



The City of Seattle

Pioneer Square Preservation Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649
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PSB 48/21

MINUTES for Wednesday April 21, 2021

Board Members

Roll Call

Lynda Collie	Present
Kianoush Curran	Present
Alise Kuwahara Day	Present
Brendan Donckers	Present
Audrey Hoyt	Present
Alex Rolluda, Chair	Present
Felicia Salcedo	Present

Staff

Genna Nashem
Melinda Bloom

Chair Alex Rolluda called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation No. 20-28.5. Meeting participation is limited to access by the WebEx meeting link or the telephone call-in line provided on agenda.

042121.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 6, 2021

MM/SC/LC/BD 7:0:0 Minutes approved.

March 17, 2021

MM/SC/LC/AH 5:0:2 Minutes approved. Messrs. Donckers and Rolluda abstained.

042121.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

042121.3 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL APPLICATIONS

042121.31 Public right of way including areaway

515 2nd Ave

Installation of small cell equipment for AT and T including replacement of a pole and alterations to the areaway.

Jay Rodriguez, Mastec explained the project to install small wireless antenna on existing streetlight pole to improve AT&T service / coverage in the area. He said frequencies from roof antenna don't make it down to pedestrian / street level so antenna on pole is needed.

Ms. Nashem asked the applicant to explain the map with three other poles identified.

Mr. Rodriguez said those are still in process and he hasn't yet made contact for an application on those projects. He said this application is just for the one ending in 023E. He said they are using existing conduit with will re-use existing hangers in the areaway. Any new conduit will re-use existing hangers. He said the antenna size is 15" x 40" and there will be two on the pole.
(note: the plans show that the antennas are each 13.8" x 23.9" but the equipment box is 14" x 40")

Tim Gasser, Mastec said the antennas will be installed in accordance with SDOT and SCL standards and rules for City light poles.

Ms. Nashem said the Board also uses the same standards.

Steve Evenson said the foundation is constructed of poured concrete.

Mr. Rolluda asked if the foundation configuration drawing is correct.

Mr. Evenson said he will need to talk to a colleague.

Mr. Rodriguez said it is correct, that they had to build the area and flatten the pole in place.

Mr. Evenson said they will have to get an update but noted additional conduit might be involved and another 2" penetration would be needed.

Mr. Rolluda asked if that was in the drawings.

Mr. Evenson said no.

Mr. Rodriguez said the fiber providers will do that part and is going through a separate process so that information is not on the drawing. He said that information would be provided by other company.

Ms. Salcedo asked how this site was chosen and why pole antennas rather than roof antennas.

Mr. Rodriguez said their radio frequency engineer develops the site where additional resources are needed. He said the frequency cannot penetrate walls. The rooftop antennas can't make it to the ground and there is high foot traffic at this location. He said the pole antenna is needed to provide better service.

Mr. Evenson said it is not so much coverage as it is capacity. The rooftop antennas are maxxed out and there is a limit to where they can be put. He said this is part of a distributed network that offloads data traffic; sites like this pick up the foot traffic.

Ms. Kuwahara Day asked if more antennas will be required in the future. She asked if other carriers are going to need this as well.

Mr. Rodriguez said yes.

Mr. Rolluda said the board has reviewed these applications before. He noted concern about proliferation of antennas in Pioneer Square. He said there will be four in Pioneer Square and this is just AT&T.

Mr. Rodriguez said there is opportunity for co-location on pole with another carrier, but it depends on SCL. He said the maximum antennas per pole is three.

Mr. Evenson said a revision of that standard would be needed to allow more. He said it is an ongoing conversation.

Ms. Nashem clarified that she thought the Board was asking how they can make the equipment less visible and less obtrusive, rather than if they could concentrate the antennas on a couple of poles.

Mr. Rolluda said he heard that panels would get smaller but that doesn't seem to be happening.

Mr. Gasser said if they could access the equipment as they walk in areaway it would help reduce visible footprint.

Mr. Rolluda said the less visible the equipment is by the public, the better. He asked what equipment shown on the pole could be located in areaway.

Mr. Evenson said the box could, but it may need to be placed next to the antenna.

Mr. Rolluda appreciated the suggestion of the box going into areaway.

Ms. Collie asked if placement is exclusive to AT&T or can other equipment be added. She assumes the equipment is safe. She said removing visual impairments is ideal. She liked the idea of relocating the box to the areaway.

Mr. Rolluda said to be sensitive about managing the growth of small cell utilities in the historic district.

Mr. Rodriguez said they can check to see if box can go to areaway; that will need to be processed through AT&T to see if it is a possibility.

Mr. Gasser said that would likely revolve around access; he asked if areaway is easily accessed.

Mr. Rolluda suggesting holding the application pending additional information.

Ms. Nashem noted there is tile from the original Seattle Hotel in the areaway at the location of the new concrete base and asked the Board if they had comments.

Ms. Collie suggested the applicant provide a photo of the area so board can see impacts. She asked applicant to look at areaway to make sure any work will cause the least disruption to historic details.

Ms. Hoyt asked how many existing antennas are in the area now.

Mr. Rodriguez said there are multiple sites in the area.

Mr. Evenson said they can provide a mockup of a fully built out decorative pole for board review.

Mr. Rolluda noted there are four antennas on poles sites in Pioneer Square that are AT&T; he asked applicants to come back with requested information.

Ms. Nashem said if they can provide information by next Wednesday, she will be able to put them on the first agenda in May.

042121.4 BOARD BUSINESS

042121.5 REPORT OF THE CHAIR: Alex Rolluda, Chair

042121.6 STAFF REPORT: Genna Nashem

Ms. Nashem said the Mayors office is moving ahead with re-appointments. She said Ms. Collie will be switched to property owner so the At-Large position can be opened up for a resident. She said Ms. Kuwahara Day and Mr. Donckers have asked not to be reappointed. She said a new member is needed for the historian position.

She reminded members to return FIS forms to her.

Genna Nashem
Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator
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