

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**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 ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Brandon Waldron, Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive