



Council Report

Report Number: LGL2022-018
Meeting Date: December 13, 2022
Title: Telecommunications Policy CP2018-014
Description: Proposed amendments to the Telecommunications Policy
Author and Title: Robyn Carlson, City Solicitor

Recommendations:

That Report LGL2022-018, Telecommunications Policy CP2018-014, be received;

That Council approve amendments to the Telecommunications Policy CP2018-014 as outlined in Appendix A to Report LGL2022-018; and

That the policy entitled Telecommunications Policy, appended to Report LGL2022-018 as Appendix A, be adopted and numbered for inclusion in the City's Policy Manual, replacing all predecessor versions.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

This Policy was recently (September 27, 2022) the subject of a Council Report and amendments to the policy were made at that time.

However, subsequently, the City has come to an impasse on the terms in the policy with a telecommunications provider. The author of the report intends to satisfy those concerns with the proposed amendments to the policy.

Rationale:

An amendment to each of sections 2.02(i), 3.03 and 4.02 is required to allow telecommunications carriers to site towers with access off unmaintained roads, and to remove the requirement that the owner sign the agreement and have it registered on title.

Access off unmaintained roads is permissible, as these sites require infrequent maintenance. Road maintenance obligations for continued access will be borne by the telecommunications provider. This recommendation is consistent with recent Council direction.¹

Removing the requirement for the owner to sign the agreement and have it registered on title still entitles the City to require this in cases where the telecommunication provider in question presents a higher risk profile for default on the obligation to decommission an abandoned tower, but removes this barrier for those providers with a lower risk profile.

Other Alternatives Considered

None.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

This report aligns with the City's strategic priority of a Vibrant and Growing Economy.

¹ Xplornet Tower at 892 Cambray Road.

Financial/Operation Impacts

None.

Attachments:

Appendix A – Council Policy CP2018-014, with proposed amendments shown in tracked change format



CP2018-014
Telecommunications

Consultations:

Director of Development Services

Planning Officer – Large Developments

Director of Engineering & Corporate Assets

Director of Public Works

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Department Head: Robyn Carlson