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[MPC Comment] Application for Proposed Cell Tower at the Corner of Garland and Bluegrass Roads By Branch Towers -- Agenda Item 5-C-15-UR

1 message

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Wed, Jul 8, 2015 at 3:00 PM

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Dear Members of Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission:

There were a few issues raised regarding Cell Towers at the Agenda Review Meeting. We wanted to try to address those questions in regards to the application for a tower proposed for the corner of Bluegrass and Garland Roads. (5-C-15-UR)

- **Flush Mounted Antennae vs. Platforms or "Bird Cage/Basket" Mounted Antennae**

(Will flush mounted antennae cause more towers?)

- Initially T-Mobile can work with 1 level of flush mounted antennae at this site
- Requirements for flush mounted antenna may differ from site to site based on the carrier, the coverage, the topography and the technology.
- One level of antennae may not always work for flush mounts and it may not work for other carriers at this site

- **Can T-Mobile gain the coverage they need from existing towers?**

- Unfortunately, T-Mobile cannot obtain the needed coverage from existing towers.
- Attached is a map that shows towers in the Bluegrass area.
- T-Mobile is located on all of these towers, except the towers located at Sandpiper Lane and in the Louisville area.
- The Sandpiper Lane tower was approved with 4 levels of antennae; and it has 4 levels of antennae on it now.
- T-Mobile looked at the Sandpiper Tower before proposing this tower and tried to make it work, but the level available on this tower will not provide the coverage T-

Mobile needs.

- The Louisville tower is over 2 miles away and will not provide the coverage needed.

- **How many antennae arrays are required on this tower?**

- The Knox County Code says that towers over 130 feet must provide for at least 3 antenna arrays
- Branch's Site Plan for Garland/Bluegrass provides for 4 antennae arrays.
- Branch Communications is a tower company, not a carrier -- their objective is to lease space to as many carriers as possible on each tower.

- **RA Zoning**

- While the Bluegrass site is currently zoned as RA, it has a pasture and the owner has farm animals.
- Many of the surrounding properties are zoned Agriculture. The zoning map is attached.
- The proposed location is on a 7+ acre parcel of land and has good buffering and many trees.

Commissioners, we believe this is a good location for a tower and we appreciate your consideration for approval. If you have other questions you'd like answered before Thursday, please contact me directly at [865-934-4000](tel:865-934-4000).

Thank you,



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2 attachments



Branch Tillery Bluegrass Existing Towers Map (00061263xA18F2).pptx

186K



Branch Tillery Zoning Map Included in MPC Zoning Package (00061262xA18F2).pdf

634K