

**City of Columbus**  
**Public Hearing – AT&T IUP Amendment Application (PC-16-108)**  
**(AT&T – applicant; City of Columbus – property owner)**  
**March 2, 2016**

The March 2, 2016 Public Hearing to receive testimony regarding a request for an IUP amendment for the installation of a collocation upgrade to an existing cell tower located on City-owned property in Columbus City Park, consisting of replacing and adding panel antennas, adding remote radio heads, adding a Raycap surge protector and associated equipment was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chair Garth Sternberg at the City Hall. Present were Commission members Jim Watson, Pam Wolowski, Jesse Preiner, and Jody Krebs; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, Planner Dean Johnson, and Recording Secretary Karen Boland.

Also in attendance were City Council members Denny Peterson and Bill Krebs; Jim Faulkner, Alyssa Reimers of SMJ International, Pat Preiner, and Mary Preiner.

**Sternberg:** Now we have one more. Public Hearing and discussion for AT&T IUP amendment request, pages 35-44. And, at this time, I'd like to ask the recording secretary to read the notice as published.

Notice was read at this time by the recording secretary.

**Sternberg:** Thanks. And if you could just state your name and address for the record, please.

**Reimers:** Sure. My name is Alyssa Reimers. I represent SMJ International on behalf of AT&T. Uh, my residence is 27820 Stevens Street, New Prague, Minnesota.

**Sternberg:** Thank you. And if you could give us a little background on what it is that you want to do.

**Reimers:** Uh-huh. Um, AT&T is currently proposing an upgrade project at 8762 165<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast, in Columbus. Um, this is a mono-pole cell phone tower and AT&T is currently the only carrier on the tower. Um, the scope of work is to improve coverage and signal strength in the area. They will be replacing three obsolete antennas, adding three additional antennas, nine RRHs or remote radio heads, and one surge protector. There is other related components, but those will be installed in the existing equipment cabinets on the pad. The—as far as the structure is concerned—there are no structural issues. There was a structural analysis conducted December 29, 2015, and it passed at 44 percent. So there is plenty of room on the tower for the additional antennas. As far as traffic is concerned, there should be no traffic or parking issues. It has its own access drive and room to turn around, and, usually, only one to two vehicles are on site during installation. Um, and as far as radiation goes, there should be no issues with this either. The FCC regulates this, and American Tower, which is the tower owner, has an entire department devoted to testing the equipment and making sure everything is safe before it goes on the tower.

**Mursko:** Is that how the tower will look?

**Reimers:** Yes, that is how the tower will look when it's completed, I believe. I'm not sure. Yes, page A1. So as you can see, the red antennas are the antennas that will be added or replaced. And if you go to page A2, it shows a little bit better what the existing equipment is in the picture on the left-hand side, and on the right-hand side it shows the proposed outline.

**Sternberg:** Those types of towers make great nesting habitat for birds of prey.

**Reimers:** Yeah, I know.

**Wolowski:** Mr. Chair, I have a question. Is AT&T the only provider still, will they still be the only provider on the tower?

**Reimers:** Correct. Yes.

**Wolowski:** Okay. Thank you.

**Sternberg:** Any other questions?

**Wolowski:** It looks pretty straightforward.

**Sternberg:** Okay. If you want to have a seat, I'm going to open the hearing to the public. Thank you.

**Reimers:** Yup.

**Sternberg:** Is there anyone here from the public that wants to speak on the matter? Anyone from the public? Okay, I'm going to close the hearing with the right to reopen if it becomes necessary.

Hearing closed at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karen Boland, Recording Secretary