

Issue Analysis Form

Date: February 8, 2022
Resolution waiving Code
Section 90-393 to allow a 25ft
radio tower to be installed
without a special exception

Item:

Lead Department(s): County Attorney

Contact Person(s): Dan Whitten



Description and Current Status

L3 Harris is installing new radio communication equipment as part of the radio system project.

This equipment will require a 25' radio tower to be installed behind the Emergency Communications Center which is located in a B-1 general business district at 6600 Courthouse Road (Tax Map #: 240(0A)00-012-A) and owned by the County. This tower will provide redundant communication capabilities if the larger prime tower behind the School Board office is disabled.

Pursuant to County Code Section 90-393, a special exception is required to erect a public utility generating station, transmission substation, transmission line and tower other than normal distribution facilities, pipe, meter, railroad, water and sewerage installation, compressor station, measurement station, regulator station.

A waiver is requested of Code Section 90-393 because this is county owned property and it is a County Public Safety project benefitting the community. In addition, the radio tower, at 25' in height and adjacent to the ECC building, is more similar to a private ham radio tower (which have minimal regulations per VA Code §15.2-2293.1) than a communications tower for public use, which is typically 199' or taller and require the special exception process under County Code Section 90-393.

A motion approving a Resolution waiving Code Section 90-393 is requested.

Sample Motion: I move that the Board approve a Resolution waiving Code Section 90-393 to allow a 25' radio tower to be installed behind the Emergency Communication Center.

Government Path

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Does this require IDA action? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does this require BZA action? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does This require Planning Commission Action? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does this require Board of Supervisors action? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does this require a public hearing? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| If so, before what date? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Fiscal Impact Statement

There is no fiscal impact if the request is granted.
Additional project costs would be incurred if the structure was required to proceed through the Special Exception process, including application fees, advertising fees, staff resources, etc.

County Impact

If the wavier is approved, the public safety radio project can provide a redundant means of communication services if the prime tower behind the school board is disabled.

Notes

Board of Supervisors
County of Prince George, Virginia

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince George held in the Boardroom, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 6602 Courts Drive, Prince George, Virginia, this 8th day of February, 2022:

Present:

Marlene J. Waymack, Chair
Donald Hunter, Vice Chair
Floyd M. Brown, Jr.
Alan R. Carmichael
T. J. Webb

Vote:

A-4

On motion of _____, seconded by _____, which carried by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ opposed, the following Resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION: WAIVING CODE SECTION 90-393 TO ALLOW A 25FT
RADIO TOWER TO BE INSTALLED BEHIND THE EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION CENTER**

WHEREAS, L3 Harris is installing new radio communication equipment as part of the radio system project benefitting the public safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, this equipment will require a 25' radio tower to be installed behind the Emergency Communications Center which is located in a B-1 general business district at 6600 Courthouse Road (Tax Map #: 240(0A)00-012-A) and owned by the County; and

WHEREAS, the tower will provide redundant communication capabilities if the larger prime tower behind the School Board office is disabled; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Code Section 90-393, a special exception is required to erect a public utility generating station, transmission substation, transmission line and tower other than normal distribution facilities, pipe, meter, railroad, water and sewerage installation, compressor station, measurement station, regulator station; and

WHEREAS, this radio tower, at 25' in height and adjacent to the ECC building, is more similar to a private ham radio tower than a communication tower for public use; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince George County Board of Supervisors this 8th day of February, 2022, does hereby approve waiving Code Section 90-393 to allow a 25' radio tower to be installed behind the Emergency Communication Center.

A Copy Teste:

Jeffrey D. Stoke
Interim County Administrator