

Attachment C
MINUTES OF
JULY 27, 2011
NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

T-MOBILE ANTENNA AT GRAND AVENUE AND CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m. and was conducted by Richard Yee from the City of Pasadena Department of Public Works.

PRESENT:

Department of Public Works, City of Pasadena
Steve Wright, Assistant City Engineer
R. Yee, Principal Engineer

T-Mobile representatives
Rob Searcy
Paul Smolarski
Preet, consulting RF engineer

Appellant
Gretchen Brickson
Chris Sutton

Council District 6
Taka Suzuki, Field Representative

Various members of the public including members of the West Pasadena Residents Association

Summary:

The community meeting was held at the La Casita del Arroyo Clubhouse on July 27, 2011 from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm. There were approximately 35 people in attendance, however only 22 people signed the attendance sheet. The attendees were comprised of city staff, T-Mobile staff, District 6 representative, area residents and local advocates of the appeal. See the attached meeting agenda and PowerPoint presentations by staff and T-Mobile for reference. In general, there were some participants with specific questions and concerns, some participants in favor of the installation as proposed and others attending to acquire information about cell antenna installations in general.

Purpose:

City staff conducted the meeting in order to provide the general public with the background of the proposed project and a clear understanding of the references and application of the

Pasadena Municipal Code sections pertinent to wireless telecommunications in the public right-of-way.

Ms. Brickson voiced her concerns for the appeal which were based on its location on Grand Avenue, general safety in the event of a collision or earthquake, aesthetics of the equipment, potential fee opportunities missed because the proposal is on a jointly owned utility pole, and a request for independent analysis of the T-Mobile justification study for this site as well as the alternate locations.

T-Mobile representatives then gave a presentation on the seven alternate site scenarios including aerial photos, constraints matrix and anticipated coverage map for each site. There was some discussion of a few locations, but it was difficult to see the detail on the presentation. Based on their presentation, the proposed project on the existing utility pole is the most viable location that meets their coverage needs.

Concerns and questions from the public:

Radio Frequency (RF) emissions - two residents closest to the proposed site raised concerns regarding radio frequency (RF) emissions from the proposed facility. T-Mobile explained that the wireless industry is tightly regulated by the FCC and that the proposed T-Mobile site operating at peak would be significantly less RF exposure than a cordless phone and well below FCC requirements.

Utility pole ownership – Staff explained that the existing utility pole was installed in 1959 and owned by the Department of Water and Power and was used as a siren pole for civil defense. The utility pole is currently listed with the Joint Pole Authority for use by member agencies.

Interpretations of PMC 12.22 – Mr. Chris raised a number of points regarding the interpretation of the constraints within PMC 12.22 as related to antenna placement at front versus side yards, use of traffic signals as options and finally about the “shot clock” timeline for permit processing. This was an action item for staff.

Other public feedback:

At least five people spoke up in favor of the T-Mobile antenna and had no issues with the proposed project. They indicated that current cell coverage was poor and welcomed an antenna installation.

Next Steps:

Staff needs to analyze the various aspects of the T-Mobile presentation as well as clarification of certain constraints specified in PMC 12.22. Gretchen Brickson requested independent analysis of the justification studies and coverage maps of the original site and the alternate sites. She also requested an overlay of the coverage map showing the Avenue 64 at Cheviotdale site in addition to the coverage maps for the alternate sites.

The public hearing is scheduled for August 8, 2011.