NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF ARCADIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 9, 2015
Release: Immediately
Contact: Roger Hiles, Library Services Manager

Twenty Times Faster Internet Access at the Arcadia Public Library!

Arcadia CA – November 9, 2015—High-speed Internet access is now available at the Arcadia Public Library. Users of the Library's 65 public computers can experience the Internet over a connection that is up to 20 times faster than before! The Library's free Wi-Fi service has also been greatly improved.

Director of Library and Museum Services Mary Beth Hayes has stated, "We conducted a library community needs assessment earlier this year and our computer and Internet services were identified as second in importance only to access to books by respondents. We're excited to be able to offer this greatly improved Internet access to our patrons thanks to generous grant funding."

The new one gigabit-per-second broadband access comes thanks to the Library's participation in the California Public Library Broadband consortium, part of a state initiative to eventually connect all of California's 1,112 public libraries to the California Research and Education Network (CalREN) for high-speed Internet access. CalREN is provided by the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC), and also serves the University of California, the California State University system, California Community Colleges, the California K-12 system, and some private universities.

Funding for the Library's improved connection comes from the Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Program for Schools and Libraries, the California Public Utilities Commission's Teleconnect Fund, and the California State Library.

A recent study by the Pew Research Center found that 26% of all Americans depend on libraries for Internet access. These users connect to do research for school or work (66%), obtain information about health and wellness (47%), and apply for jobs (36%).

The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia. The Library is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

About the City of Arcadia
Nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, Arcadia is an 11.38 square mile community with a population of just over 56,000. Located approximately 20 miles east of downtown Los Angeles, Arcadia is a full-service charter city governed by a five-member City Council, elected at large. Recognized for exceptional education and recreation opportunities and beautiful neighborhoods, Arcadia is also defined as the "Community of Homes" and has twice been designated the "Best City in California in which to Raise Kids" by Business Week Magazine.

# # #