

City of Spring Lake Park Staff Report



Agenda Date	Status
July 20, 2026	Action Item
Requestor	Agenda Section
Administrator Buchholtz	Ordinances and/or Resolutions
Agenda Item:	
Interim Ordinance – Communication Towers and Antenna Support Structures	
Executive Summary	
Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance No. 508, establishing a temporary moratorium on the acceptance, review, approval, permitting, and construction of new communication towers and antenna support structures within the City. The moratorium will provide the City with sufficient time to review its existing regulations and determine whether amendments are needed to address current technology, applicable state and federal law, land-use compatibility, redevelopment impacts, public safety, and application requirements.	
Background	
The City has received interest in constructing a new communication tower within Spring Lake Park. The City's existing regulations should be reviewed to ensure they adequately address tower height, setbacks, fall zones, separation from residential uses, screening, lighting, design, abandonment, removal, insurance, performance security, collocation, and related land-use considerations. Spring Lake Park is a substantially developed community with limited vacant land. New freestanding towers and support structures may create long-term impacts on surrounding properties, redevelopment opportunities, neighborhood compatibility, visual character, and future land-use planning. Ordinance No. 508 would establish a moratorium for up to one year, or until the City Council adopts updated regulations, whichever occurs first. The ordinance includes exclusions for small wireless facilities governed by state law, federally protected eligible facilities requests, collocation on existing structures, routine repairs and maintenance, emergency repairs, municipal communication facilities, and certain residential or amateur radio antennas.	

During the moratorium, staff, the Planning Commission, consultants, and the City Attorney would study the City's existing regulations and present recommended amendments to the City Council.

Board/Commission Review

N/A. Planning Commission will review any proposed ordinance amendments relating to zoning.

Financial Impact

The primary financial impact will consist of staff, planning consultant, and City Attorney time associated with reviewing and updating the City's communication facility regulations. These costs can be accommodated within existing professional services budgets.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance No. 508, adopting an interim ordinance prohibiting new communication towers and antenna support structures while the City studies and considers amendments to its official controls.

Attachments

1. Ordinance 508, An Interim Ordinance Prohibiting New Communication Towers and Antenna Support Structures to Allow for the Study, Adoption or Amendment of Official Controls Related to the City Code and Zoning Code