



DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Harash (Sonny) Segal
Chief Information Officer

MINUTES OF TFCG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications Corporation (CTC)

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on March 2, 2016. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Marjorie Williams		DTS
Ted Bowser		DTS
Gregory Russ		M-NCPPC
Dave Niblock		DPS
Dennis Hetman	(via phone)	OMB
Thomas Williamson	(via phone)	DGS
Martin Rookard	(via phone)	WSSC
Boyd Lawrence	(via phone)	MCPS

STAFF

Nancy Rodriguez		CTC
Lee Afflerbach		CTC
Bob Hunnicutt	(via phone)	CTC

OTHER ATTENDEES

Charles Salamone		NB&C
Bryan Cline		Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.
Shari Saslaw	(via phone)	SCE, LLC
Heather Rubinstein	(via phone)	SCE, LLC

Action Item: Meeting Minutes

Dave Niblock asked that the minutes be revised to reflect that he was in attendance at the February meeting.

Motion: Mr. Niblock moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: Consent Agenda

1. Verizon Wireless application to attach six panel antennas at the 120' level on a 247'-high AM radio tower on M-NCPPC property located at 9701 Sligo Creek Parkway in Silver Spring (201509-09). *Co-location.*
Conditioned on the applicant providing written approval from M-NCPPC that M-NCPPC approves the attachment at the time of permitting
2. Verizon Wireless application to remove 12 antennas and replace with nine panel antennas at the 138' level on a 150'-high monopole on Bethesda Country Club property located at 7601 Bradley Boulevard in Bethesda (201602-04). *Minor Modification.*
3. Verizon Wireless application to remove nine antennas and replace with nine panel antennas at the 121' level on a 126'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at Falls Farm Drive in Potomac (201603-02). *Minor Modification.*
4. Verizon Wireless application to remove three antennas and replace with three panel antennas at the 135' level on a 200'-high lattice tower on Carver Wheaton Real Property LC property located at 2647 University Boulevard in Wheaton (201603-03). *Minor Modification.*
5. Verizon Wireless application to remove nine antennas and replace with nine panel antennas at the 123' level on a 128'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at 9712 Aldersgate Road in Potomac (201603-04). *Minor Modification.*
6. Verizon Wireless application to remove nine antennas and replace with nine panel antennas at the 113' level on a 118'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at Travilah and Dufief Mill roads in Gaithersburg (201603-05). *Minor Modification.*
7. Verizon Wireless application to remove three antennas and replace with three panel antennas at the 142' level on a 142'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at 11500 Game Preserve Road in Gaithersburg (201603-06). *Minor Modification.*
8. AT&T application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 75' level on an 88'-high bell tower on St. Patrick's Church property located at 4101 Norbeck Road in Rockville (201603-07). *Minor Modification.*

9. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 90' and 91' levels atop a 78'-high building on Wheaton Plaza Regional Shopping Center property located at 11160 Veirs Mill Road in Wheaton (201603-08). *Minor Modification.*
10. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 100' level on a 250'-high lattice tower on Easterday Properties LLC property located at 9265 Brown Church Road in Mt. Airy (201603-09). *Minor Modification.*
11. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 55' level on a 63'-high silo on H. Steven Steinberg property located at 15021 Dufief Mill Road in Gaithersburg (201604-01). *Minor Modification.*

Motion: Mr. Rookard moved that all items on the Consent Agenda be recommended. Mr. Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: Regular Agenda

12. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 33'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna at the 31' level atop the pole on Montgomery County Government property located at Rolling Green Way at Lake Breeze Drive in Potomac (201601-10). *New.*
Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna

Discussion: Nancy Rodriguez stated that this and the next nine applications are all part a second set of applications filed to further deploy antennas as part of Crown Castle's development of a distributed antenna system (DAS) to add capacity to Verizon Wireless coverage in the north Potomac and Germantown area. She noted that the initial build of this DAS included antennas atop replacement PEPCO poles reviewed and recommended by the TFCG in December as co-locations on existing structures. This current set of applications involves all new poles, each to be treated as a New Tower application. Among these 10 applications (Agenda Items #12 through 21, inclusive) there are three different types of new structures to be installed, as follows:

- Install two new wooden poles between existing PEPCO poles;
- Install four 33'-high metal poles with antennas attached to the top of the pole and equipment located inside the pole, and;
- Install four 30'-high metal poles with equipment inside a cabinet to be attached to a wooded post installed at the base of the pole.

Ms. Rodriguez noted that Verizon Wireless stated that the antennas are needed to add capacity in the 2.1 GHz band to support 4G services, frequencies not presently serving the area to be

covered by the DAS. Because each application is a New Tower application, each will require approval by the Hearing Examiner.

Marjorie Williams stated that the new poles will be placed in residential neighborhoods where existing utilities are underground and there are no poles. She said that she has already received numerous phone calls and e-mails from residents objecting to the poles. She added that she has discussed the applications with the Hearing Examiner and zoning officials to verify how the applications will be processed and that they comply with applicable zoning regulations, but that she was unable to obtain confirmation of same prior to today's meeting. Consequently, she suggests that the Tower Coordinator's recommended conditions for the applications include wording that they should also comply with applicable zoning, leaving final determination to the Hearing Examiner and Permitting review process.

Boyd Lawrence asked if the equipment would be similar to that which is typically installed at a monopole. Charles Salamone replied that equipment on the ground will be in metal cabinets, approximately 4' x 4'. Bob Hunnicutt added that some equipment will be located in those cabinets but for other sites, it will be contained inside the new pole or, for the two new wooden poles, equipment will be in a cabinet attached to the pole at the 10' level above ground.

Thomas Williamson noted that he had seen similar poles constructed on Hunter Mill Road in Virginia.

Gregory Russ asked where the antennas will be placed on the poles. Mr. Salamone said in most cases the antennas will be installed at the top of the pole. Mr. Russ said he recalls that there is a minimum height limit for antenna attachments in residential neighborhoods. Mr. Niblock added that if the poles are located in the public right-of-way, there will be no setback issue if the poles are PEPCO distribution line poles, which Permitting will determine when they review the applications. If they are not found to be PEPCO poles, then they will be reviewed like a new tower.

Ms. Williams expressed her interest in acting on the applications today per the TFCG review requirements, which do not include a final zoning determination, so the applicants can move forward to the appropriate zoning and hearing review process. Mr. Niblock stated an interest in obtaining official guidance on how to proceed with these types of applications. Ms. Williams agreed and added that Crown Castle and Verizon Wireless may need to discuss the DAS project with a broader group of the County to explain the nature of DAS and the need for these facilities.

Lee Afflerbach stated that the RF maps provided by the Verizon Wireless show a need for these DAS access points if Verizon Wireless is to utilize the 2.1 GHz band to add this capacity needed to provide its 4G services to these areas. He also noted that the DAS access points can provide coverage to this area in lieu of monopoles.

Ms. Williams asked for a motion to recommend Agenda Items #12 through 21 as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator and adding wording that they must comply with applicable zoning to be determined.

13. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 33'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 31' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 11626 Green Watch Way in Potomac (201601-11). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna*
14. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 48'-high wooden pole and attach three 24"-high panel antennas at the 47' level on Montgomery County Government property located at Dufief Mill Road at Lake Winds Way in Potomac (201601-12). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antennas*
15. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 30'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 28' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 10322 Nolan Drive in North Potomac (201601-13). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna*
16. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 30'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 28' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 14405 Lake Winds Way in Potomac (201601-14). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna*
17. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 57'-high wooden pole and attach three 24"-high panel antennas at the 47' level on Montgomery County Government property located at Dufief Mill Road at Flints Grove Lane in Potomac (201601-15). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna*
18. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 33'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 31' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 14201 Masterpiece Lane in Potomac (201601-16). *New. Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna*

19. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 30'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 28' level on Montgomery County Government property located at Lake Winds Way at Outpost Drive in Potomac (201601-17). *New.*

Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna

20. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 33'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 31' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 14800 Rolling Green Way in Potomac (201601-18). *New.*

Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antenna

21. Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless application to install a 30'-high steel pole and attach a 48"-high omni-directional antenna atop the pole at the 28' level on Montgomery County Government property located at 13548 Wisteria Drive in Germantown (201601-19). *New.*

Conditioned on any approval needed from the Hearing Examiner for a Conditional Use of this property for the new pole and antennas or as required by applicable zoning

Motion: Mr. Rookard moved Agenda Items #12 through 21 be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator and also with a requirement that they meet applicable zoning requirements. Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion and it was approved with Mr. Niblock and Mr. Russ abstaining.

22. Crown Castle for T-Mobile application to install additional equipment inside an existing equipment cabinet at the 10' level on a 48'-high wooden pole on Montgomery County Government property located at Dufief Mill Road at Lake Winds Way in Potomac (201601-20). *Co-location.*

Conditioned on construction of the new pole and equipment cabinet

Discussion: Nancy Rodriguez stated that this and the next three applications on the Regular Agenda are similar in that each is a T-Mobile application to add equipment that will enable it to transmit from the same antennas on the new poles to be installed by Crown Castle for Verizon Wireless. She noted that the antennas will be shared with Verizon Wireless and that the T-Mobile equipment will be added to the existing equipment cabinet on the pole once constructed. The Tower Coordinator recommends these four applications conditioned on approval and installation of the Crown Castle facilities.

23. Crown Castle for T-Mobile application to install additional equipment inside an existing equipment cabinet at the 10' level on a 48'-high wooden pole on Montgomery County Government property located at Dufief Mill Road at Flints Grove Lane in Potomac (201601-21). *Co-location.*

Conditioned on construction of the new pole and equipment cabinet

24. Crown Castle for T-Mobile application to install additional equipment inside an existing equipment cabinet at the base of a 30'-high steel pole on Montgomery County Government property located at 14405 Lake Winds Way in Potomac (201601-22). *Co-location.*

Conditioned on construction of the new pole and equipment cabinet

25. Crown Castle for T-Mobile application to install additional equipment inside an existing equipment cabinet at the base of a 30'-high steel pole on Montgomery County Government property located at 10322 Nolan Drive in North Potomac (201601-23). *Co-location.*

Conditioned on construction of the new pole and equipment cabinet

Motion: Martin Rookard moved Agenda Items #22 through 25 be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Mr. Williamson seconded the motion and it was approved with Mr. Niblock and Mr. Russ abstaining.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TFCG will be held on April 6, 2016 in Room #225 of the COB.