## HAMPTON VA

Items \#20-0279 \& \#20-0300

## Small Cell Wireless Infrastructure

City Council November 12, 2020

## Types of Wireless Infrastrucłure



# Small cells <br> "densify" the macro tower <br> cellular network 

## Increase <br> coverage and data speed

Shorter range (500-1000')

## Legal Framework

## State Law changed in 2017 and 2018 related to wireless infrastructure

- Applies to both private property and public property (City rights-of-way)
- Certain wireless facilities must be reviewed administratively
- New structures under 50' in height which are not in a state or federal historic distric $\dagger$
- Co-locations on existing structures not owned by the City (e.g. Dominion poles)
- City retains some control over public right-of-way
- Can require franchise agreement for certain new structures within City owned right-of-way


## Legal Framework

- "Shot Clocks" Apply
- Co-location on existing structures
- 10 day completeness review
- 60 day application review
- Administrative-eligible new structures
- 10 day completeness review
- 90 day application review
- Fees Limited by State Code


## Proposed Changes

1. City Code amendment, which creates a new Wireless Infrastructure Permit to be reviewed in accordance with state \& federal criteria

- Replaces individual encroachment process

2. New City of Hampton Wireless Infrastructure Design Standards


City of Hampton, VA

## Wireless Infrastructure Design Standards

- Overall Design Standard Goals:
- Co-locate on existing structures when feasible
- Avoid physical obstruction of the public right of way
- Encourage the least intrusive design possible
- Mimic the design of the surrounding streetscape to the extent practical



## Wireless Infrastructure Design Standards

## - Representative Design Standards:

- New poles must have a minimum spacing of 250 feet
- New poles must be located a minimum of 20 feet from existing trees
- New poles must not obstruct traffic or security cameras
- All antennas and wires must be shrouded and contained within the pole
- General design, color etc. must match existing light poles to the extent practical
- Residential areas - maximum height of 30 feet
- Commercial areas - maximum height of 40 feet
- All supporting equipment, meter, cabinets etc. shall be incorporated into the base of the pole or mounted to the pole at an acceptable height.
- Avoid placement in historic districts if possible.
- If a provider fails to use a structure for a period of 12 months, the City may remove it at the facility owner's expense


## Wireless Infrastructure Design Standards

- Representative Design Standards: Co-locations
- Preference hierarchy:
- Existing third party poles in the City's ROW (Dominion Energy, Verizon etc.)
- City owned poles
- City owned structures (buildings, parking garages etc.)
- Other existing structures not otherwise addressed in this section will be considered on a
 case-by-case basis.


## Staff Recommendation

Staff \& Planning Commission Recommend Approval \#20-0279 (Definitions) \#20-0300 (Use Table)

