



**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 April 1, 2015. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Marjorie Williams		DTS
Thomas Williamson		DGS
Dave Niblock		DPS
Peter Geiling	(via phone)	MCPS
Carlton Gilbert	(via phone)	M-NCPPC
Naeem Mia	(via phone)	OMB

STAFF

Nancy Rodriguez		CTC
Bob Hunnicutt	(via phone)	CTC

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rebecca Hunter	(via phone)	Crown Castle
Joshua Schakola	(via phone)	SCE, Inc. for Verizon Wireless
Hillorie Morrison	(via phone)	SCE, Inc. for Verizon Wireless
Jacob Epstein	(via phone)	SCE, Inc. for Verizon Wireless
Shari Saslow	(via phone)	SCE, Inc. for Verizon Wireless

**Action Item: Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Peter Geiling moved that the minutes be approved as written. Thomas Williamson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item: Consent Agenda**

1. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 142' level on a 172'-high monopole on Michael A. Grodin property located at 15710 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring (201503-06). *Minor Modification.*
2. AT&T application to replace three panel antennas at the 146' level on a 148'-high monopole on PEPCO property located at 11405 Georgetowne Drive in Potomac (201504-01). *Minor Modification.*
3. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas to the existing six antennas at the 150' level atop a 150'-high monopole on A.I. Glenview LLC property located at 49 Randolph Road in Colesville (201504-02). *Minor Modification.*
4. AT&T application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 150' level on a 224'-high lattice tower on Rockville Chapter Izaak Walton League property located at 18301 Waring Station Road in Germantown (201504-03). *Minor Modification.*
5. AT&T application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 98' level atop a 73'-high apartment building on Wayne Manchester LLP property located at 75 Wayne Avenue East in Silver Spring (201504-04). *Minor Modification.*
6. T-Mobile application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 129' level on a 150'-high monopole on Rockville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. property located at 11430 Falls Road in Potomac (201504-05). *Minor Modification.*
7. Verizon Wireless application to replace two antennas with two panel antennas at the 112' level on a 105'-high residential condominium building on Piney Towers Condominium Inc. property located at 8830 Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring (201504-07). *Minor Modification.*
8. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 90' level on a 141'-high monopole on River Road Dev Inc. property located at 14100 River Road in Potomac (201504-09). *Minor Modification.*
9. Verizon Wireless application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 237' level on a 266'-high office building on United States Government property located at 11555 Rockville Pike in Rockville (201504-11). *Minor Modification.*
10. Verizon Wireless application to replace nine antennas with nine panel antennas at the 44' level atop a 39'-high office building on 10000 Falls Road LLC property located at 10000 Falls Road in Potomac (201504-12). *Minor Modification.*

11. Verizon Wireless application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 150' level atop a 145'-high residential condominium building on Parkside Plaza Condominium Inc. property located at 9039 Sligo Creek Parkway in Silver Spring (201504-13). *Minor Modification.*
12. AT&T application to replace nine antennas with nine panel antennas at the 123' level on a 275'-high lattice tower on Carver Wheaton Property LLC property located at 2647 University Boulevard in Wheaton (201504-14). *Minor Modification.*
13. AT&T application to replace six antennas with six panel antennas at the 138' level on a 147'-high office building on 4600 Association LTD Partnership property located at 4600 East-West Highway in Bethesda (201504-15). *Minor Modification.*
14. AT&T application to replace six antennas with six panel antennas at the 151' level on a 130'-high office building on Grady Properties property located at 8630 Fenton Street in Silver Spring (201504-16). *Minor Modification.*
15. AT&T application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 210' level on a 202'-high apartment building on Old Columbia Pike Ltd Partnership property located at 11700 Old Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (201504-17). *Minor Modification.*
16. AT&T application to replace six antennas with six panel antennas at the 107' level on an 115'-high apartment building on Takoma Tower LP property located at 7051 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park (201504-21). *Minor Modification.*
17. AT&T application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 128' level on a 195'-high monopole on Gate of Heaven Cemetery property located at 13801 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring (201504-22). *Minor Modification.*
18. Verizon Wireless application to replace one antenna with one panel antenna at the 125' level on a 115'-high apartment building on Takoma Tower LP property located at 7051 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park (201504-23). *Minor Modification.*
19. T-Mobile application to add three panel antennas at the 67' level' on a 120'-high monopole on Baptist Home for Children property located at 6301 Greentree Road in Bethesda (201504-24). *Minor Modification.*
20. AT&T application to attach six panel antennas at the 98' level on a 102'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at Potomac Crest Drive in Potomac (201504-25). *Co-location.*
21. Verizon Wireless application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 139' level on a 140'-high monopole on MDOT – State Highway Administration property located at I-270 & Montrose Road in Rockville (201504-26). *Minor Modification.*

22. Verizon Wireless application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 160' level on a 232'-high lattice tower on Montgomery MVLE LLC property located at 23000 Whites Ferry Road in Dickerson (201504-27). *Minor Modification.*
23. Sprint application to add one microwave dish antenna at the 129' level atop a 110'-high apartment building on Renaissance Plaza LLC property located at 14000 Castle Boulevard in Silver Spring (201504-28). *Minor Modification.*
24. Crown Castle application to replace the equipment cabinet at the 14' level on 25 PEPCO, Verizon, or CCI utility poles in public rights-of-way on Montgomery County and State of Maryland property. See site spreadsheet. (201504-29). *Minor Modification.*

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved that all items on the Consent Agenda be recommended. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **Regular Agenda**

1. Verizon Wireless application to attach twelve panel antennas at the 159' level on a 10' extension atop a 150'-high monopole on Wildlife Achievement Club property at 26430 Mullinix Mill Road in Mount Airy (201410-10). *Co-location.*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that Verizon Wireless seeks to attach twelve panel antennas to a 10' extension on a 150'-high monopole. The monopole is located on the Wildlife Achievement Club property located just east of the club in a wooded area in Mount Airy.

T-Mobile received a recommendation in 2009 to construct the monopole. This site is approved by Special Exception (S-2780). An amendment to the Special Exception was adopted in June 2013 (S-570) that granted a 1-year extension to T-Mobile to construct the monopole. The Special Exception included two provisions that are particularly relevant to this application: First, the facility must not go unused for more than 12 months. Second, the owner must notify the Board of Appeals within 10 days of a change in ownership.

A site visit was conducted in December 2014, and as illustrated in the photo included in the recommendation form, the monopole has been constructed and a platform has been added at the top of the monopole, but T-Mobile does not have any antennas attached. There is also no equipment on the ground at this site. Further, the sign on the equipment area shows that the monopole is now owned by American Tower.

Based on the site visit it appears that this monopole is in violation of the Special Exception because the facility has not been in use by any telecommunications carrier for more than 12 months (i.e., T-Mobile did not attach antennas after the monopole was built), and because the Board of Appeals was not updated within 10 days of the change in ownership.

Because the monopole is in violation of the Special Exception—and because there are no existing antennas on the monopole, and therefore no need for an extension to support Verizon's antennas—this application is not recommended.

Hillorie Morrison commented that she now represents the applicant for this application and asked that the application be tabled until American Tower resolves any issues regarding the applications. Sherri Saslow added that American Tower is actively seeking leases for this monopole. Both Ms. Saslow and Ms. Morrison agreed that American Tower needed to resolve the Special Exception issues before taking any further action regarding this monopole, and perhaps file a new application if needed for any attachments to this monopole.

Bob Hunnicutt noted that the FCC's new rules regarding the timeline for action on an application take effect on April 8<sup>th</sup>; he suggested it may be appropriate, considering the new rules, for the TFCG to act on this application today rather than tabling it because it may take considerable time, beyond the FCC's limits, to resolve this application.

**Motion:** Dave Niblock moved that the application be not recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Thomas Williamson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

2. Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 panel antennas at the 161' level on a 150'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at 5200 Olney-Laytonsville Road in Olney (201412-12). *Co-location.*  
*Conditioned on landscaping the equipment area per Section 3.5.14 (C)(2)(c)iii of the Zoning Code*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that Verizon Wireless is attaching twelve panel antennas on PEPCO transmission line tower #674-E located in Olney. Verizon Wireless will be joining T-Mobile on this tower. Ms. Rodriguez noted that Verizon Wireless received a recommendation from the TFCG in 2012 to co-locate on this tower but for some reason never attached their antennas. Montgomery County zoning regulations requires landscaping around the equipment area. The plans submitted with the application do not show the required landscaping so we recommend the application conditioned on landscaping the equipment area per the zoning code.

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

3. Verizon Wireless application to reposition existing antennas at the 125' level on a 215'-high water tank on WSSC property located at 2201 Industrial Parkway in Silver Spring (201504-06). *Minor Modification.*  
*Conditioned on the applicant providing written approval of the attachment from the WSSC at time of permitting*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that WSSC has not yet approved this modification. Consequently, the recommendation is conditioned on their approval.

**Motion:** Thomas Williamson moved that the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

4. Verizon Wireless application to replace three antennas with three panel antennas at the 111' level on a 105'-high water tank on WSSC property located at 1945 Seminary Place in Silver Spring (201504-08). *Minor Modification.*  
*Conditioned on the applicant providing written approval of the attachment from the WSSC at time of permitting*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that WSSC has not yet approved this modification. Consequently, the recommendation is conditioned on their approval.

**Motion:** Thomas Williamson moved that the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TFCG will be held on May 6, 2015 in Room #225 of the COB.