

## Additional Information on Public Engagement for Cell Towers

Additional information was requested at the [August 7, 2024 Standing Policy Committee on Finance meeting](#) regarding public engagement when locating cell towers, this appendix provides the requested information.

### General Notes Regarding Cell Tower Placement and Approvals:

- The City of Saskatoon is not the approving authority for cell towers, but cell service providers are required by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) to consult the local land use authority as part of obtaining ISED's permission to install a cell tower. The City would issue a letter of concurrence or non-concurrence on each proposed cell tower for ISED's consideration.
- Administration evaluates each cell tower proposal through an internal technical review conducted by Administration and a public consultation conducted by the proponent, in accordance with the [Antenna Systems Policy No. C09-037](#). More information on this process was provided in a [February 14, 2022 information report to Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services](#).
- For a cell service provider to obtain the City's concurrence, the proponent is required to send public notification to property owners within 200 metres of the proposed tower location, and to the Ward Councillor and Community Association for the neighbourhood. A notice in the Saskatoon StarPhoenix is also required if a proposed tower is 30 metres or greater in height. If the proposal generates substantive public concern, Administration may require the proponent to host a public information meeting.
- The Administration's cell tower evaluation process is separate from the public notice process required for the leasing of City-owned parcels, which includes park and Municipal Reserve lands.

### Specific Notes Regarding the Engagement for the Cell Towers Noted in the Report:

**Aspen Ridge** – niwāhkōmākanak Park, 105 Aspen Ridge Street: SaskTel has not yet submitted an application for municipal concurrence. When they do, SaskTel would be required to conduct public consultation as outlined by the Antenna Systems Policy. The Council-approved Aspen Ridge Neighbourhood Concept Plan has shown a potential cell tower at this location since 2014.

**Willowgrove** – Wallace Park, 903 Stensrud Road: SaskTel completed public consultation for their new 35m tower from March 2023 to May 2023, and Administration issued a letter of concurrence on June 12, 2023.

**Silverwood Heights** – WJL Harvey North Park, 290 Russell Road: SaskTel recently replaced a 15m tower with a 35m tower at this location using the same foundation. SaskTel completed public consultation for their 35m tower from April 2022 to June 2022, and Administration issued a letter of concurrence on December 19, 2022. The original 15m tower was installed in 2012 and pre-dated the current Antenna Systems Policy. The previous policy, Council Policy C01-020 Radiocommunication Towers, did not require public consultation for freestanding towers up to 15 metres in height.

**Lakewood Urban Centre** – 418 Herold Court: SaskTel installed the existing 35m tower in 2015 replacing an earlier 14.9m tower. SaskTel completed public consultation for their 35m tower from April 2015 to June 2015, and Administration issued a letter of concurrence on June 24, 2015. The original 14.9m tower was installed in 2012 and pre-dated the current Antenna Systems Policy. The previous policy, Council Policy C01-020 Radiocommunication Towers, did not require public consultation for freestanding towers up to 15 metres in height.