



CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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March 6, 2020

Michael E. Wrinn
Director of Planning & Land Use Management
Town of Wilton
Town Hall Annex
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

RE:

Request for a Telecommunications Coverage Assessment of Wilton, CT, Pursuant to Conn. Gen.

Stat. §16-50ff

Dear Mr. Wrinn:

In response to your request of January 23, 2020 and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50ff, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requested each of the carriers providing service in the Town of Wilton to perform a local telecommunications coverage assessment for the area. We received assessments from New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T), Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Verizon), Sprint and T-Mobile.

AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint and Verizon are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to operate a wireless telecommunications system in Fairfield County. Each carrier is licensed to use multiple frequencies to provide reliable service to a given geographic area. Coverage for each carrier is different as coverage footprints from each telecommunications site is based on antenna locations on different facilities and at different heights.

After reviewing the data provided by the telecommunications carriers, Council staff created this coverage assessment and the enclosed map for the Town of Wilton dated March 6, 2020. The map shows general wireless service within the town. This coverage assessment map assumes all existing towers and other structures were used by all carriers providing service to the area at the particular heights listed in the table on the plots in the column "Prop. Height." The heights used to generate coverage are often below the top of the structure to take into account multiple carriers located on each structure since only one carrier can use a particular antenna mounting level on the structure. There is generally more coverage shown on the Council plot than any one particular carrier's system may have due to the Council's input parameters.

The sites used to generate the enclosed coverage map are listed in the table on the bottom of the map.

The telecommunications service area is affected by distance from the site and topographic elevation differences. Coverage from any particular site may be lost if obstructed by a steep elevation. Likewise, coverage from a site at a high elevation may be lost in a nearby valley area.

The potential for wireless telecommunications service in the Town of Wilton exists throughout most of the town with areas of inconsistent or nonexistent coverage within the western and central portions of town. Coverage may exist along Route 7, Route 33 and Route 106 and surrounding areas, but there appear to be localized areas and local roads that may be within an area of inconsistent or nonexistent coverage. Additionally, opportunities for colocation by a carrier on an existing facility may be limited for some

facilities; particularly for installations on existing electric transmission line structures/utility poles and facilities mounted on building rooftops that typically cannot accommodate several wireless installations.

Please note that even if coverage appears to be substantial within an area of the town, capacity loading of the sites is a factor in determining need for additional sites. A facility that is heavily used may exhaust its ability to provide service to any additional users. Areas in need of capacity are not depicted on the enclosed map as these areas are not readily able to be depicted.

There is at least one carrier search area for a new facility in the Town of Wilton.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman Executive Director

MB/CW

Enclosure

c: (Attachment via e-mail)
Lucia Chiocchio, Esq., New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC
Jessica Rincon, AT&T Mobility
Sara Brady, AT&T Mobility
Thomas J. Regan, Esq. Sprint
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