



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov

J-07

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: February 7, 2019

To: Troy City Council Members

From: Mark F. Miller, City Manager
Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
Kurt Bovensiep, Public Works Director

Subject: Rescheduling of Study Session March 4, 2019, 6pm- Telecommunication Towers on City of Troy Owned Property

History

In the interest to best serve the participants and residents of Troy, the Study Session scheduled on January 28, 2019, to discuss telecommunication towers on City of Troy owned property was canceled because of a winter storm.

Telecommunication companies that provide cellular voice and data are continuously improving their infrastructure to meet customer demands. The installation of cellular towers is part of the ongoing infrastructure improvements.

Finding property in Troy that is appropriately zoned and meets the demand of cellular phone users has become increasingly difficult to find. Free-standing cellular towers are prohibited in all residentially zoned property. Towers are permitted by Special Use Approval in most non-residentially zoned property including CF Community Facility. Many City parks are zoned CF Community Facility.

In 1997, the City entered into its first agreement to lease City owned property to host two cellular towers, Sylvan Glen Golf Course and Lowery Street. Since this lease agreement, other carriers have installed infrastructure on these towers in efforts to co-locate. There also have been additional lease agreements for mini towers on City owned street poles.

Recently, several telecommunication providers and third party infrastructure installers have approached City Administration to increase the number of cellular towers on City owned property and infrastructure. Recognizing the City does not have a current policy or procedure for the use of publicly owned land for these types of projects we have delayed discussions with these companies. In addition, City Administration recognizes that this was a contentious topic in the past and wants to ensure full transparency through this process.

Recommendation

City Administration recommends rescheduling a Study Session on March 4, 2019, at 6pm, to discuss the use of City of Troy owned property for telecommunication purposes. The Study Session will provide an opportunity to educate City Council on current zoning issues, current legislation, current technologies in use and forthcoming, current contracts and locations, and most recent proposals. The



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dialog will allow City of Troy Administration to develop a policy and procedure based on City Council's consensus, which would be presented at a future meeting.