

Section 54 Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Facility

54.1 Purpose

The purpose of this section is to establish a procedure and recommended standards where a telecommunication carrier is required to consult with The City for the siting of a new antenna system, or alteration of an existing system, that is regulated by Industry Canada.

54.2 Requirement to Consult with the City of Grande Prairie

Industry Canada's Client Procedures Circular CPC-2-0-03 "Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems" provides for proponents of antenna systems to consult with the municipality regarding proposals to install, or make changes to, antenna systems, subject to certain exclusions.

54.3 Development Considerations

When a request for a new antenna system or alteration to an existing system is received, the following provisions apply:

- a. The City encourages the co-location of antennas on existing masts or towers, or mounted on existing structures. All carriers proposing to locate an antenna system within the City should first contact all other carriers providing similar services in the City to consider locating on an existing structure, prior to submitting a notification package to the Development Officer;

(Bylaw C-1260-61 - December 12, 2016)

- b. If demonstrated to be impractical to locate on an existing structure, the City encourages the placement of new antenna systems in commercial or industrial areas, in order to protect residential neighbourhoods. Preferred setback will be at least six (6) times the tower height to the boundary of a residential land use district, measured from the tower base, or the outside perimeter of a supporting structure, whichever is greater;
- c. New antenna systems will not be supported in front yards or where they will negatively impact the High Visibility Corridor. The proposed placement should also minimise any impact on the natural environment;
- d. Where a new tower or mast is proposed for an antenna system, the City encourages the use of monopole design to reduce the visual impact of the structure and supports the use of camouflage techniques that will assist blend the tower and associated structures into the surrounding built and natural environment;
- e. Where antennae and/or utility shelters are proposed on the roof of an existing building, they should be set back from the edge of roof line in order to minimise the visual impact from ground level;
- f. No signage, other than signage required for regulatory or safety purposes should be mounted on a telecommunication tower; and
- g. The City encourages the use of protective anti climb fencing around new masts or towers.

54.4 Application Submission Requirements

When a proponent is required to consult with the City regarding a telecommunication facility, the proponent shall submit the applicable fee to the Development Authority, together with an information package, which shall include:

- a. Written documentation of attempts to co-locate on existing antenna supporting structures within the City, including building rooftops and responses received from operators of existing telecommunication facilities, or building owners contacted;
- b. For a new freestanding mast or tower proposal, a site plan showing the proposed location dimensions and design of the mast or tower and any associated structures or buildings;
- c. For a new freestanding mast or tower proposal, written confirmation that the applicant will support any requests for future co-sharing of the proposed mast or tower;

- d. Proposed landscaping scheme, including fencing details confirming the height, design and materials to be used; and
- e. For the siting of a new antenna and any associated structures on existing buildings, towers or masts, details of the proposed size, siting and design of the antenna and associated structures.

54.5 Public Consultation Requirements

For Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Facilities the following public consultation requirements shall apply:

- a. Where not exempt from consultation, as prescribed by Industry Canada, a proponent shall follow the default public consultation process for the local public, as outlined in Section 4.2 of Industry Canada's Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems Circular;
- b. In addition to the Industry Canada requirement for surrounding property owners to be mailed a notification package containing the applicant's proposal, the City encourages the applicant to also arrange an open house in order to engage the surrounding landowners in the consultation process to the greatest extent possible;
- c. The Development Officer will require a public consultation summary from the applicant prior to submitting a report to the City's Committee. The summary shall include a list of property owners notified, responses received and the applicant's measures taken to address any reasonable and relevant concerns received; and
- d. The applicant is required to pay all costs associated with the public consultation process, including advertising for and hosting open house sessions for neighbourhood consultations.

(Bylaw C-1260-84 - December 4, 2017 and Bylaw C-1260-118 - April 6, 2020)

54.6 Processing of Applicant's Request

The Development Officer shall present a report to the Committee, outlining the results of the public consultation process and suitability of the applicant's request based on the land use considerations in this Section. The Development Officer shall provide a recommendation of support, or non-support for the request. Upon review of the request, the Committee shall direct that a letter of attestation be provided to Industry Canada either in support, or opposition to the applicant's request.

(Bylaw C-1260-84 - December 4, 2017 and Bylaw C-1260-118 - April 6, 2020)