VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC Form 424B2 July 30, 2018

## Filed under Rule 424(b)(2), File No. 333-213439

Preliminary Pricing Supplement No. 40 Dated Monday, July 30, 2018 (To: Prospectus dated September 1, 2016 and Prospectus Supplement Dated: May 15, 2017)

Principal Amount	Selling Price	Gross Concession	Net Proceeds		Coupon Rate	Coupon Frequency	Maturity Date	1st Coupon Date	1st Coupon Amount	Survivor Option	] S ]
0	100.00 %	2.000 %	[]	Fixed	4.100 %	Semi-Annual	08/15/2030	2/15/2019	\$21.18	Yes	Senio
nformation:	Callable at	: 100% on 8/	'15/2020 ar	nd any tin	ne thereaft	er with 30 Cale	ndar Days N	lotice.			
[]	100.00 %	3.150 %	[]	Fixed	4.700 %	Semi-Annual	08/15/2048	2/15/2019	\$24.28	Yes	Senio
Informatio	on: Callabl	e at 100% o	on 8/15/202	3 and an	y time the	ereafter with 3	0 Calendar	Days Noti	ce.		
munications Way e, New Jers			Trade Dat Settle Date Minimum Initial trad DTC Num Joint Lead	e: Monda e: Thursd Denomin les settle aber 0235 I Manage ofA Merr	y, August lay, Augus nation/Incr flat and clo via RBC r and Lead	30, 2018 throug 6, 2018 @ 12:0 at 9, 2018 rements: \$1,000 ear SDFS: DTC Dain Rauscher d Agent: Incapit Citigroup, Mor	00 PM ET 0.00/\$1,000.0 2 Book Entry Inc al	Prospec 00 7 only	ctus dated Sej Su	ptember 1,	Verizon 2016 ai
			Except for Notes sold to level-fee accounts, Notes offered to the public will be of public offering price set forth in this Pricing Supplement. Agents purchasing Not agency basis for non-level fee client accounts shall purchase Notes at the public price. Notes purchased by the Agents for their own account may be purchased a offering price less the applicable concession. Notes purchased by the Agents on level-fee accounts may be sold to such accounts at the applicable concession to offering price, in which case, such Agents will not retain any portion of the sale compensation.							es on an offering the public behalf of he public	e

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If the maturity date or an interest payment date for any note is not a business day (as defined in the prospectus supplement), principal, premium, if any, and interest for that note is paid on the next business day, and no interest will accrue from, and after, the maturity date or interest payment date.

The Verizon InterNotes<sup>®</sup> will be represented by a Master Note in fully registered form, without coupons. The Master Note will be deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC and registered in the name of a nominee of DTC, as depository, or another depository as may be named in a subsequent pricing supplement.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On July 24, 2018, we issued our unaudited preliminary results for the second quarter 2018 and the six months ended June 30, 2018. For the second quarter 2018, we reported net income attributable to Verizon of \$4.1 billion, or \$1.00 per diluted common share, compared with \$4.4 billion, or \$1.07 per diluted common share, for the second quarter 2017. Our second quarter 2018 reported earnings reflect the net impacts arising from tax reform, accounting changes for revenue recognition and special items pertaining to product realignment charges, severance charges, and acquisition and integration related charges. For the six months ended June 30, 2018, we reported net income attributable to Verizon of \$8.7 billion, or \$2.10 per diluted common share, compared with \$7.8 billion, or \$1.91 per diluted common share, for the six months ended June 30, 2017.

During the second quarter 2018, consolidated operating revenues were \$32.2 billion, an increase of 5.4% compared to \$30.5 billion for the corresponding period in 2017. Consolidated operating revenues for the six months ended June 30, 2018, were \$64.0 billion, an increase of 6.0% compared to \$60.4 billion for the corresponding period in 2017.

Total operating expenses were \$25.6 billion in the second quarter 2018, an increase of 13.5% from \$22.5 billion in the corresponding period in 2017. Total operating expenses for the six months ended June 30, 2018, were \$50.0 billion, an increase of 10.2% compared to \$45.4 billion for the corresponding period in 2017.

Total operating revenues from our Wireless segment were \$22.4 billion in the second quarter 2018 and \$44.3 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, an increase of 5.5% and 5.2%, respectively, compared to the corresponding periods in 2017. Wireless total operating expenses were \$14.2 billion for the second quarter 2018 and \$28.0 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, an increase of 2.2% and 1.3%, respectively, compared to

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the corresponding periods in 2017. Total operating revenues from our Wireline segment were \$7.5 billion in the second quarter 2018 and \$15.0 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, a decrease of 3.4% and 2.5%, respectively, compared to the corresponding periods in 2017. Wireline total operating expenses were \$7.5 billion for the second quarter 2018 and \$15.0 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, a decrease of 2.5% and 1.2%, respectively, from the corresponding periods in 2017.

Cash flows from operating activities were \$16.4 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, compared with \$9.3 billion for the corresponding period in 2017. For the six months ended June 30, 2018, net cash used in investing activities was \$8.7 billion, including \$7.8 billion in capital expenditures, compared with \$9.3 billion of net cash used in investing activities for the corresponding period in 2017. Net cash used in financing activities was \$7.9 billion for the six months ended June 30, 2018, compared with \$1.9 billion of net cash provided by financing activities for the corresponding period in 2017. Our total debt decreased by \$2.5 billion from December 31, 2017 to \$114.6 billion at June 30, 2018.