



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Wilbur E. "Bill" Cunningham, Chairman

STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

January 21, 2016

REQUEST: City Council Bill #15-0596/ Franchise – Mobilitie:

For the purpose of granting a franchise to Mobilitie, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company with business headquarters in California, to construct, install, maintain, repair, operate, relocate, replace, and remove certain facilities relating to the provision of a Distributed Antenna Systems services in and across certain streets and public ways, subject to certain terms and conditions; and providing for a special effective date.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Eric Tiso

PETITIONER: The Administration, on behalf of the Department of Transportation (DOT)

HISTORY

- Ordinance #15-400, enacted July 27, 2015, approved a franchise for Extenet.
- Ordinance #15-428, enacted Nov 6, 2015, approved a franchise for Crown Castle NG Atlantic.

ANALYSIS

Proposal: Mobilitie, LLC provides services to third-party wireless carriers by providing the infrastructure that those carriers can use to provide additional wireless connectivity and capacity to their systems. This request for a franchise will allow Mobilitie to attach Distributed Antennas Systems (DAS) equipment to publically owned infrastructure, such as street light poles, that are connected to conduit that links several of these individual nodes to a service hub in a building that connects to the wireless carrier's system.

Staff understands that the Franchise will be for a ten year period, with three five-year renewals at \$100 per year. Each installation will require a separate attachment agreement, conduit lease agreement, and that all costs will be borne by Mobilitie (to include working directly with BGE for power). Additionally, an application fee of \$500 per attachment will be required, as well as a per-pole fee of \$2,400 for the first 25 poles, on a sliding scale down to \$1,200 per pole for 451+ poles. Lastly, two strands of dark fiber per pole for exclusive City Use OR an extra \$300 per pole per year will be required.

Design and Process: The DAS installations may vary over time, but will most typically include a series of small equipment boxes and relay antennas, each less than a cubic foot in size, connected to a 2” by 43” antenna at the top of the utility or light pole. DAS is helpful when towers or rooftop installations are not practical, and in areas where additional capacity is required, such as major venues with large crowds. Each individual installation will require a separate attachment agreement between Mobilitie and DOT, and individual review. Additionally, each individual installation will be posted for two weeks for public comment.

Community Notification: Notice of this meeting, and basic information on the proposal was distributed to 1,478 e-mail addresses through the GovDelivery Service.



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