City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM TO INDUSTRY 20-03

DATE: JULY 17, 2020

TO: UTILITIES, DEVELOPERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS

FROM: LALIT SHARMA, P.E., ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DROW

SUBJECT: POLE REPLACEMENT HEIGHT POLICY FOR UTILITY POLES IN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SMALL CELL FACILITIES INSTALLATION

The City of Alexandria Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) Department, in recognition with need for technology and wireless communication services, is clarifying the parameters of when increased pole heights may be permitted. The guidance herein is consistent with State and Local Code regarding small cell antenna installation on an existing structure, or on an in-kind "like for like" pole replacement for utility poles in public rights of way. This memo supersedes memo dated June 30, 2019 on the same issue.

Existing structures (poles) on which Small Cell Facilities are to be mounted, cannot extend to a height, including any antennas, of 50 feet or by more than 10 percent of existing height of the structure, whichever is greater.

Utility provider's maintenance and service needs will be evaluated on a case by case basis Notwithstanding the above parameters, all applicants requesting increases in pole heights shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. All applications shall be consistent with the City of Alexandria's Interim Wireless Facility Aesthetic Guidelines and Small Cells Wireless Facilities program. All reviews and considerations will be subject to the approval of the Director of T&ES.

Cc: Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Karl Moritz, Director, P&Z
Emilio Pundavela, Division Chief, Permits and Inspection, T&ES
Andre' Williams, Permits Manager, T&ES
Anthony LaColla, Division Chief, P&Z