



City of Dublin

**LAND USE & LONG  
RANGE PLANNING**

August 22, 2013

# Wireless Communications Facility Administrative Review

## 13-086ARTW – Sprint Wireless Co-Location

### AEP Lattice Tower – 5777 Shier Rings Road

This is a request for Sprint to remove three panel antennas and install three new panel antennas with six new remote radio heads on the existing lattice tower located at 5777 Shier Rings Road. The site is at the southwest corner of the intersection of Shier Rings Road and Emerald Parkway. This is a request for review and approval of a wireless communications facility under the provisions of Chapter 99 of the Dublin Code of Ordinances.

#### **Date of Application Acceptance**

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

#### **Date of ART Determination**

Thursday, August 22, 2013

#### **Case Manager**

Rachel S. Ray, AICP, Planner II | (614) 410-4656 | rray@dublin.oh.us



## **PART I: APPLICATION OVERVIEW**

<i>Zoning District</i>	TF, Technology Flex District
<i>Review Type</i>	Wireless Communications Facility Administrative Review
<i>Proposal</i>	Co-location of three antenna panels and six remote radio heads
<i>Administrative Departures</i>	None
<i>Property Address</i>	5777 Shier Rings Road
<i>Property Owner</i>	AEP – Columbus & Southern Ohio Electric Co.
<i>Applicant</i>	Jeffrey D. Haines, Gainar Consultants for Sprint
<i>Case Manager</i>	Rachel S. Ray, AICP, Planner II   (614) 410-4656   rray@dublin.oh.us

### **Application Review Procedure: Wireless Communications Facility Administrative Review**

Wireless communications facilities shall be subject to administrative review and determination under the review standards and procedures of Chapter 99 of the City of Dublin Code of Ordinances. Following acceptance of a complete application for a Wireless Communications Facility Administrative Review, the Administrative Review Team shall approve, deny, or approve with conditions the application based on the review standards of §99.05 and the review criteria of §99.06. A determination by the Administrative Review Team is required not more than 90 days from the date the request was submitted.

### **Proposal Overview**

This is a request to replace three panel antennas with three new panel antennas that are similar in size, shape, and color to the existing panels on an existing lattice tower. Two of the antenna panels are approximately six feet tall, and the third is approximately 4.5 feet tall. All three will be installed at a height of 80 feet above grade to the center point of the antenna panels, which is consistent with the height of the existing panels. Six new remote radio heads will be installed behind the new panels. Two new equipment cabinets will be installed on the existing Sprint equipment pad at the north side of the base of the tower. All modifications are inside the existing wireless communications facility compound.

To avoid service disruptions, the applicant is requesting to install the new antenna panels and equipment cabinets, leaving the existing antennas and cabinets in place until the applicant is ready to make the switch to the new system, at which time the old antenna panels and equipment cabinets will be removed.

### **Code Analysis – §99.05(C) – General Requirements**

*Maximum Height* Chapter 99 limits the height of wireless communications facility towers to a maximum of 140 feet, as measured from grade at the base of the tower, unless a higher tower is required by conditions present in the vicinity of the location of the tower that require a taller structure in order to function. This proposal involves the co-location of antennas on an existing 180-foot lattice tower, and the proposed antennas will be installed at 80 feet above grade measured from the base of the tower to the center line of the new antenna panels.

## PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TEAM COMMENTS

### Land Use and Long Range Planning

It is Planning's opinion that the proposed wireless antennas are designed to be as unobtrusive as possible, with the condition that the existing antenna panels and equipment cabinets be removed within six months following the installation of the new antenna panels. Planning recommends that the applicant select a coax cable color that is designed to be as unobtrusive as possible, and that any associated jumper cables or other wiring be trimmed to fit closely to the antenna panels.

### Engineering, Building Standards, Parks and Open Space, Fire, Police, Economic Development

No comments.

## PART III: APPLICABLE REVIEW STANDARDS

### Administrative Review Criteria

The Administrative Review Team shall review this application based on the review criteria for wireless communications facilities, which include the following proposed responses:

- (a) **Antenna locating on an existing building or other antenna support structure.** Any antenna intended to be attached to a structure other than a tower may be approved as an accessory use to any commercial, industrial, professional, office, institutional, or similar structure, provided [certain criteria are met].  
*Not applicable.*
- (b) **Co-located antennas on existing or reconstructed towers.** The color and overall design of the antenna shall be consistent with the existing tower and be as unobtrusive as possible.  
*Criterion met with conditions.* Conditions are recommended that the applicant select a coax cable color that is designed to be as unobtrusive as possible, and that any associated cables are trimmed to fit closely to the panels. Further, the applicant will be required to remove the existing antenna panels and equipment cabinets that will be decommissioned once the new antenna panels are installed within six months from the date of final inspection. The applicant will also be required to cover any openings left from the removal of the existing cabinets and level and eliminate anything protruding on the abandoned pad area.
- (c) **Alternative tower structure.** Any antenna intended to be attached to a structure other than a tower may be approved as an accessory use to any commercial, industrial, professional, office, institutional, or similar structure, provided [certain criteria are met].  
*Not applicable.*
- (d) **Cable microcell network or distributed antenna system using multiple low-powered transmitters/receivers attached to existing wireline systems, such as conventional cable or telephone wires, or similar technologies/mechanisms may be approved provided that the use of towers is not required and all other applicable provisions of this chapter have been satisfied.**  
*Not applicable.*

#### **PART IV: PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TEAM DETERMINATION**

Approval of this application for wireless communications facility administrative review is recommended with the following conditions:

1. That the applicant select a coax cable color that is designed to be as unobtrusive as possible;
2. That any associated cables are trimmed to fit closely to the panels;
3. That the existing antenna panels and equipment cabinets be removed not more than six months from the date of final inspection; and
4. That the applicant covers any openings left from the removal of the existing cabinets and level and eliminate anything protruding on the abandoned pad area.