



Staff Report – Meeting Item

Verizon Wireless Small Cell Franchise and Lease Agreements

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INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE/SUMMARY: Cellco Partnership, doing business as (d/b/a) Verizon Wireless and through its local representatives requests a Franchise Agreement with the City for installation of telecommunication facilities within the City right-of-way. The franchise agreement and facilities installed in association with the agreement will be used to serve future small cell wireless sites that will be proposed with future applications by Verizon. The draft ordinance has been reviewed by staff and the City Attorney, as well as Verizon representatives.

In addition to the Franchise Agreement, City and Verizon representatives have developed a License Agreement for Wireless Installations on Public Structures. This License Agreement works with the Franchise Agreement and will be used for each specific Small Cell Wireless antenna location proposed by Verizon. Verizon will fill out the License Agreement as the applicant and City Staff will review and approve once all conditions are met, and then use the License as the tracking mechanism for each site. The License Agreement will be used in addition to any Encroachment Permits and other potential land use permits that are required for Verizon to do the requested work. For reference, the conditions and terms of the attached draft Franchise Agreement and License Agreement are primarily the same as those negotiated with AT&T in the fall of 2019.

The approval process for the Franchise Agreement includes the need to hold a public hearing to receive public testimony. Following the hearing, an Ordinance would be presented to City Council for consideration for adoption. The License Agreement would be approved separately from the Franchise Agreement; however, staff is recommending that it follow a similar review and adoption process.

BUDGET: In accordance with the License Agreement, Verizon will pay to the City \$270 per year for each wireless installation located within the City's right-of-way. This annual fee is in addition to any other permit fees collected by the City to process the permit and approve the installation. Additionally, Verizon will pay the City's \$5,000 administrative fee for processing of the agreements.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council set a date for a public hearing to be held on September 8, 2020 to review the Franchise Ordinance and License Agreement and obtain citizen comments.