



## 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

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on November 06, 2013. The following people were in attendance:

#### **MEMBERS**

Marjorie Williams	(via phone)	DTS
Dave Niblock		DPS
Bernie Fitzgerald		DGS
Ivan Galic		DTS
Samantha Harris	(via phone)	MCPS
Martin Rookard	(via phone)	WSSC
Carlton Gilbert	(via phone)	M-NCPPC
Joan Cole	(via phone)	DTS

#### **STAFF**

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

#### **OTHER ATTENDEES**

Michelle Grace	M-NCPPC
Harold Bernadzikowski	NB&C for Verizon Wireless
Ben Pelletier	NB&C for Verizon Wireless
Diane De Laet	SCEENG for Verizon Wireless
Timothy Dwyer	NB&C for Verizon Wireless

#### **Action Item – Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Bernie Fitzgerald moved the minutes be approved. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **Action Item: Consent Agenda**

1. T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 120' level on a 150'-high monopole on Pyle property located at 211 Ednor Road in Silver Spring (201311-04). *Minor Modification.*
2. T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 144' level on a 188'-high monopole on McDonnell property located at 20315 Georgia Avenue in Brookeville (201311-06). *Minor Modification.*
3. T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 120' level on a 480'-high guyed lattice tower on Shumaker property located at 16700 Barnesville Road in Barnesville (201311-08). *Minor Modification.*
4. T-Mobile application to replace three antennas with three 56"-high panel antennas at the 127' level on a 140'-high monopole on Lloyd property located at 21410 Beallsville Road in Dickerson (201311-09). *Minor Modification.*
5. Verizon Wireless application to add three 49"-high panel antennas at the 150' and 175' levels atop a 145'-high residential condominium building on Street Retail, Inc. property located at 9039 Sligo Creek Parkway in Silver Spring (201311-10). *Minor Modification.*
6. T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 173' level on a 140'-high monopole on Jane C. Maller, Trustee property located at 4301 Brookeville Road in Brookeville (201311-12). *Minor Modification.*

**Motion:** Marjorie Williams moved the Consent Agenda items be approved. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **Regular Agenda**

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to construct a 195'-high monopole and attach 12 panel antennas, six 96"-high and six 64"-high, at the 199' level on M-NCPPC property located at Blunt Road and Brink Road in Germantown (201310-01). New.

*Conditioned on the monopole being no higher than 155' tall, approval of a Special Exception by the Board of Appeals, and approval of final plans and a lease agreement by M-NCPPC.*

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that Montgomery County zoning regulations permit a monopole up to 155' unless it can be demonstrated that a 195' monopole is needed. Lee Afflerbach stated that, based on the engineering documentation that Verizon Wireless provided, there is no material difference in coverage between antennas at the 155' level and the 199' level. Mr. Hunnicutt added that when the applicant was questioned about that, the applicant agreed—and, further, that the Verizon Wireless engineer stated in their reply that the height above 155' was only for co-location purposes. Mr. Hunnicutt added that at the 155' level there is adequate

space below the Verizon Wireless antennas for at least two additional carriers' antennas. Consequently, the Tower Coordinator does not recommend a monopole any higher than the 155' level. Additionally, the Tower Coordinator Recommendation is conditioned on approval of Special Exception by the Board of Appeals and approval of the final plans and lease agreement by M-NCPPC.

Carlton Gilbert asked if Verizon Wireless had reviewed the application with any of the M-NCPPC planners for Area 3, noting that there is historical property near the site and that there would need to be support from the M-NCPPC staff for a monopole exceeding the 155' height. The applicant agreed to talk with the Area #3 planners.

**Motion:** Martin Rookard moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Marjorie Williams seconded the motion and it was approved with Carlton Gilbert abstaining.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to construct a 130'-high monopole and attach 12 panel antennas, six 95"-high, three 91"-high, and three 69"-high, at the 126' level on M-NCPPC property located at 4425 Garrett Park Road in Garrett Park (201310-03). *New.*

*Conditioned on approval of a Special Exception and a waiver from the setback requirements by the Board of Appeals, the operation of the generator within the noise limits established in the County's Noise Ordinance, and on approval of the final plans and a lease agreement by the M-NCPPC.*

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application explaining that the monopole will be on M-NCPPC property in a wooded section of the park area. The carrier originally wanted to go on the other side of Garrett Park Road near the athletic field and parking lot area, but M-NCPPC asked them to relocate the site to where there is an underutilized basketball court area. He added that based on the site visit when the trees were in full foliage, the site appears to be screened from view from most directions, except for the residents that live directly across the street from the proposed site. Mr. Hunnicutt added that based on the RF maps it appears that although there is a smaller area covered at the target signal levels with antennas lower than proposed, Verizon Wireless may be able to meet the majority of the coverage objective from antennas lower than proposed to minimize the community impact.

Marty Liebman commented that if the monopole were 110'-high it would be better screened from view when the trees are in full foliage. He added that the illustration in the Tower Coordinator's Recommendation Form shows the monopole slightly higher than it may appear once constructed.

Mr. Hunnicutt noted that the setback requirement from the nearest off-site dwelling and the property line is not met with the monopole located where it is proposed to be constructed. Harold Bernadzikowski said Verizon Wireless will request a waiver when they file for the special exception. Thus, the Tower Coordinator's recommendation is conditioned on the Board of Appeals' approval of a waiver from the setback requirements. Additionally, because there will be a power generator on-site, the Tower Coordinator's recommendation is also conditioned on

the generator operating within the County's noise ordinance and approval of final plans and lease agreement by Park and Planning.

Carlton Gilbert asked if the Town of Garret Park had been notified of the proposed monopole. Mr. Hunnicutt replied that he had asked the applicant the same question and was told that public notice would occur with the special exception process. Harold Bernadzikowski added that the M-NCPPC required that there be a public meeting as well. Michelle Grace indicated that that is correct.

**Motion:** Bernie Fitzgerald moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with Carlton Gilbert abstaining.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 panel antennas, six 52"-high, two 58"-high, and four 73"-high, at the 120' level on a 135'-high monopole on International Monetary Fund property located at 15700 River Road in Germantown (201310-11). *Co-location. Conditioned on the generator operating in compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance.*

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Bernie Fitzgerald seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach two 12"-high panel antennas at the 35' level on the walls of an 82'-high parking garage on Montgomery County located at 801 Ellsworth Drive in Silver Spring (201310-12). *Co-location. Conditioned on the applicant providing written notice from the Department of Transportation (DOT) at the time of permitting that DOT has approved the plans for this attachment.*

Because the antennas are to be attached to a County-owned parking garage, on advice of Bernie Fitzgerald the Tower Coordinator's recommendation is conditioned on approval of the final design plans by the County Department of Transportation.

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Marjorie Williams seconded the motion and it was approved with Bernie Fitzgerald abstaining.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 panel antennas, six 96"-high and six 69"-high, at the 140' level on a 192'-high monopole on Lynwood Farm East, LLC property located at 25217 Peach Tree Road in Clarksburg (201311-01). *Co-location. Conditioned on the generator operating in compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance and on any modification that may be needed to the Special Exception approved by the Board of Appeals.*

**Motion:** Joan Cole moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 panel antennas, six 96"-high and six 69"-high, at the 115' level on a 128'-high monopole on Argyle Country Club property located at 14600 Argyle Club Road in Silver Spring (201311-02). *Co-location.*

*Conditioned on the generator operating in compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance and Verizon Wireless notifying the Board of Appeals of the change in the name of the property owner and the holder of the Special Exception.*

**Motion:** Bernie Fitzgerald moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach six 73"-high panel antennas at the 170' level on a 198'-high monopole on Rudel Beall & Sons, Inc. property located at 13201 Lewisdale Road in Clarksburg (201311-03). *Co-location.*

*Conditioned on the generator operating in compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance, on the antennas being flush-mounted to the monopole per the Special Exception (S-2495), or on any modifications that may be required to be made to the Special Exception to permit the proposed type of antenna attachment.*

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that the monopole is permitted by a special exception conditioned on the attachment of flush-mounted antennas –but the design for these antennas are not flush mounted—so the Tower Coordinator's recommendation is conditioned on the Board of Appeals approving the proposed attachment.

Tim Dwyer commented that the proposed attachment is no different from the antennas that are already on the monopole.

Dave Niblock noted that it will be up to the Board of Appeals to decide if the antenna attachment is within the conditions listed in the approval of the special exception and the applicant will need to provide documentation of same at the time of permitting.

**Motion:** Bernie Fitzgerald moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Marjorie Williams seconded the motion and it was approved with Carlton Gilbert abstaining.

**Action Item:** T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 170' level on a 165'-high monopole on Andrew P. Austin & Elizabeth Thornton property located at 18743 New Hampshire Avenue in Brinklow (201311-05). *Minor Modification.*

*Conditioned on the applicant notifying the Board of Appeals of the change in the name of the property owner and the holder of the Special Exception.*

**Motion:** Marjorie Williams moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** T-Mobile application to replace six antennas with six 56"-high panel antennas at the 80' level on a 125'-high monopole on Ruppert Family 2012 Trust property located at the corner of Hawkins Creamery Road & Laytonsville Road in Gaithersburg (201311-07). *Minor Modification.*

*Conditioned on the applicant notifying the Board of Appeals of the change in the name of the property owner and the holder of the Special Exception.*

**Motion:** Marjorie Williams moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 panel antennas, four 48"-high, two 49"-high, two 47"-high, and four 71"-high, at the 75' and 80' levels atop a 65'-high residential condominium building on Street Retail, Inc. property located at 7255 Woodmont Avenue in Bethesda (201311-11). *Co-location.*

*Conditioned on the generator operating in compliance with the County's Noise Ordinance.*

**Motion:** Martin Rookard moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Bernie Fitzgerald seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TFCG will be held on December 4th in Room #225 of the COB.