



City Council – April 18, 2017

Public Hearing

**“Patch” Ordinance - Wireless Telecom in the Public Right-of-Way
Zoning Code Amendment, Local Coastal Program Amendment**



Proposed "patch" Ordinance

- Interim fix to wireless regulations for the public R-O-W
- Updates 2011 City regulations, best-practices in a newly-emerging field
- Volume of applications for sites in the R-O-W increased from less than 5 since 2011, to over 80 in the past 14 months.



"Macro" cellular sites - Types

- Typically larger facilities on private property
- Provide wide area coverage
- The "cells" that make up the "cellular" network
- Require a Conditional Use Permit to install



“Micro” sites or “Small Cells”

- Fills gaps between macro sites, or increase capacity of existing macro coverage
- Usually located in the public right-of-way
- Most commonly installed on existing street lights and utility poles
- Require an administrative review for compliance with location and aesthetic standards – No CUP is required



Examples of "small cells or micro cells"



Both in Long Beach



Proposed “patch” ordinance

- Addresses most pressing issues in light of current volume of applications
- Establishes enhanced and clearer aesthetic standards
- Reorders preference for siting micro cells
- Preference for underground equipment vaults
- Seeks to address aesthetic impacts and impacts to public sidewalks
- Review and approval process remains administrative

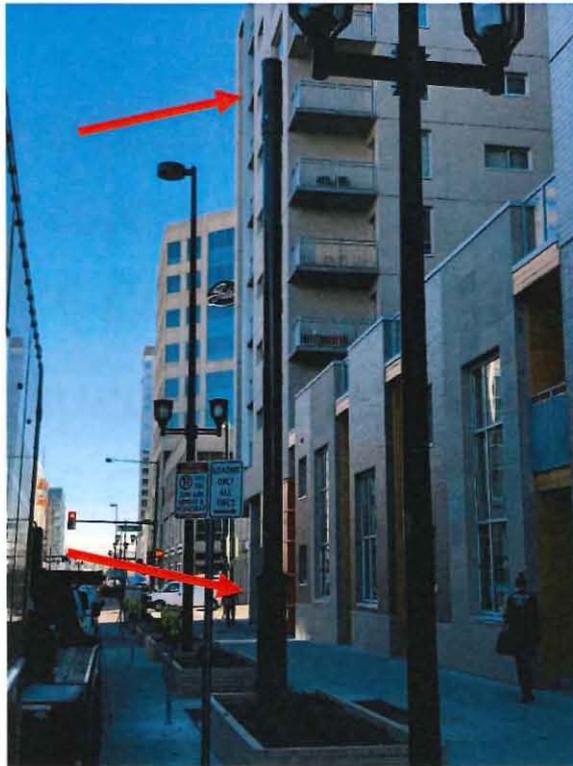


Reasons the “patch” is needed for R-O-W sites

- The City is investing heavily in the public right-of-way and in mobility enhancements
- The City has a major interest in maintaining and enhancing positive aesthetics in the right-of-way
- The City is supportive of technology initiatives and wireless broadband deployment, but aesthetic concerns on public property are paramount



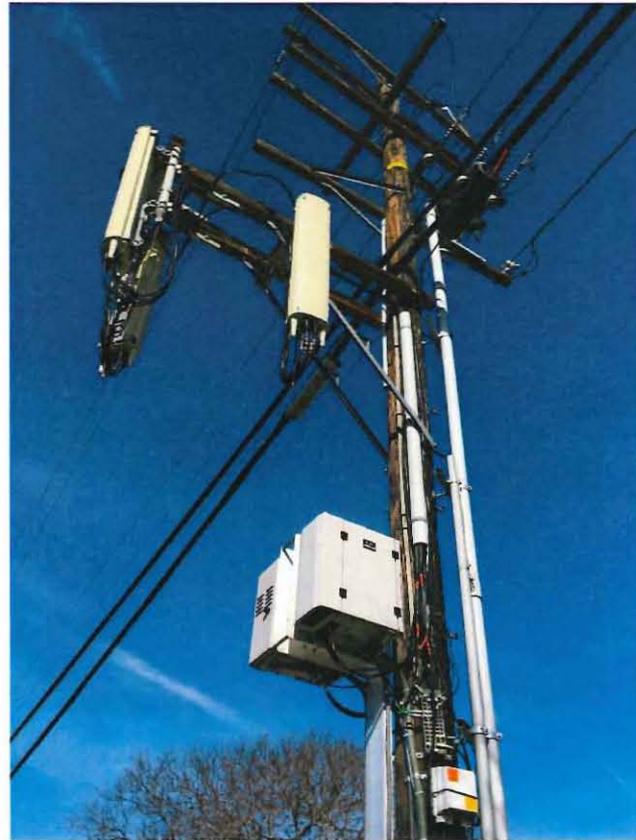
Design style the "patch" will encourage



Design styles the "patch" will encourage



Design styles the "patch" will prohibit



Not in Long Beach



Other items in proposed “patch” ordinance

- Updated statement of purpose
- Updated legal definitions
- Clarification of permitting requirements
- Removal of vague or confusing language
- Prohibits installation of wooden poles
- Higher standards of evidence if developer cannot meet established location preferences



Next Steps

- Current volume of development may continue with updated standards under the “patch ”
- Staff develops a comprehensive update to the wireless telecom ordinance
- Returns to Planning Commission and City Council late summer/early fall



Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Planning Commission recommendation to adopt a Zoning Code Amendment, and adopt a resolution directing staff to submit the ordinance to the California Coastal Commission for a Local Coastal Program Amendment.

