Planning \& Development Division
Planning \& Economic Development Department

| File Number | PL 21-076 |  | Contact |  | Steven Robertson, 218-730-5295 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type | Concurrent Use Permit, Wireless Utility on Light Pole |  | Planning Commission Date |  |  | July 13, 2021 |
| Deadline for Action | Application Date |  | June 16, 2021 (Fee Submitted) |  | 60 Days |  |
|  | Date Extension Letter Mailed |  | June 21, 2021 |  | 120 Days |  |
| Location of Subject 651 East Fifth Street |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant | SACW (AT\&T) |  | Contact | Available, on file |  |  |
| Agent | Joe Goldshlack |  | Contact | Available, on file |  |  |
| Legal Description |  | See Attached Map |  |  |  |  |
| Site Visit Date |  | June 27, 2021 | Sign Notice Date |  |  | June 29, 2021 |
| Neighbor Letter Date |  | N/A | Number of Letters Sent |  |  | N/A |

Proposal: The applicant is seeking a concurrent use permit to allow a private obstruction (utility pole mounted antennas and related equipment) in the public right of way.

Recommended Action: Recommend to the city council to approve with conditions (Ordinance).

|  | Current Zoning | Existing Land Use | Future Land Use Map Designation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Subject | R-1 | Utility Pole | Traditional Neighborhood |
| North | R-1 | Residential | Traditional Neighborhood |
| South | R-1 / F-6 | Residential/Commercial | Trad. Neigh/Neigh. Mixed Use |
| East | R-1 / F-6 | Residential | Trad. Neigh/Neigh. Mixed Use |
| West | R-1 / MU-N | Residential/Commercial | Trad. Neigh/Neigh. Mixed Use |

## Summary of Code Requirements

UDC Section 50-37.7.C. The planning commission shall review the application, and council shall approve the application or approve it with modifications, if it determines that the proposed concurrent use will not harm or inconvenience the health, safety and general welfare of the city, and no portion of a public easement proposed of use is being physically occupied by the public.

## Comprehensive Plan Governing Principle and/or Policies and Current History (if applicable):

Principle \#4 - Support emerging economic growth sectors. Emerging economic sectors add economic, cultural and social diversity. These include higher education, medical, value-added manufacturing, commercial outdoor recreation, historic resources interpretation, arts and music, information technology and visitor services.

The installation falls with the provisions of Minnesota Statute 237.162 and 247.1643 , as amended in 2017.
Future Land Use: Urban Residential. Greatest variety of residential building types, medium to high densities. Applicable to larger infill areas close to downtown, entertainment or activity centers, and waterfront residential areas. May include student housing areas, live/work units, and limited neighborhood retail. Connected or adjacent to parks and open space.

Existing small cell on utility poles in public right of way include the following sites: six around UMD, two near the Burning Tree Plaza, two near Canal Park, three near the 6000 block of East Superior Street, one near Spirit Mountain, one near Denfeld High School, one near East High School, one near the Radisson Hotel, one near the Miller Hill Mall, and one near Edgewater Park. There are three more on utility poles within the St. Scholastica Campus, on private property.

This is a companion zoning application to PL 21-075, also a concurrent use permit for a wireless equipment on an existing utility pole.

## Review and Discussion Items:

1) The applicant is seeking a concurrent use permit to allow a private obstruction (utility pole mounted antennas and equipment mount) in the public right of way. The small wireless facility will be installed on a replacement Minnesota Power wooden pole. The street light will be attached to the pole at 24 feet, and the wireless equipment will be placed at 30 to 37 feet, with a radio at 15 feet. Wireless attachments will include 2 exterior mounted panel antenna and 3 radio units. There will be no ground mounted equipment.
2) Granting a concurrent use permit would give the applicant the ability to use dedicated public rights-of-way, with conditions, while preserving other existing public uses in the same right-of-way corridors. Concurrent use permits require a public hearing and recommendation by the Planning Commission, and is approved by the City Council via ordinance. Unlike street right-of-way vacations, concurrent use permits are not recorded at the County as they are voidable permits issued by the City to applicants who are private users of public rights-of-way.
3) Ownership of the pole will remain with Minnesota Power. Liability, maintenance, and operation of the small wireless facilities will remain the responsibility of the applicant. In the event of an accident, such as a vehicle hitting the utility pole, the city is not responsible for restoring or replacing any of the applicant's equipment.
4) The existing pole will be replaced with a new pole. The new pole will have a structural analysis by the manufacturer to ensure that they can support the weight of the private small cell facilities.
5) Granting the proposed concurrent use permits will not harm or inconvenience the health, safety and general welfare of the city. The area proposed for the concurrent use permit will not take away from the public's ability to use the public right-of-way. Minnesota Power will own the poles and continue to use them for utility purposes (lighting).
6) The UDC generally requires that new wireless facilities follow a location standard: first they should be collocated on existing towers or other structures on city owned properties first, and then existing towers or other structures on other (private) property, and so forth down the location standard list. As these small wireless facilities would be located on existing infrastructure in public right of way, and as per the recent change in state statute, the city is processing these applications as concurrent use permits and not special use permits, and the UDC's use-specific standards do not apply in this specific situation.
7) The city has the ability to regulate land use, however, the Federal Communications Commission preempts local review on the potential environmental effects of radio frequency (RF) emissions, with the presumption that the applicant and service provider is in compliance with the Commission's RF rules. The applicant included an FCC checklist used to determine exemption from RF regulations (unlikely to cause exposure in excess of the FCC's guidelines)
8) At the time that this memo was written, no written comments has been received.

## Staff Recommendation:

Based on the above findings, Staff recommends that the Planning Commission recommend approval of the concurrent use permit subject to the following conditions:

1) The project be limited to, constructed, and maintained according to construction drawings submitted and included with this staff report.
2) Applicant, and/or successors, shall remove the proposed obstructions at applicant's expense if directed to do so by the City with appropriate notice, and shall adhere to other standards and obligations established in the approving document (ordinance).
3) Any alterations to the approved plans that do not alter major elements of the plan may be approved by the Land Use Supervisor without further Planning Commission approval; however, all other changes must be approved by amending the City Council's approved ordinance.






SITE NAME: CRAN_RUMW_DLLND_007 SITE ADDRESS: E $5^{\text {Th }}$ ST DULUTH, MN LAT/LONG: 46.79698, -92.09508 POLE TYPE: WOOD, LIGHT POLE

## Proposed Route Design

## ATT Minnesota

Plan View


## Nearest Intersection:

$E 5^{\text {th }}$ St \& $N 7^{\text {th }}$ Ave E

## Description:

CCI to install a new HH in the ROW near the light pole.

ATT is to leave stub $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ duct out from base of new light pole to the proposed HH location.

Approx. HH Location - Street View



WIRELESS

## STATEMENT REGARDING AESTHETIC DESIGN CRITERIA

DLLND_007 / 14810151 / MRUMW022372 / 651 E. Fifth St.

Pursuant to Ordinance 19-0027R, a SWF must adhere to the eight criteria listed below. Applicant's responses are stated below in red.
(a) Except as established in Minnesota State Statute, the height of a new facility may not exceed the average height of existing utility poles or streetlights in the immediate area (150foot radius of the proposed site) by more than five (5) feet, or forty (40) feet, whichever is greater; antennas mounted at the top of the pole shall not increase the height of the pole by more than five (5) feet; and

Applicant asserts that this proposed SWF will not exceed the average height of nearby utility poles. The proposed top-mounted antenna will only extend three (3) feet above the top of the replaced pole. (See p. A3 of Construction Drawings).
(b) New facilities shall be located as near as practicable to street intersections and shall be located to the extent practicable on existing poles or other structures currently in the right of way and shall be limited to the heights in section (a) above; and

Applicant's proposed pole is located directly on a street corner and is within the ROW.
(c) Decorative lights, banner poles, clocks, flagpoles, and other public street furniture that was not designed to accommodate small cell facilities shall not be used if accommodating the small cell facilities interfere with the operation of the public street furniture; and

Applicant's proposed pole is not decorative.
(d) Concealment elements shall be incorporated into new sites, including approved camouflage or shrouding techniques, to the greatest extent practicable; and

Applicant has made every practicable effort to camouflage and conceal its proposed equipment. Any additional concealment efforts would result in additional shrouds or screens that would cause the pole to look more crowded and abnormal than as proposed.
(e) New electrical and other utility service lines must be undergrounded whenever possible to avoid additional overhead lines; for metal poles, undergrounded cables and wires must transition directly into the pole base without any external junction box; and

Barring any unforeseen issues, this SWF will draw power from existing electrical lines attached to it. It will therefore not require the construction of any new overhead or underground lines. The subject pole is not metal.
(f) Unless otherwise required for compliance with FAA or FCC regulations, new wireless facilities shall not include any permanently installed lights; and

The Proposed SWF will not include any permanently installed lights besides a streetlight like the one currently mounted to the pole.


WIRELESS
(g) Any new facility and/or equipment and other improvements associated with a new facility must not obstruct any access to fire hydrants or fire escapes, or aboveground or underground public infrastructure, such as underground public utility lines; and

The proposed SWF will not obstruct access to fire hydrants or fire escapes, or aboveground or underground public infrastructure, such as underground public utility lines.
(h) Unless indicated otherwise by the Land Use Supervisor or City Engineer, the color of the antennas and related accessory equipment shall be made to match the existing pole color; if no pole exists, color should match the poles in the immediate area.

Applicant intends to paint the proposed equipment to match the pole as close as possible.

Respectfully Submitted:


## Joe Goldshlack

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