

From: Roger Stancil
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 6:33 PM
To: Allen Buansi; Donna Bell; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Town Council; Michael Parker; Nancy Oates; Pam Hemminger; Rachel Schaevitz; Roger Stancil; Ross Tompkins
Cc: Loryn Clark; Ben Hitchings; Amy Harvey; Beth Vazquez; Carolyn Worsley; Catherine Lazorko; Christina Strauch; Dwight Bassett; Flo Miller; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Rae Buckley; Ralph Karpinos; Ran Northam; Roger Stancil; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: Council Questions: Item 1: Wireless Communications Initiative

Council Question: How does the town make money from the WCFs, other than through permitting fees?

Staff Response: *There is potential for lease arrangements with wireless providers, where facilities are located on Town land. However, many new facilities will likely go in rights-of-way, where there is no lease income potential.*

Council Question: Does the town receive revenue from WCFs that are not installed on town-owned property?

Staff Response: *No*

Council Question: How much revenue to the town do you anticipate coming in from WCFs?

Staff Response: *That would be nearly impossible to project and unless there are many new facilities approved on Town property and corresponding lease agreements, that figure is likely to be small. As noted above, much of the new WCF activity will likely be in public rights-of-way.*

Council Question: Are there any provisions to limit how many WCFs can be installed on a pole or building? The pictures look benign, but wireless communication is expanding at such a rapid pace, I can see the poles/buildings getting overloaded with new devices. I've seen examples of that in my travels.

Staff Response: *There is significant flexibility in the number of facilities that can be placed on top of buildings (i.e. "base stations"). However, there is limited equipment that can be placed on individual small cell poles in public rights-of-way. The large clusters of equipment that you will typically see are on the large-scale "macro-towers." We have contracted with CityScape Consultants to review proposed new facilities to make sure they are properly engineered and meet the Town's ordinance requirements.*

Council Question: Does the FCC already measure the radio frequency of WCFs with some degree of regularity? How often?

Staff Response: *The FCC rates new equipment when it is produced and these data are provided to the Town with applications. In addition, a technical review is performed by the Town's wireless consultant, CityScape. This review is repeated each time a provider upgrades equipment as well. The FCC sets emission parameters that manufacturers must follow and the Town's consultant, CityScape, requires applicants to certify they meet FCC requirements.*

Council Question: Regarding the CDC's recommendation, what are the downsides to making the reservation of roof space for locating WCFs a requirement?

Staff Response: *The key downside is that we believe that the Town cannot regulate such lease-based activity between property owners and wireless providers. As noted in the staff memorandum, there is a strong market for roof-top leases for WCFs that are typically of benefit to both parties. We believe the Planning Commission made an assumption that Town-regulated set-asides of rooftops would promote roof-top WCFs. These decisions are made by wireless providers for technical and financial reasons. If providers do not locate on a roof, it is because it likely isn't technically the ideal place to locate a WCF, or they cannot negotiate acceptable lease terms.*

Council Question: Do public safety considerations for locations of base stations and towers include possible health impacts?

Staff Response: *No. Possible hazards from Radio Frequency signals generated by WCFs are only significant when in immediate proximity to the equipment. For this reason, with rooftop facilities warning signs are placed around the equipment for workers who may be near them for other purposes, such as repairing HVAC equipment. The equipment is otherwise not close enough to people to cause any harm.*

Council Question: Do the towers that are marked as “Outside Study Area” on p. 81 of the meeting packet mean outside of Chapel Hill?

Staff Response: *Yes. This means outside Chapel Hill’s zoning jurisdiction, but still close enough to provide service capability inside the Town’s jurisdiction and therefore useful to include on the inventory map.*