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**COMMUNITY PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Joshua Cummings, Director

Creating Solutions for Our Future

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston County Planning Commission

FROM: Kaitlynn Nelson, Associate Planner

DATE: July 28th, 2021

SUBJECT: Wireless Communication Facilities, Development Code Docket #A19
Thurston County Zoning Code Chapters 20.33, 20.03, and 20.54
Formation of Stakeholder Group

Board of County Commissioner's Direction

The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners provided direction for staff to supply a list of potential participants for a wireless stakeholder group to the Planning Commission. The BoCC outlined next steps, stating that Planning Commissioners will review potential participants, determine who to invite to the stakeholder group, and then County staff (including Ken Fellman, consulting with the County) will work with the stakeholder group to determine suggested changes to the draft code over a 60 day period, which will then go back to Planning Commissioners for any necessary work sessions.

The potential participants listed here are drawn from those who have actively participated and commented throughout the process of reviewing the draft code for Wireless Communication Facilities, or were suggested by a local group of concerned citizens (see attached bios, provided by Christy White). Staff also recommends two Planning Commissioners serve on the Committee (Commissioner Pestinger previously volunteered).

Participant Options

Potential stakeholder group participants are not listed in any particular order.

- Josh Stottlemeyer, community member
- Dorothy Lyons, community member
- Christy White, community member
- George Rother, community member

2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, Washington 98502 (360) 786-5490/FAX (360) 754-2939
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Wireless Code Update
Development Code Docket #A1
7/28/2021

- Sue Danver, community member
- Meridee Pabst, AT&T wireless provider representative
- Kim Allen, Verizon wireless provider representative
- Chris Listfeld, Crown Castle wireless provider representative
- Maria Emig, T-Mobile wireless provider representative

Other Background

The Wireless Communication code establishes the permitting process for numerous types of wireless facilities in both the public rights-of-way and private property, the criteria for approval, and the design guidelines for each type of facility. An update to the wireless code is required for compliance with the Federal Telecommunications Act and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which has adopted multiple orders over the years that impose new and restrictive conditions on local control. Updating the code allows the County to preserve the ability to assert the remaining authority in the review of wireless facilities. The timeline for adoption of the draft code is based not on a calendar deadline, but on the need to fill the gap where the County does not have code in place to request any requirements beyond the determinations made by the FCC.

Staff have worked closely with consultant Ken Fellman, with Kissinger & Fellman Law Firm, who was hired by the County Prosecuting Attorney's office, and who has experience in updating wireless code, as well as actively participating in the ongoing legal updates by the FCC. The draft code is a complete rewrite, with elements of the existing county wireless code considered where applicable, as well as examples of other local codes from cities like Tumwater and Anacortes. This item has been officially docketed since 2014 at the direction of the BoCC.

From: [Christy White](#)
To: [Jennifer Davis](#)
Cc: ["Josh"](#); [Kaitlynn Nelson](#)
Subject: List of Citizens wishing to serve on Wireless Code Committee_2021
Date: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 6:27:48 PM

Jennifer Davis and Planning Commission Members,

As you are in the process of coming up with names for the citizens on the Wireless Committee the following individuals are proposed for your consideration. These are citizens who are established members, long history in the County and have expressed interest in the Wireless Code and serving on the Committee. These are individuals from different professions who could provide well rounded perspectives and engagement. I can provide you with their contact information and they look forward to hearing from you.

Regards, Christy

Josh Stottlemeyer

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Mr. Stottlemeyer is has submitted significant detailed comments regarding the current draft code for quite some time. He is very knowledgeable and prepared to engage with staff, consultants, and others to make sensible recommendations. He has familiarity with the FCC wireless code and has followed cases by various municipalities drafting wireless code. Mr. Stottlemeyer has also been committed to citizen involvement and input into drafting the Thurston County wireless code. Mr. Stottlemeyer is an established local business owner in Thurston County and a long time resident.

Dorothy Lyons

Ms. Lyons has submitted comments regarding the wireless code. Ms. Lyons has interest in how federal regulations have facilitated the right of corporations to access our airways and corridors for private profit, with decreased accommodation of community or county/municipal control over how that occurs, and decreased ability for citizens to influence this direct impact to their homes and property, or the right to choose wired over wireless broadband access. She has indicated her interest in the rights for local determination legally available to the County. She has lived in Thurston County for more than 40 years. Ms. Lyons is a data manager and analyst with the state of Washington

Christy White

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Ms. White's interest has been expressed often in comments to the Planning Commission and the BOCC. Ms. White has been concerned about the placement of wireless technology in the Thurston County for many years and supported activities which require wireless companies to adhere to county code. Ms. White's concerns are vested in a code that is carefully drafted to represent all citizens concerns within the rules of the FCC. Ms. White has lived in Thurston County for over 17 years and for several years in the late 80's. Ms. White is a financial management professional.

George Rother

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Mr. Rother's is interested in how our community plans to address the important issue of wireless access and how it will impact the citizens of Thurston County. Mr. Rother is an active member of this community and participated in many activities, organizations and institutions over many years due to his own interests and in an effort to model "good civic behavior" for his students. Mr. Rother has been a resident of Thurston County for over 40 years and a recently retired Public School teacher and over the course of his teaching career, all of it in Thurston County, has taught 1000's of students and adults in History and Civics.

Sue Danver

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Ms. Danver has held an interest in wireless facilities for many years particularly from a wildlife impact perspective and is an established advocate for responsible County code for various issues in the County. Ms. Danver is engaged in another project at this time, however she would appreciate consideration should a committee member be needed.