

November 4, 2015

Okanogan County Office of Planning and Development  
123 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N. Suite 130  
Okanogan, WA 98841

Attn: Ben Rough, Senior Planner  
Perry Huston, Director

There is a concerted effort on the part of both the State and Federal governments to expand broadband access to underserved areas like Okanogan County. Current county permitting requirements are hindering that process and delaying deployment of services to citizens in some of the more remote areas of the county.

In an effort to streamline that process, we would like to propose the following amendments to the County Zone Code which is currently under review:

Under RCW 43.21C.0384 (b) and WAC 197-11-800 (25) Wireless communications facilities are exempt from SEPA when the towers are less than 60 feet in height, located in commercial, industrial, manufacturing, forest or agricultural zone.

We would like to propose to amend OCC 17.04.067 to include *“with towers of less than 60 feet in height, located in commercial, industrial, manufacturing, forest or agricultural zone.”*

We also propose amending OCC 17.21 the District Use Chart to make commercial communications facilities a permitted use in the Minimum Requirement District, Rural 1, Rural 5, Rural 20, Agricultural District, Commercial District, Industrial District and the North 97 Commercial District. In all other districts it would still require a Conditional Use Permit.

Propose to amend 17.05.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.06A.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.06B.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.06C.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.07.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.08.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.09.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*D. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.10.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*C. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

Propose to amend 17.11.040 Accessory Uses to add:

*C. Portable commercial communications facilities of no more than 35 feet in height.*

We feel that the above changes would streamline the process and enable companies to deploy services in a faster and more economical fashion, enabling more citizens of the county to receive services they currently do not have access to.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Becki L. Andrist  
Vice President