CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2022-170

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Boylan

Date of Introduction: March 8, 2022

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, TEU, LUZ

Date of Analysis: March 10, 2022

Type of Action: Ordinance Code amendment; authorizing revision of application forms

Bill Summary: The bill amends Ordinance Code Chapter 656 – Zoning Code – to clarify registration requirements associated with transfer of wireless communication tower ownership or lease and to create a public information signage requirement for such towers. It authorizes the Planning and Development Department to update application materials and forms to reflect the new requirements.

Background Information: Zoning Code Part 15 – Communication Tower and Antenna Regulations – is amended to require that the annual registration form required for each tower include the service provider's tower identification number and the address or general site location of the tower. It adds a requirement that when a communication tower's ownership or lessor changes, the new owner or lessor shall provide the City with a declaration containing the new owner/lessor's name and address along with the tower identifying information within 30 days of the transfer. The bill adds a requirement that each communication tower owner shall place on the tower compound fence, facing a public right-of-way or private road, a permanent sign, no higher than five (5) feet and no lower than four (4) feet in height from the base of the ground, which provides for the name and address of the wireless communication tower, the name and phone number of a point of contact at the wireless communication tower company, and the service provider's tower identification number. The sign area for the sign must be at least 24 inches wide and at least 18 inches tall, or be clearly visible and legible to an individual standing no more than 15 feet from the sign, but no greater in sign area than 6 square feet. The purpose of this signage is to provide the public with contact information for the wireless communication tower owner and a point of contact on tower owner and a point of contact who can assist the public with questions regarding the wireless communication tower.

Policy Impact Area: Communication tower regulation

Fiscal Impact: None to City; requires the posting of signage by tower owners

Analyst: Clements