



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	5/23/2022
Originating Department	Public Works
Contact Person	Jeff Perrigo, Public Works Director Kim Adams Pratt, City Attorney
Title	Ordinance 1243/Granting XO Communications, LLC, its successors and assigns a five-year nonexclusive Master Use Permit to construct, maintain, operate, replace, and repair telecommunications system in, across, over, along, under, through, and below the public rights-of-way of Lake Forest Park

Legislative History

- First Presentation: June 23, 2022
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Attachments:

1. Ordinance No. 1243/Granting XO Communications Services, LLC a Master Use Permit
 2. Exhibit A, Master Use Permit
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Executive Summary

This is the first reading of a proposed ordinance granting XO Communications Services, LLC ("XO Communications") a five-year master use permit. On May 12, 2016, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 1125, granting XO Communications a five-year nonexclusive Master Use Permit allowing the company to operate telecommunications facilities within the City's rights-of-way. This previous Master Use Permit has since expired and XO Communications has applied for a successor agreement to allow it to continue operating telecommunications facilities within the City's rights-of-ways. Approval of this Ordinance would grant XO Communications a new, nonexclusive Master Use Permit allowing continued use of the City's rights-of-ways for an additional five years under the terms and conditions set forth therein.

Background

The federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 was adopted to encourage the development of high technology communications systems through increased competition among companies. The Act provides that no local jurisdiction may prohibit any entity from providing telecommunications services, but may manage its public rights-of-way in a competitively neutral manner and require compensation from telecommunications providers for their use of rights-of-way provided that such compensation is fair, reasonable, nondiscriminatory, competitively neutral and publicly disclosed.

In Washington, cities manage their rights-of-way with respect to telecommunications providers pursuant to Chapter 35.99 RCW. This statute allows cities to issue a telecommunications “master permit,” which is defined as “the agreement in whatever form whereby a city or town may grant general permission to a service provider to enter, use, and occupy the right-of-way for the purpose of locating [telecommunications] facilities.” The City has adopted procedures and criteria for the issuance of telecommunications master permits in Chapter 5.26 of the Lake Forest Park Municipal Code (“LFPMC”). After the Council grants a master permit, when a permittee wishes to work in the right-of-way it must apply for a right-of-way permit. It is at this time when the public works and planning departments review the specific plans for the project including the proposed route, the traffic safety plans, and the determination about whether the applicant needs additional permits such as sensitive area permits.

Provisions in the proposed XO Communications master use permit include:

- Expiration in 5 (five) years;
- Non-exclusivity;
- Location approval and oversight by the City Administrator and Public Works Director; and
- Compliance with Chapter 19.122 RCW, Washington State’s “Underground Utilities” statute, where applicable.

Fiscal & Policy Implications

Collection of permit fees.

Alternatives

<i>Options</i>	<i>Results</i>
• Approve the Ordinance.	XO Communications will retain existing telecommunications facilities within the City’s rights of way and may expand such facilities after obtaining right of way permits from the City.
• Do not approve the Ordinance	The City would continue working with XO Communications until terms acceptable to both the company and the City Council could be negotiated.

Staff Recommendation

Approve and Adopt Ordinance 1243, granting XO Communications, LLC, a five-year nonexclusive Master Permit to construct, maintain, operate, replace, and repair telecommunications system in, across, over, along, under, through, and below the public rights-of-way of the City.