 in as good a condition as that prevailing prior to the Company's removal of the Network.

23 6.5.3 The City shall have the right to inspect and approve the conditions of the streets and 24 public property after removal has occurred.

25 6.5.4 The removal shall commence within thirty (30) days of an order to remove issued by 26 the City Manager at the direction of the City Board of Directors.

27 Prior to the City's exercise of this right, the Company's mortgagees, pledgees, or other 6.5.5 28 persons providing financing to the Company shall have the right to cure the Company's default 29 under this agreement. The City acknowledges that its right to direct the Company to remove the 30 Network provided herein shall be subject and subordinate to the rights of the Company's 31 mortgagee, creditor, pledgee, or other person providing financing to the Company, as described in 32 the written documents evidencing the financing or the security therefore, provided that such 33 mortgagee, creditor, pledgee, or other person providing financing to the Company, complies with 34 the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

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**6.6** <u>Consent not to Waiver</u>. The grant or waiver of any one or more of the consents required by this Franchise shall not render unnecessary any subsequent consent, nor shall the grant of any such consent constitute a waiver of any other rights of the City and/or the Company.

#### SECTION 7

#### **SUBSEQUENT ACTION**

**7.1** <u>Current Enforceability of Agreement</u>. The City and the Company agree that the execution of this Franchise and the terms and conditions are valid in their entirety.

8 7.2 Indemnification. The Company shall indemnify and hold harmless the City and all of its 9 officers, agents, and employees from all suits, actions, or claims of any character, style, and 10 description brought for or on account of any injuries or damages, including environmental damages, disruption of services or death, received or sustained by any person or any property occasioned by, 11 12 arising out of, or in connection with the negligent acts or omissions of the Company regarding the 13 erection, construction, location, replacement, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, or operation of 14 the Company's Network, and the Company shall pay any judgments, interest, and costs which may 15 be obtained against the City arising out of such injury or damage. If the franchise granted by this 16 agreement is terminated or is not renewed, and the Company does not remove its facilities from the 17 right-of-way, the Company shall continue to indemnify and hold harmless pursuant to this section 18 as long as its facilities are located in the rights-of-way. The City at its option may defend any 19 such action and the parties shall cooperate in any such defense.

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#### SECTION 8

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

8.1 <u>Controlling Law</u>. This Franchise shall be determined according to the laws of the State of
 Arkansas and venue and jurisdiction to challenge, contest, review, or otherwise subject its terms
 and conditions to litigation, shall occur in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, or in the United
 States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

26 8.2 <u>Captions</u>. The captions given to various provisions of this Franchise are for purposes of
 27 convenience only and are to have no impact upon the interpretation of any such provisions.

# 28 8.3 Entire Agreement. This Franchise, with its exhibits, comprises the entire agreement 29 between the City and the Company for purposes of this Franchise.

8.4 <u>Burden of Proof</u>. In any disagreement upon the terms and conditions of this Franchise,
the Company shall bear the burden of demonstrating its compliance with each term and condition
of this Franchise for all purposes.

8.5 <u>No Coercion</u>. The Company and the City enter into this Franchise willingly and
 without coercion, undue influence, or duress.

- 1 **8.6 Multiple Originals.** This Franchise may be executed in any number of copies and any fully 2 executed copy of this Franchise shall be deemed an original for purposes of authentication or 3 presentation in evidence before any court or administrative tribunal. 4 **8.7** Notice. Any notice or communication required in the administration of this Ordinance shall 5 be sent by any method that assures overnight delivery and shall be addressed as follows: 6 If to the City: (City Manager)\_ 7 Office of the City Manager 8 9 500 West Markham Street, Room 203 10 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 11 If to the Company: 12 Kelly A. McGriff Vice President and Deputy General Counsel 13 14 Uniti Fiber, LLC 15 2101 Riverfront Drive 16 Little Rock, AR 72202 17 kelly.mcgriff@uniti.com 18 **SECTION 9** 19 **INSURANCE** 20 9.1 Insurance. The Company shall maintain the following insurance coverages and the 21 respective policies thereof shall cover all risks related to and use the occupancy of the right-of-way 22 and all other risks associated with this Franchise Agreement: 23 9.1.1 **Description of Insurance Coverage and Limits.** 24 9.1.1.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance. Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for 25 each occurrence - coverage shall include the following: premises, operations, independent 26 contractors, products/completed operations, personal injury, contractual liability, 27 explosion/collapse/underground property damage. Insurance shall be provided on an occurrence 28 basis, be as comprehensive as the current Insurance Services Office (ISO) Policy. 29 9.1.1.2 Automobile Liability Insurance. One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) each accident -30 coverage shall be on "any auto", including leased, hired, owned, non-owned and borrowed vehicles. 31 9.1.1.3 Environmental Impairment Liability including Pollution Liability Insurance. If 32 it can reasonably be obtained in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) each occurrence, 33 this coverage is to be provided on an occurrence basis and it shall include claims arising from 34 gradual emission and sudden accidents. Clean-up and defense costs shall be covered. 35 9.1.1.4 Workers' Compensation Insurance Statutory Limits. Employer's Liability -36 minimum Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for each accident/disease-each
- 37 employee/disease- policy limit.

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#### 9.1.2 Other Insurance Related Requirements.

- 9.1.2.1 The City shall be an additional insured, by endorsement, on applicable insurance
  policies.
- **9.1.2.2** Applicable insurance policies shall be endorsed with a waiver of subrogation in favor
  of the City.
- 9.1.2.3 Insurers shall be authorized to do business in the State of Arkansas, or otherwise
  approved by the City, and such shall be acceptable to the City insofar as their financial strength and
  solvency are concerned.
- 9 9.1.2.4 The City shall be notified within a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the insurer's
  action in the event of cancellation, non-renewal or material change coverage regarding any policy
  providing insurance coverage required in this agreement.
- 9.1.2.5 Full limits of insurance required in Subsection 9.1.1 of this section shall be available
  for claims arising out of this Agreement with the City.
- 9.1.2.6 Certificates of Insurance shall be provided by the Company to the City prior to
   commencement of operations pursuant to this Franchise. Any failure on part of the City to request
   such documentation shall not be construed as a waiver of insurance requirements specified herein.
- 9.1.2.7 The City shall be entitled, upon reasonable request, to review the insurance policies
  including endorsements thereto and, at its discretion, to require proof of payment for policy
  premiums.
- 9.1.2.8 The City reserves the right to revise insurance requirements specified herein and
   require the Company to comply therewith within sixty (60) days of the City's official notice of the
   revision.
- 9.1.2.9 The City shall not be responsible for paying the cost of insurance coverage requiredherein.
- 9.1.2.10 "Other insurance" as referenced in any policy of insurance providing coverages
   required herein shall not apply to the City.

9.1.2.11 The Company shall agree to either require its contractors to maintain the same
insurance coverages and limits thereof as specified herein or such coverage on the Company's
contractors shall be provided by the Company.

- 30 **WHEREUPON**, the City and the Company, acting through their duly authorized officers and pursuant 31 to appropriate authority granted by their respective Boards of Directors, do hereby execute this Agreement.
- 32 CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS UNITI FIBER LLC
- 33
- 34 **By:**\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

1	Name:	Name: Kelly A. McGriff
2	Title: City Manager	Title: VP and Deputy General Counsel
3	Date:	Date:
4	ATTEST:	ATTEST:
5	By:	By:

6 Section 3. Because both the Federal Government and the State of Arkansas have jurisdiction over issues 7 involved in this Franchise Agreement ("the Agreement"), and either entity may bring about changes in the 8 laws, or in the regulations to enforce the laws, each party shall have the right to demand a review of the 9 terms of this Agreement upon its conclusion that there has been a change in the law; further, if necessary 10 to do so, and Uniti is not otherwise in default, the parties shall agree to such modification and, by 11 amendment to this ordinance, incorporate it as a part of this Agreement.

12 Section 4. Uniti and the City certify that each has had the opportunity to have this agreement reviewed 13 by respective counsel for their choice prior to execution, and that no term or provision of this Agreement 14 shall be interpreted against any party based upon how the Agreement was drafted, or by whom it was 15 drafted.

16 Section 5. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or 17 word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or 18 adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and 19 effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the 20 resolution.

21 Section 6. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with 22 the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

23 Section 7. Emergency Clause. The ability to quickly and appropriately provide corporate citizens, 24 and residential citizens, the opportunity to use competitive Fiber Option Telecommunication and Cable 25 Services, especially since the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, has already granted a Franchise to Uniti 26 in North Little Rock, Ark., Resolution No. 10,182 (December 27, 2021), and North Little Rock, Ark., 27 Ordinance No. 9,418 (December 27, 2021), is essential to the public health, safety and welfare; an 28 emergency is, therefore, declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after 29 the date of its passage. 30 PASSED: March 1, 2022 **APPROVED:** 

- 31 **ATTEST:**
- 32
- 33
- 34 Susan Langley, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

1	APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:
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5	Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney
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