

KNOXVILLE/KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION USE ON REVIEW REPORT

► FILE #: 1-M-14-UR	AGE	NDA ITEM #:	40	
POSTPONEMENT(S):	1/9/2014 AGE	NDA DATE:	2/13/2014	
APPLICANT:	AT&T WIRELESS			
OWNER(S):	AT&T			
TAX ID NUMBER:	62 163			
JURISDICTION:	County Commission District 8			
STREET ADDRESS:	120 Cash Rd			
► LOCATION:	East side of Cash Rd., north side of Asheville I	Hwy.		
APPX. SIZE OF TRACT:	19.9 acres			
SECTOR PLAN:	East County			
GROWTH POLICY PLAN:	Urban Growth Area			
ACCESSIBILITY:	Access is via Cash Rd., a local street with an 18' pavement width within a 40' right-of-way.			
UTILITIES:	Water Source: Knoxville Utilities Board			
	Sewer Source: Knoxville Utilities Board			
WATERSHED:	Holston and French Broad and Sinking East Creek	¢		
► ZONING:	A (Agricultural)			
EXISTING LAND USE:	Residence and vacant land			
PROPOSED USE:	230' lattice commercial telecommunications to	wer		
HISTORY OF ZONING:	None noted			
SURROUNDING LAND	North: Residences / A (Agricultural)			
USE AND ZONING:	South: Residences / A (Agricultural) & CA (General Business)			
	East: Residences and vacant land / A (Agricult	ural)		
	West: Residences / A (Agricultural)			
NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT:	The site is located in an area of agricultural and lo that has developed under A (Agricultural) zoning of Asheville Hwy. corridor.			

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

- APPROVE the request for a 230' lattice commercial telecommunications tower in the A (Agricultural) zoning district subject to 8 conditions.
 - 1. Meeting all applicable requirements of the Knox County Zoning Ordinance.
 - 2. Meeting the Utility Access Driveway standards and all other applicable requirements of the Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau.

3. Shifting the driveway access onto Cash Rd. to the south to provide a minimum of 300' of sight distance in both directions along Cash Rd.

- 4. Meeting all applicable requirements of the Knox County Department of Engineering and Public Works.
- 5. Designing the tower and equipment area to support up to 5 telecommunication carrier antenna arrays

AGENDA ITEM #:	40	FILE #: 1-M-14-UR	2/6/2014 11:31 AM	TOM BRECHKO	PAGE #:	40-1
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(presently designed for 4).

6. Installing the evergreen landscaping screen along the fenced enclosure, as identified on the tree planting plan, within six months of the tower becoming operational.

7. The tower lights shall be dual hazard warning lights (White strobe in daytime and red lights at night) and shall meet all applicable FAA requirements.

8. At the time of the request for a building permit, posting a bond or other approved financial surety that would ensure the removal of the tower if it is abandoned.

With the conditions noted above, this request meets all criteria for a use-on-review in the A zoning district.

COMMENTS:

This is a request for a new 230' lattice commercial telecommunications tower to be located within a 10,000 square foot lease area located on a portion of a 19.9 acre tract. The subject property is zoned A (Agricultural) and telecommunication towers are considered as a use on review in this district. Access to the site is by an easement off of Cash Rd., a local street. The driveway is required to meet the Utility Access Driveway standards of the Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau which requires a 16' wide paved access driveway.

The proposed tower is required to be located 253 feet (110% of the tower height) from the nearest residence. The proposed tower exceeds that minimum standard since the nearest residence, which is the residence of the property owner, is 419' from the proposed tower. The nearest residence off-site is approximately 512' from the tower. The applicant is proposing an 8' high security fence around the tower and equipment area. Due to the height of the tower, FAA does require lighting for the tower. Staff is recommending a condition that dual hazard warning lights (White strobe in daytime and red lights at night) be used.

The applicant states that there are no existing structures in the area that can be used for antenna placement to obtain the required 4G coverage. The applicant is proposing up to 4 telecommunication carrier antenna arrays on this tower. AT&T will be the principal client for the tower. A letter has been submitted stating that American Towers LLC agrees to make all of its facilities available to other wireless providers.

Attached to the staff report are several support documents, including a report from MPC's tower consultant, Mr. Larry E. Perry. Mr. Perry's report describes the proposal and highlights his findings. Mr. Perry recommends that the applicant design the tower to hold up to 5 sets of antenna arrays and feedlines. Mr. Perry concludes that the 230' lattice tower is technically justified by the materials submitted by the applicant (see attached report).

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, SURROUNDING PROPERTY AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE

1. The proposed development will have minimal impact on local services since utilities are available to serve this site.

2. The tower site, being located in an area made up of primarily large tracts, should have minimal impact on nearby residences.

CONFORMITY OF THE PROPOSAL TO CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE KNOXVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE

1. With the recommended conditions, the proposed commercial telecommunications tower at this location meets the standards required in the A (Agricultural) zoning district.

2. The proposed tower is consistent with the general standards for uses permitted on review: The proposed development is consistent with the adopted plans and policies of the General Plan, North County Sector Plan and Wireless Communications Facility Plan. The use is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Ordinance. Since this site is in a rural area, the use will not significantly injure the value of adjacent property. The use will not draw additional traffic through residential areas.

CONFORMITY OF THE PROPOSAL TO ADOPTED PLANS

1. The East County Sector Plan proposes low density residential uses on this property.

2. Under the guidelines for tower placement in the Wireless Communications Facility Plan this proposed tower falls within the "Opportunity Area" and "Sensitive Area". The proposed tower site is located along the border of a rural/heavily wooded area which the Plan considers to be an "Opportunity Area" for the location of telecommunication towers. The Plan takes a neutral position on lattice towers located in a rural/heavily

AGENDA ITEM #: 40	FILE #: 1-M-14-UR	2/6/2014 11:31 AM	TOM BRECHKO	PAGE #:	40-2

wooded areas. The proposed tower site is also located within 500' of a residence which is classified as a "Sensitive Area", and discouraged as a site for lattice towers. However, the only residence within 500' of the tower is the residence of the property owner.

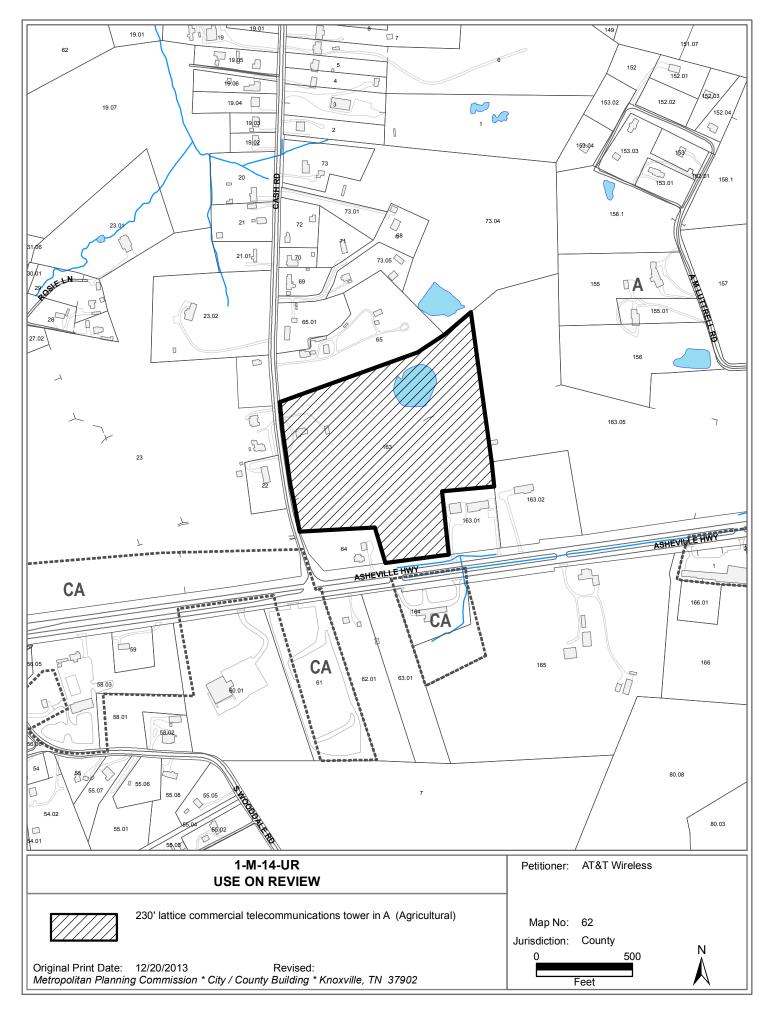
3. The site is located within the Urban Growth Area on the Knoxville-Knox County-Farragut Growth Policy Plan map.

ESTIMATED TRAFFIC IMPACT: Not required.

ESTIMATED STUDENT YIELD: Not applicable.

MPC's approval or denial of this request is final, unless the action is appealed to the Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals. The date of the Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals hearing will depend on when the appeal application is filed. Appellants have 30 days to appeal an MPC decision in the County.

AGENDA ITEM #: 40	FILE #: 1-M-14-UR	2/6/2014 11:31 AM	TOM BRECHKO	PAGE #:	40-3





RF Affidavit 1-M-14-UR

November 20, 2013

Re: Asheville Highway Cell Site

AT&T has determined that a new Wireless Communications Facility is required in Knox County, TN. A proposed tower at 215 Cash Road, Knoxville, TN 37924 has been accepted by RF Engineering. The primary focus of this facility is to cover Asheville Hwy and I-40 in the vicinity of Cash Road including the surrounding roads and neighborhoods. These roads and highways are important thoroughfares for those traveling in Knox County.

RF Propagation plots are attached showing predicted before and after coverage levels. The attached maps show the pre and post coverage for the area affected for the spectrum bands that will be improved.

The proposed site meets <u>AT&T</u>'s radio frequency and network design requirements for improving its coverage and capacity needs at 230 ft. AGL. There are no facilities that exist to provide the needed coverage of the area. AT&T is collocated on all the adjacent sites.

The closest existing AT&T sites that would hand off to this proposed site are, on average, 2.6 miles away from the needed coverage zone.

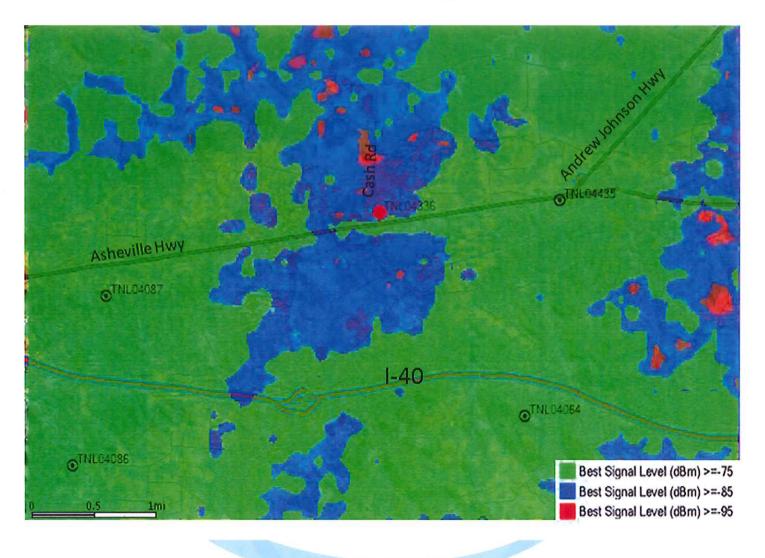
AT&T certifies that all of its equipment will be installed and operated in keeping with applicable FAA and FCC rules and regulations, as well as appropriate industry standards. The construction of this facility, including AT&T's installation of transmitter/Receiver equipment, will not interfere with the usual and customary transmission or reception of radio, television, and general public use communications equipment.

Submitted by:

Gerald M. Winters Jr. - RAN Design Engineer - AT&T Mobility

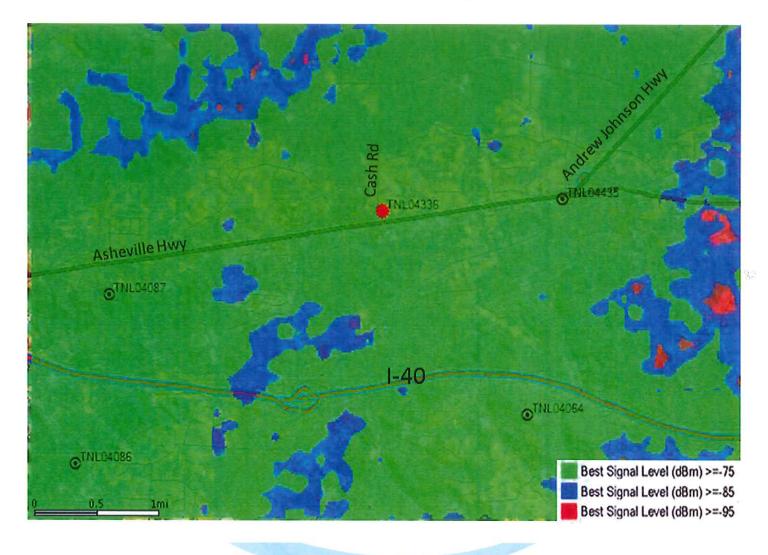


Asheville Hwy Before





Asheville Hwy After





Knox MPC 400 Main Street, Suite 403 Knoxville, TN 37902 ATTN: Tom Brechko

> Application of American Towers LLC to construct a new Wireless Telecommunications Tower for the following site:

Site Name: Asheville Hwy TN, Site No. 282093 Site Address: 215 Cash Road, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37924

AMERICAN TOWERS LLC

American Towers LLC ("AT") is one of the leading independent owners and operators of shared wireless infrastructure. The core business of American Towers LLC involves the engineering, deployment, marketing, ownership, operation and leasing of shared wireless communications sites. The sharing of infrastructure among multiple services lies at the heart of American Tower's business philosophy. Our portfolio of wireless communication sites, including existing towers and rooftops, enables our customers to serve their markets more efficiently and with sensitivity to local planning and zoning jurisdictions. American Towers LLC designs all of our facilities for multiple collocation opportunities for our customers. We endeavor to assist communities in reducing the number of towers in a given jurisdiction by supplying our customers with locations that are ready for them "Just in Time" for their coverage design and wireless performance needs. As one of the largest tower companies in the world, American Towers LLC has master lease agreements, negotiated at arms-length, with all major wireless carriers licensed to operate in Tennessee. In negotiating the rental rates of these master lease agreements, American Towers LLC considers the competitive environment of its business and the presence of other major tower companies such as Crown Castle and SBA. This ensures that American Towers LLC charges only reasonable rates to service providers.

Collocation Certification

American Towers LLC agrees to comply with the Zoning Ordinance of Knox County, Tennessee and/or the Code of Ordinances of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee and is willing to permit other user(s) to attach communication equipment which do not interfere with the primary purpose of the tower, provided that such other users agree to negotiate a reasonable compensation to the owner from such liability as may result from such attachment.

American Towers LLC

By:

Michael S. Quéenan Zoning Attorney

Implementation Imple		LAND USE/WIRELESS FACILITIES MATRIX	Co-Location	Stealth Structure	Low Monopole Below 90′	Moderate Monopole 90′ - 150′	Tall Monopole 150' - 199'	Lattice Tower	Guyed Tower
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Agenda Item # 40

Discouraged

Neutral

Encouraged

AMERICAN TOWERS/ATT WIRELESS

Telecommunications Tower Site Review

USE ON REVIEW APPLICATION # 1-M-14-UR

CONSULTANT'S SUMMARY

Asheville Hwy Site

Knox County

Location: 120 Cash Road near Asheville Highway--East Knox County

Proposed Tower Height: 230 foot lattice

Address: 120 Cash Road Knoxville, Tennessee

District: # 8 County Map Number: 062 Parcel 163

Use: Telecommunications antenna support structure

Zoning: A (Agricultural)

Land Planning Area: Urban Growth

Variances and waivers: None

Need: The applicant is American Towers with a commitment from AT&T Wireless as a licensed cellular carrier by the Federal Communications Commission and possibly other users. The applicant has proven a need for the site for its coverage requirements for its 4G service.

Instant Proposal: Construct a 230 foot lattice type support structure.

Consultant's Recommendation: The site and application meets the requirements of the Ordinance, but with the following provisions: The structure should be designed initially that it will support 6 additional carriers' set of antennas for a total of 7 sets of antennas and feedlines and that the required tower lights be dual aviation hazard warning lights (White strobe in day and red at night) rather than the white strobe lights day/night due to the residential homes in the area.

- A SP	36-13	
	M.	A

MPC February 13, 2014

REPORT TO

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

for

Proposed Telecommunications Tower Site Located at 120 Cash Road Knoxville, TN known as

ASHEVILLE HWY SITE

AMERICAN TOWERS/ATT WIRELESS

1-M-14-UR

COMPLIANCE WITH

THE MPC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY ORDINANCE 12/16/2013

The proposed site for the applicant is a 230 foot lattice type antenna support structure (including antennas and lightning rod) to be located east of Cash Road north of Asheville Highway in East Knox County. The supporting material from applicant has been reviewed for technical and Federal/State legal compliance As well as with the Knox County Wireless Communication Facilities Plan from 2002. This is a new telecommunications site. This site is known as a capacity site. This means that there is some coverage at the site at the present, but the capacity of the existing coverage does not provide sufficient signal levels for the new 4G (4th Generation) technology.

REQUESTED

- 1. Location. The location is within the County of Knox in District 8 and is located on Tax Map Number: 062 Parcel: 163
- 2. Zoning. A (Agricultural) SPPLU: LDR
- 3. Land Planning Area: Urban Growth
- 4. Proposed Tower Height: 230 foot lattice
- 5. Address: 120 Cash Road Knoxville, Tennessee

6. **Tower height.** The requested height is 230 feet above ground level should support up to 4 additional telecommunications carrier antennas for a total of 5 users. Lighting **will be** required on this structure.

7. **Variances**. The set back requirements in Article 4.92.02(4)(b) of the Ordinance for Knox County for "A" sites requires that the structure be set back a minimum distance of 110% of the structure height or in this case 253 feet from the nearest dwelling unit (residence). The proposed site meets that requirement and no variances are required as the nearest dwelling is more than 270 feet from the base of the lattice. Also the setback from Cash Road is more than 100 feet and meets the Ordinance requirements. No variances are required.

8. **Site**. This application is for the construction of a new lattice type antenna support structure to be located in the middle of an agricultural field on Cash Road near a wooded area to the south and northeast.

9. **Use.** This antenna support structure will be used for telecommunications with the present state of the art communications technology using PCS and cellular communication sources. The applicant is ATT Wireless and there are 3 possible additional telecommunications users for the facility according to the application, but it is recommended that the structure be initially designed for a total of 5 users, 4 in addition to the current applicant. This will eliminate the need for additional towers in this area by other carriers in the future.

10. **Setbacks**. The setback requirements are that the facility must be 110% height of the tower from any dwelling unit (253 feet in this case) and 50 feet from the centerline a roadway right of way. The applicant meets that requirement and no variances are required.

11. **Height**. The proposed structure is for 230 feet **with lighting** required. This height is required to provide service to the surronding area due to the varying terrain, otherwise multiple structures would be required to serve the same area.

EVALUATION

The following is a list of items reviewed:

Zoning Ordinance for Knoxville Tennessee by Metropolitan Planning Commission---Telecommunication Facilities Section (as amended thru October 1, 2004)

Knoxville Wireless Communications Facilities Plan dated 2002.

Check for other existing towers capable of supporting the load and elevation clearance requested by the applicant herein and within 1 mile radius of site.

Check for Antenna Support Structure stress analysis for co-location users' equipment support

Review support structure drawings and specifications with applicant

Review FAA lighting and marking requirements and proposals

Review FCC requirements regarding signal coverage, towers and lighting

Review applicant's justification for site in compliance with the FCC's requirements for telecommunication company providers compliance with required coverage for the use of the general public.

Review Site plan by applicant

Check Zoning

Check setbacks for building and antenna support structure

Check for compliance with Wireless Communication Facility Plan

Check proximity to other structures and district boundaries

Check nature of surrounding land uses

Check surrounding foliage and tree coverage

Check design of tower for esthetic changes

Check height requirements necessary for coverage

Check separation from other towers

Check frequencies proposed for possible interference to TV and radio reception in the immediate vicinity of the structure.

DISCUSSION

I visited the proposed tower site that is a part of this review.

The site elevation at this location is about 964 feet. It is located in the center of an agricultural field near a wooded area on Cash Road near Asheville Highway in East Knox County.

The request is for a 230 foot lattice of which ATT will use the top 15 feet and the additional usable lower 150 feet is for other carriers' expansion.

This a "capacity" site. By that is meant that there is coverage in this area, but that the capacity of the present coverage is not sufficient to allow for the use of the new 4G technology this is used with handheld devices that are so popular. The use of 4G technology reduces the signal coverage area somewhat while increasing the speed of the data that is transmitted, thus the requirement for this additional site.

The applicant proposed to design the tower for 4 additional users for a total of 5, however, it is my recommendation that the structure be initially designed for a total of 7 carrier antennas and feedlines allowing for future co-locaters without the need for additional towers in the immediate vicinity. There are 7 carriers in the local area (of a total of 13 licensed by the FCC) and as the 4G technology becomes more popular, the other carriers are going to need similar coverage in the area and thus the recommendation for the added design capability of the lattice structure.

The proposed structure should not affect adjacent property as it is on a parcel of land that is zoned agricultural and there are no subdivisions or other multiple residential homes in the immediate area.

EMS access to the site would be via Cash Road on a flat road entrance. Using the MPC's Wireless Facilities Matrix the site qualifies as a SENSITIVE AREA site in that it is 230 feet in height, a lattice type structure and located in an agricultural area. It is DISCOURAGED with regard to land use as it is located within 500 feet of a residence. (See attached Exhibit 7 Chart)

There are no other antenna support structures within 1 mile of this site.

DISCUSSION RE FACILITIES PLAN

The Facilities plan is a guideline adopted by the MPC in 2002 for the placement and appearance of wireless communications facilities. The following discussion is based on this application and how it relates to the Plan. The plan is an advisory plan and not a legal requirement.

(1) **View Protection**--The structure (230 feet) with lighting requirements and even though located near the intersection of Cash Road and Asheville Highway it is separated from residential units by wooded areas.

(2) **Land Use Compatibility**---The site will be unmanned and will have no impact on noise, traffic or air pollution.

(3) **Design Compatibility**---The new structure will be a lattice type structure more than 199 feet and due to the isolated location should be acceptable from a visibility viewpoint within a reasonable distance.

(A) **Sensitive Area**---This location is in a SENSITIVE AREA and is DISCOURAGED land use by the Matrix due to its height and being a lattice structure more than 199 feet.

SUMMARY

(1) The proposed antenna support structure is a 230 foot lattice including antennas. Lighting **will be** required for this structure by the FAA due to its proposed height. It is recommended that the applicant use dual aviation hazard warning lights (White strobe in the day and red at night) as opposed to the white strobe lights due to residential homes in the area.

(2) A review of the structure stress analysis on the proposed structure and specifications support the use of the lattice by three other potential users in the future, but the recommendation here is for six other users in the initial design of the structure so as to prevnet additional structures for other carriers in the future to cover the same area.

(3) The structure design meets or exceeds FCC and EIA requirements.

(4) The area surrounding the site is zoned Agriculture. There are no residences within 253 feet of the tower.

(5) There is no general use technology (such as satellite communications) that is available at the present time nor in the immediate future that would negate the need for the structure. However, should such a technology become available and the structure of no further use, the Ordinance at Article 4.92 requires it to be removed.

(6) The proposed equipment housing facility is an outdoor cabinet and will have no impact on the aesthetics of the adjacent land uses. The landscape plan indicates that the compound will be enclosed with a safety chain link fence with landscaping.

(7) The applicant has received authorization from the various governmental agencies, including the Federal Communications Commission, to provide communication service to the citizens of Knoxville, Tennessee.

(8) The requested site will have minimal impact on the community when considering the service it will provide for the immediate area in the use of handheld devices using the 4 G technology.

(9) There are no other antenna support structures within 1 mile of the proposed site that are usable for the coverage required.

(10) There is no waiver required or requested.

(11) The proposed site and structure will have minimal environmental impact within the federal guidelines.

(12) Assuming that there are 7 carriers operating cellular or PCS transmitters/receivers at this site and all are operating at the same time, the radiation produced by the combination of all the users at the same time using the standards and protocols proposed and used by the carriers today, will be considerably below that established by the Federal Communications Commission and the EPA as creating any danger to humans or animals.

(13) There is a need for the structure in this area to provide for the 4G wide spectrum wireless data service and for other wireless voice and data services to be provided under government regulation by the various proposed carriers who plan to use the site.

(14) Access road for emergency personnel will be via Cash Road. However, the site is an unmanned site.

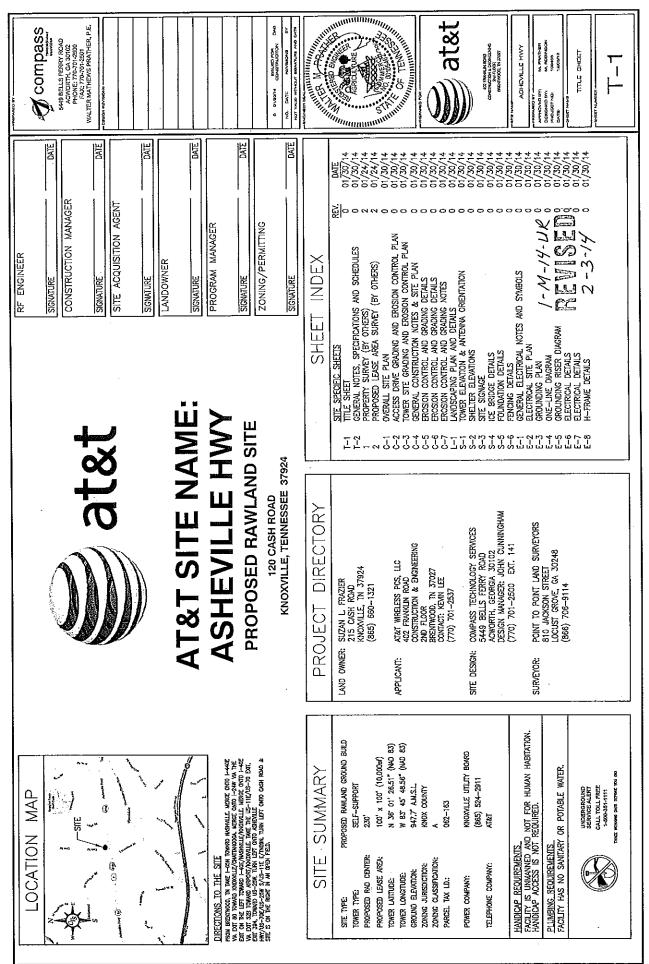
(15) There are no other antenna structures within a 1 mile radius that would allow the coverage needed by the applicant for this area.

RECOMMENDATION

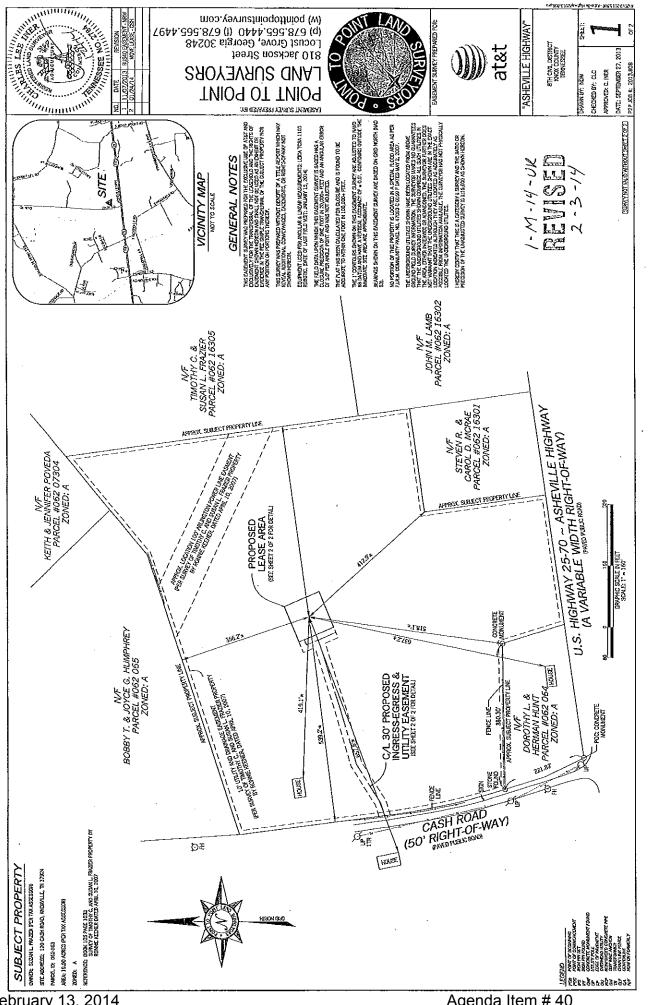
In light of the analysis and review of documents, it is my professional opinion that the applicant meets all requirements of the Ordinance and the federal requirements with following provisions: (1) The structure should be designed initially that it will support 6 additional carriers set of antennas for a total of 7 sets of antennas and feedlines to allow for future growth without adding additional structures in the area; and (2) the structure use the dual aviation hazard warning lights (White strobe in the day and red at night) instead of white strobe lights day and night due to the location of residential homes in the area.

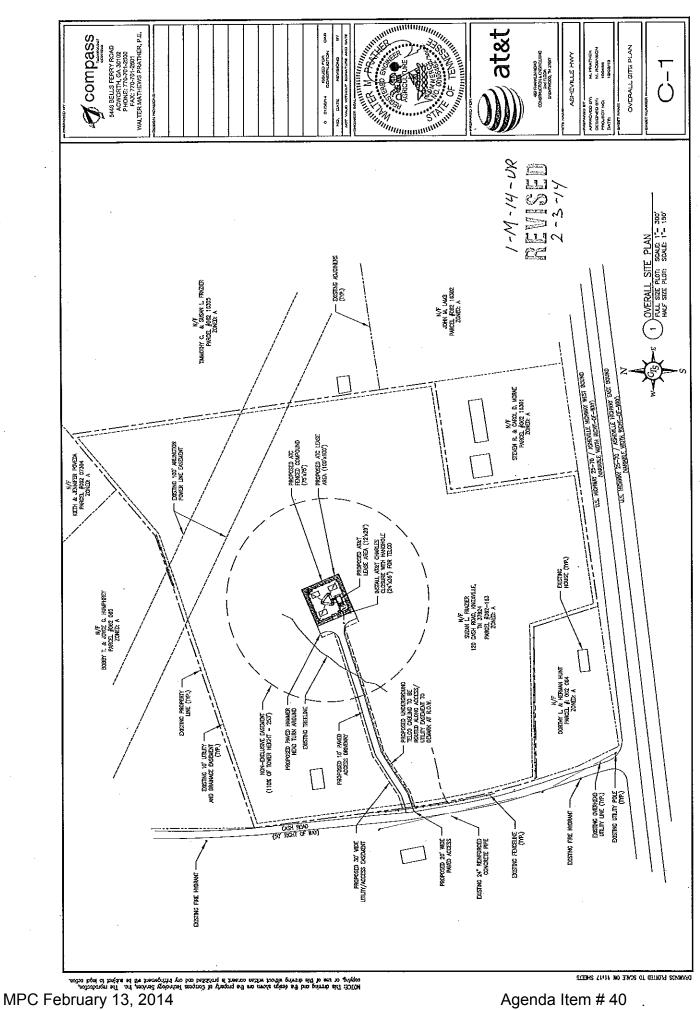
Respectfully submitted,

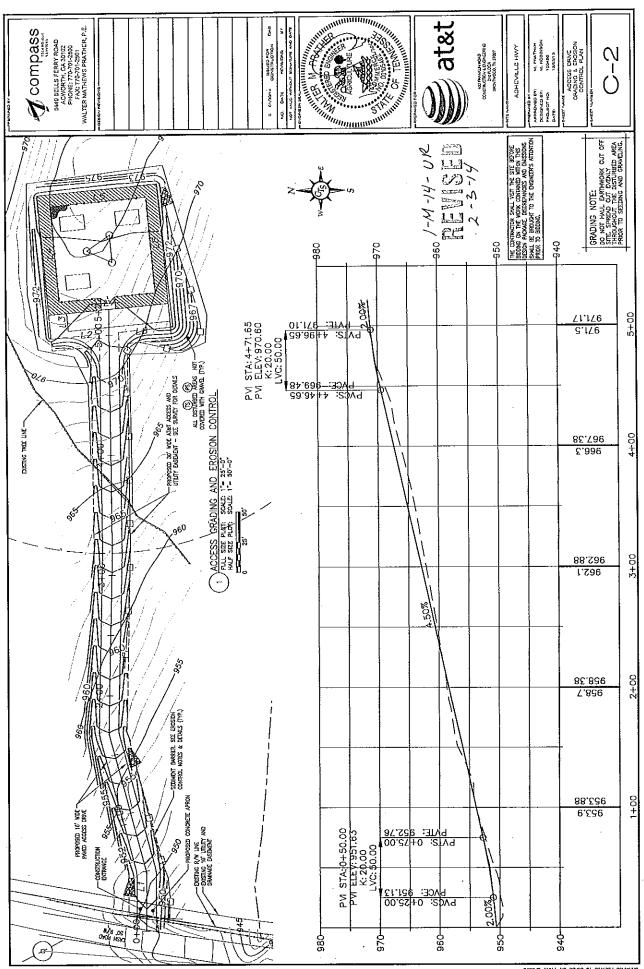
Larry Perry Consultant to MPC



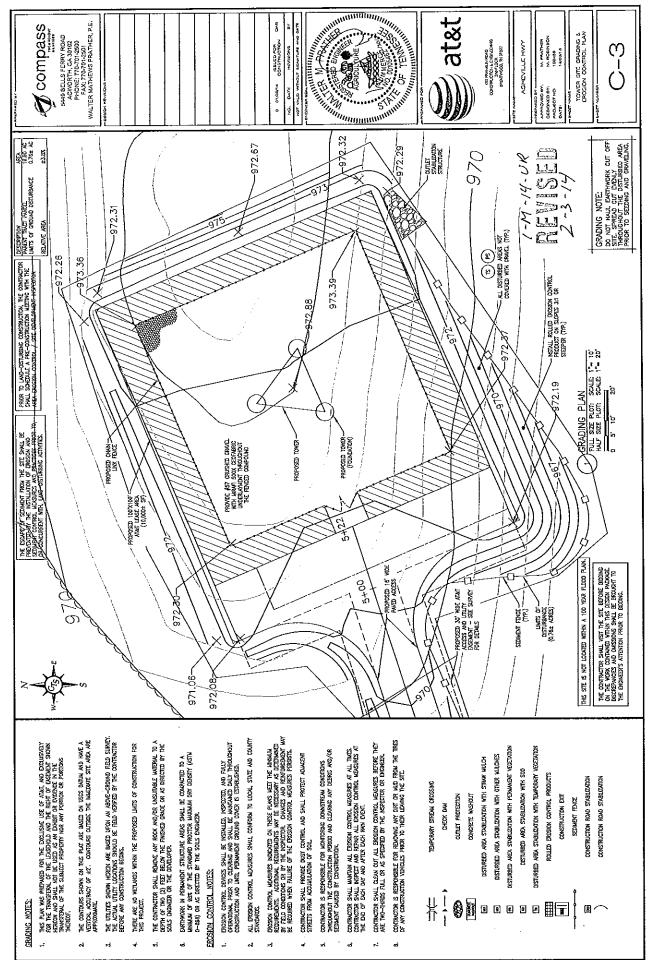
DEGRACE BITHERD IN SERIE OF HERE'S SHEELS



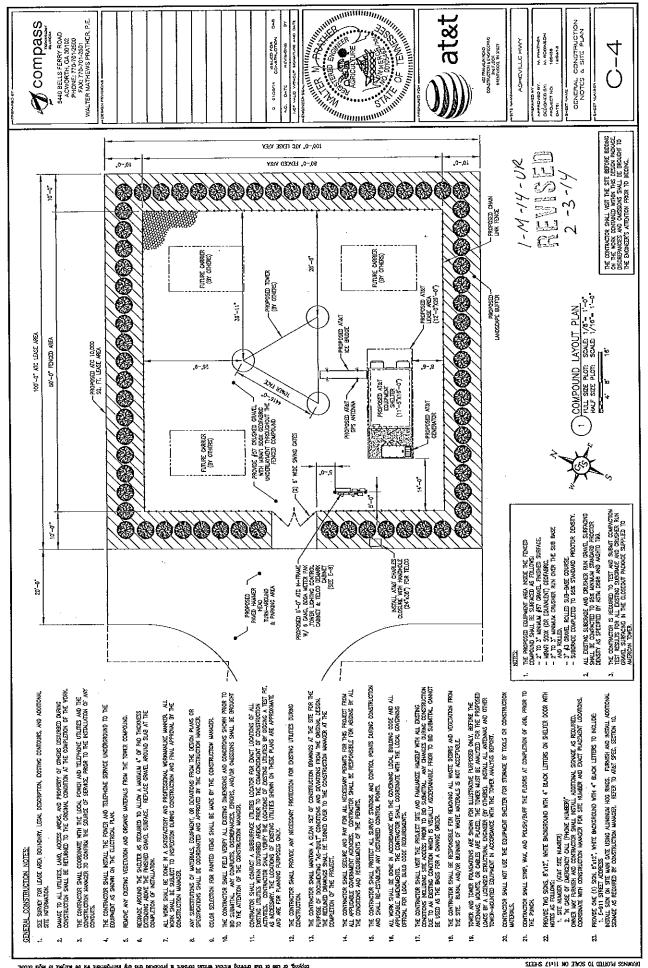


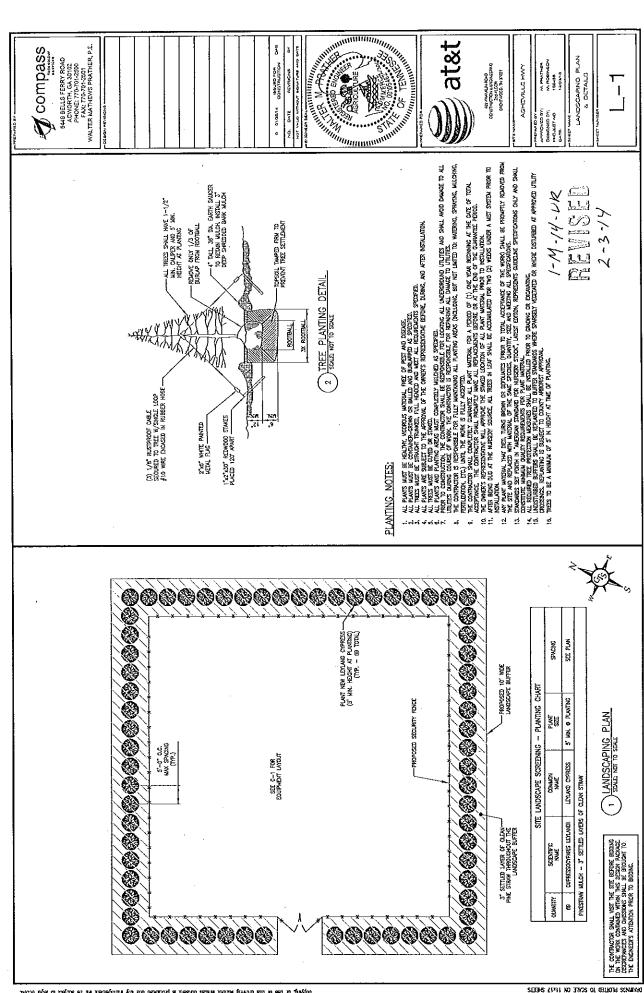


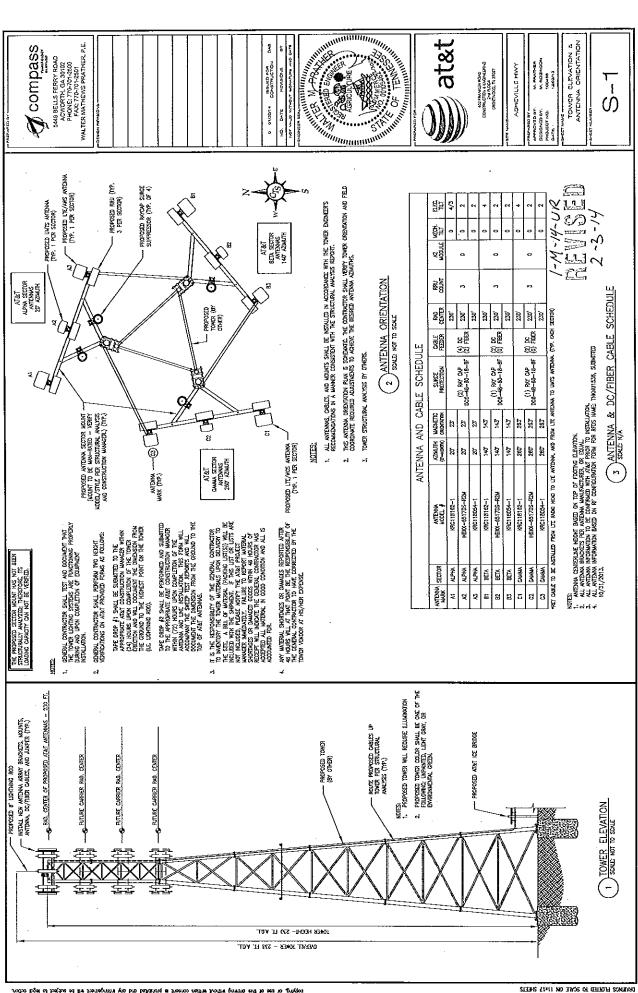
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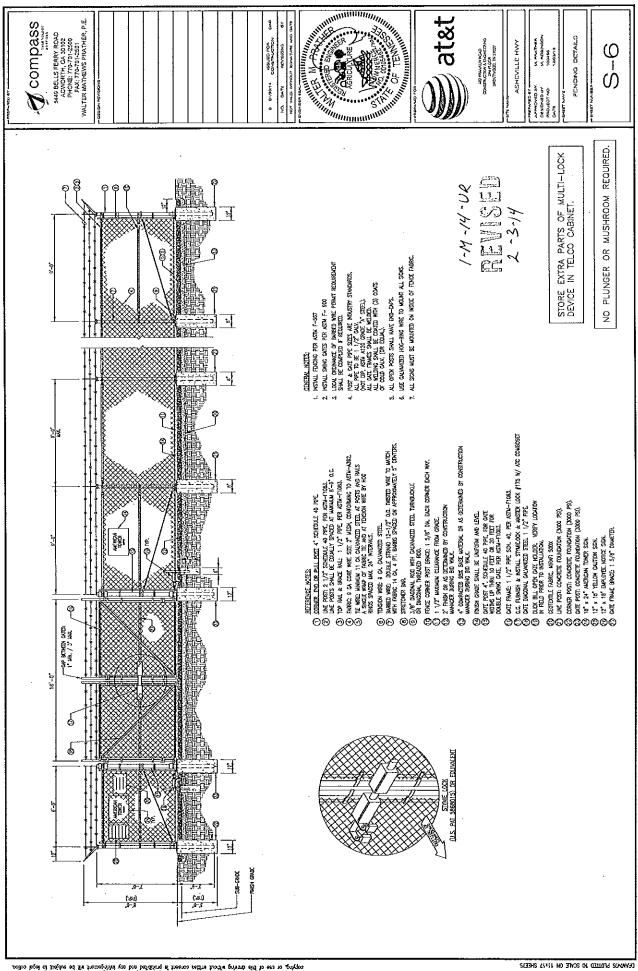


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JACOBS

Jacobs Engineering 5449 Bells Ferry Road Acworth, GA 301002 USA Phone: 770-701-2500 Fax: 770-701-2501

November 22, 2013

RE: Cell Site Name: Asheville Highway Fixed Asset #: 12939184

No suitable facilities exist that would allow service to be provided to the proposed coverage area.

Thomas A. Porter Site Acquisition Contractor