



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2020-253

File ID:	AB2020-253	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	06/12/2020	Entered by:	SBatdorf@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Parks and Recreation Department	File Type:	Resolution Requiring a Public Hearing		
Assigned to:	Council	Final Action:	08/05/2020		
Agenda Date:	08/05/2020	Enactment #:	RES 2020-031		

Primary Contact Email: sbatdorf@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution authorizing Whatcom County to enter into a twenty-year communication tower lease agreement with Verizon Wireless for an existing tower site located at the Lookout Mountain Forest Reserve

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

The enclosed lease agreement updates the terms and extends the current lease agreement with Verizon Wireless for another twenty years. The current agreement, which expires in 2022, was transferred to Whatcom County in 2014 from the Department of Natural Resources as part of the reconveyance of forest lands on Lookout Mountain.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
07/07/2020	Council	INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING	Council
		Aye: 6 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, and Elenbaas	
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 1 Kershner	
07/21/2020	Council	HELD IN COUNCIL	
		Aye: 7 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Elenbaas, and Kershner	
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 0	

07/21/2020 Council

HELD IN COUNCIL

Aye: 7 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Elenbaas, and Kershner
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

08/05/2020 Council

APPROVED

Aye: 7 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Elenbaas, and Kershner
Nay: 0
Absent: 0

Attachments: Agenda Bill Master Report, Memorandum, Resolution, Communication Tower Lease Agreement, Sheriff's Memo Verizon

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-031

AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A TWENTY-YEAR COMMUNICATION TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS

WHEREAS, in January 2014, the State of Washington through the Department of Natural Resources conveyed to Whatcom County, land which contained Commercial Communication Tower Lease sites with existing established towers; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code 1.10.410 requires County Council to indicate by resolution whether a real property lease may be awarded by private negotiation with interested parties; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code 1.10.410 authorizes County Council approval of real property leases; and

WHEREAS, the tower lease sites are located on Lookout Mountain and are remote and do not impede or impact public recreation or any other County purpose; and

WHEREAS, the established communication towers are a substantial company expenditure and commitment and long-term leases are necessary in this industry; and

WHEREAS, the prior Department of Natural Resources tower leases were for a period of ten years and will be expiring; and

WHEREAS, Cellco d/b/a Verizon Wireless, owner of one of the towers has requested to extend its communication tower lease for an additional twenty-years; and

WHEREAS, the new communication tower lease contains updated lease provisions from the prior DNR leases, including lease rate increases, an annual three (3) % increase, road maintenance fees and five-year rate reviews; and

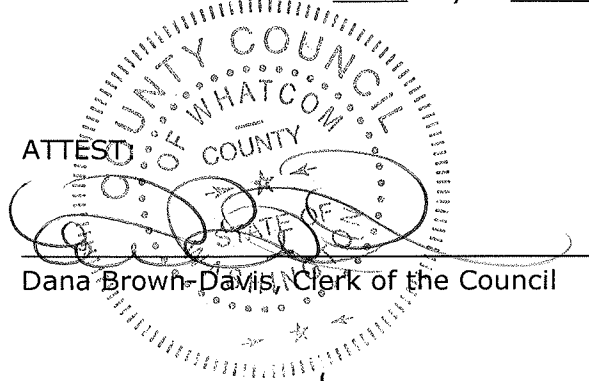
WHEREAS, this communication tower lease appears to be in the best interest of the County and the people thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the communication tower lease with Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, proposed by Parks & Recreation Department be awarded through private negotiation with interested parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council authorizes the County Executive to enter into a twenty-year communication tower lease agreement with Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for leased space on park property located at the Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve as outlined in the agreement.

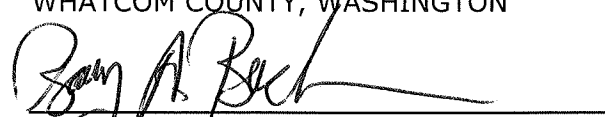
ADOPTED this 5th day of August, 2020.

ATTEST




Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Brandon Waldron, Civil Deputy Prosecutor