

Prince George's County Planning Department

Office of the Planning Director

Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 TTY: (301) 952-4366 www.mncppc.org/pgco 301-952-3595

May 2, 2014

Mr. Michael W. Weil Urban Planner National Capital Planning Commission 401 9th Street, NW Suite 500 Washington, DC 20004

> RE: Proposed T-Mobile Telecommunications Facility Modification Project (MR-1407A)

Dear Mr. Weil:

The Prince George's County Planning Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed modification to a T-Mobile telecommunications facility located on Water Tower #286 on the United States Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Campus near Beltsville, Maryland. We understand that T-Mobile proposes to replace the existing six panel antennas with new panel antennas on the water tower and replace another antenna with a more up-to-date GPS antenna and cabling.

Staff has evaluated the project and is prepared to submit the following comments and the enclosed supporting memoranda:

- It has been determined that environmental impacts regarding this site are not subject to the Prince George's County Woodland and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Ordinance because the site is subject to the State Forest Conservation Act. However, because there are no woodlands that are proposed for clearing, it appears that the site is exempt from the State Forest Conservation Act as well, and no regulated features subject to the Clean Water Act will be impacted.
- There also do not appear to be any impacts to the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, a scenic and
 historic road. However, it may be advantageous if the tower has a design and color that is
 harmonious with its surroundings to minimize its visual impact on the viewshed of the BaltimoreWashington Parkway.
- There are no historic sites, historic resources or documented properties in the vicinity of the
 proposed construction, and no known archeological sites or resources that would be impacted by
 the proposed project.

Finally, enclosed are three memoranda that include the full evaluations and comments summarized above from the Environmental Planning Section and the Historic Preservation Section of the Countywide Planning Division, and the Urban Design Section of the Development Review Division.

Mr. Michael W. Weil Page 2 May 2, 2014

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to comment on this project. If you should have any questions or need additional information, please contact Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division, at 301-952-3580 or via email at Fatimah.Hasan@ppd.mncppc.org.

Sincerely,

Fern V. Piret Planning Director

Enclosures

c: Redis C. Floyd, Clerk of the Council, Prince George's County Council Derick Berlage, Chief, Countywide Planning Division

Maria Martin, Planning Supervisor, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division Christine Osei, Mandatory Referral Project Manager, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division

Meika Fields, Senior Planner, Urban Design Section, Development Review Division Robert Krause, Planner Coordinator, Historic Preservation Section, Countywide Planning Division Marc Juba, Planner Coordinator, Environmental Planning Section, Countywide Planning Division

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 TTY: (301) 952-4366 www.mncppc.org/pgco

April 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator

Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division

VIA:

Ruth Grover, Planner Coordinator, Urban Design Section, Development Review

Division

FROM:

Meika Fields, Senior Planner, Urban Design Section, Development Review

Division

SUBJECT:

Mandatory Referral MR-1407A

Proposed T-Mobile Telecommunications Facility Modification Project

The Urban Design Section is in receipt of information provided in support of Mandatory Referral MR-1407A, which is being reviewed as part of the Mandatory Referral review process pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code, the Land Use Article, Section 7-112 and Section 27-294 of the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance. The applicant proposes to replace the existing six panel antennas with new panel antennas in the same locations on an existing water tower. They also propose to replace another existing antenna with a more up-to-date GPS antenna and cabling.

As the site is adjacent to the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, a scenic and historic road, it should be referred to the Environmental Planning Section, the principal reviewer of impacts to historic and scenic roads. However, the Urban Design Section offers the following observations:

- The water tower is set back approximately 200 feet from the right-of-way of Baltimore-Washington Parkway. The replacement of antennas and new cabling would increase its visual impacts.
- The Environmental Planning Section might consider requiring that the tower and its equipment be
 of a design and color that is harmonious with its surroundings to minimize its visual impact on
 the viewshed of the adjacent scenic and historic road, or otherwise obscure it from view.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Countywide Planning Division Environmental Planning Section

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 TTY: (301) 952-4366 www.mncppc.org/pgco

April 11, 2014

TO:

Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning

Division

VIA:

Katina Shoulars, Supervisor, Environmental Planning Section, Countywide Planning

Division

FROM:

Marc Juba, Senior Planner, Environmental Planning Section, Countywide Planning

Division

SUBJECT:

MR-1407A Proposed T-Mobile Telecommunications Facility Modification Project

The Environmental Planning Section has completed its initial review for MR 1407A, Proposed T-Mobile Telecommunications Facility Modification Project, located at the #286 Water Tower at the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC).

After evaluating a site plan submitted by the applicant, the Environmental Planning Section has determined that this site is not subject to the Prince George's County Habitat and Conservation Ordinance, because it is subject to the State Forest Conservation Act.

Based on the existing conditions and the location of the proposed project, it appears that the site is exempt from the State Forest Conservation Act as well, since no woodlands appear to be proposed for clearing. It also appears that no regulated features subject to the Clean Water Act will be impacted.



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Prince George's County Planning Department

(301) 952-3680

April 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO:

E. Fatimah Hasan, Planner Coordinator, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning

Division

Christine A. Osei, Planner Coordinator, Mandatory Referral Review Project Manager.

Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division

VIA:

Howard Berger, Planning Supervisor, Historic Preservation Section, Countywide

Planning Division

FROM:

Robert Krause, Planner Coordinator, Historic Preservation Section, Countywide Planning

Division

Jennifer Stabler, Planner Coordinator, Historic Preservation Section, Countywide

Planning Division

SUBJECT:

Construction of MR 1407A, Proposed T-Mobile Telecommunications Facility

Modification Project

Background

The proposed project south of Beaver Dam Road on the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Campus (BARC) is considered to be a minor construction project to update T-Mobile sites within this region. The T-Mobile antenna is located on a water tower (# 286) on the BARC campus. T-Mobile proposes to replace the existing six panel antennas with new panel antennas on the same locations at the #286 Water Tower. They also propose to replace another existing antenna with a more up-to-date GPS antenna and cabling.

Historic Preservation

There are no Prince George's County Historic Sites, Historic Resources or documented properties in the vicinity of the proposed construction. Proposed work is within two miles of a Prince George's County Historic Site, PG: 67-008, at Civilian Conservation Corps Lodge on the campus of the BARC.

On July 5, 2012, the Maryland Historical Trust concurred with the no adverse effect finding regarding this undertaking.

Archeology

There are no known archeological sites or resources that would be impacted by the proposed project. All identified archeological resources have been impacted by previous construction on the subject property. The proposed building will occupy the same location as a previous non-historic structure. Any archeological deposits would have been previously disturbed by that construction. Therefore, a Phase I archeological survey is not recommended in any of the proposed construction areas. There are no identified archeological resources in any of the proposed areas of construction.