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Crown Castle  
12 Gill Street, Suite 5800  
Woburn, MA 01801

RECEIVED

January 4, 2017

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Town of Grafton  
Planning Board  
30 Providence Road  
Grafton, MA 01519

PLANNING BOARD  
GRAFTON, MA

**RE: Determination of proposed minor modification to special permit 1998-1:  
Telecommunication tower located at 43 Estabrook Road, Grafton, MA**

Dear Board Members,

## **I. Project Summary**

This request for a determination of minor modification of a special use permit respectfully submitted by Crown Castle, the operator and manager of the existing telecommunications facility, owned by AT&T Wireless PCS, Inc., and its co-applicant T-Mobile, existing tenant on the tower. T-Mobile is requesting administrative approval on behalf of Crown Castle and T-Mobile to modify the existing T-Mobile equipment of the tower. T-Mobile proposes to add three (3) new antennas, three (3) RRUs (non-antennas), and one (1) hybrid cable to the tower with their existing equipment. The antennas will be placed at the same centerline height of 79'. T-Mobile will utilize the existing cabinets. All work is to be completed within the existing area and there will be no increase in height to the tower.

As you may be aware, on February 22, 2012, the federal government enacted "collocation-by-right" legislation preempting delays in the process of zoning the collocation of transmission equipment on existing wireless communications facilities (Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Pub. L. No. 112-96, § 6409 (2012)) (hereinafter, the "Federal Collocation-By-Right Legislation"). The Federal Collocation-By-Right Legislation mandates that local governments must approve any eligible facilities request for the modification of an existing wireless tower or base station that does not substantially change the physical dimensions of such tower or base station.

The proposed modification complies with all federal, state, and local zoning and permitting requirements. It is our expectation that this application will be processed without any undue delay and in a manner consistent with the newly enacted Federal Collocation-By-Right Legislation.

## **II. Compliance with Section 5.8 Wireless Communications Facilities Regulations**

### **5.8.1.1.1 Purpose and Intent**

T-Mobile is already located on the existing tower at this location. The proposed addition of antennas mounted on an existing platform will not have an adverse effect on either the Town or the neighborhood.

### **5.8.1.1.2 Definitions**

T-Mobile submits that the proposed modification corresponds with the definition of "wireless communication facility" as set forth in this sub-section.

#### **5.8.2**

Not applicable.

#### **5.8.3 Site Selection Preferences**

Since this is an existing tower that T-Mobile is an existing tenant the proposal meets the Town's preference set for in this sub section.

#### **5.8.4 Additional submittal requirements**

##### **5.8.4.a**

Signed and sealed construction drawings prepared by a MA licensed engineer shows the proposed modification to the tower. A passing structural analysis signed and prepared by a MA registered engineer shows the towers has sufficient capacity for the proposed modification. FCC license was submitted with the original special permit application and is not required for the proposed change.

##### **5.8.4.b**

Not applicable since this a proposed modification on an existing tower.

##### **5.8.4.c**

Not applicable. This site was filed with the FAA when it was built and there is not proposed increase in the height of the tower.

##### **5.8.4.d**

Not applicable since this a proposed modification on an existing tower.

##### **5.8.4.e**

Not applicable since this a proposed modification on an existing tower.

#### **5.8.5 Conditions for Granting**

For the submittal requirements for this section please see attached drawings.

- a) T-Mobile respectfully submits that the proposed modification meets all required conditions of the bylaw.
- b) Not applicable since this a proposed modification on an existing tower.
- c) Not applicable as this is an existing monopole that is in compliance with this section.
- d) Not applicable since this a proposed modification on an existing tower.

#### **5.8.6 General Requirements**

##### **5.8.6.1**

The existing tower meets the setback requirements of 300' set forth in this subsection.

**5.8.6.2**

The existing tower meets the setback requirements of 300' set forth in this subsection.

**5.8.6.3**

There is no artificial lighting on this tower.

**5.8.6.4**

This existing tower is designed as a monopole and is in compliance of this subsection.

**5.8.6.5**

This is an existing tower that was designed and built for collocation.

**5.8.6.7**

Not applicable since this is an existing tower.

**5.8.6.8**

There will be no additional cabinets added to the site.

**5.8.6.9**

No additional utilities will be brought to the site and all existing utilities are already under ground.

**5.8.6.10**

The proposed antenna is more than 5 feet in height. The proposed antenna is 96.4" long.

**5.8.6.11**

No advertising or signage will be used at the facility other than an emergency number for T-Mobile in case of emergency.

**5.8.6.12**

The existing tower meets the requirements of this subsection. The tower is 91' and the nearest wellhead area of a municipal water supply is 5280'.

**5.8.6.13**

There is existing screening on this site and no new cabinets will be added to the compound and the compound will not be expanded.

**5.8.7**

Not applicable

**5.8.8**

T-Mobile respectfully submits that the proposed modification is minor since they are utilizing an existing T-Mobile platform on an existing tower. They request that a modification to the special permit not be required in this case.

**5.8.9**

T-Mobile will comply with this requirement.

**5.8.10**

T-Mobile understands that the planning board is authorized to deviate from the strict compliance within the provision of section 5.8 by a vote of at least 4 members.

**Existing Facility:**



Please do not hesitate to contact me at the number below if you have any questions or require anything additional.

Sincerely,

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**The Foundation for a Wireless World.**  
**CrownCastle.com**