



P.O. Box 15264  
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February 18, 2021

District of Columbia Public Space Committee  
Attn: Matthew Marcou, Chair email: [matthew.marcou@dc.gov](mailto:matthew.marcou@dc.gov)  
Associate Director  
Public Space Regulation Division  
District Department of Transportation  
55 M Street, SE  
Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20003

Subject: Request for temporary suspension of all installations of small cell equipment with cabinetry on free-standing metal poles until the Public Space Committee issues required guidance

Dear Chair Marcou and members of the Public Space Committee:

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS) advocates for the health, welfare, and preservation of the Capitol Hill community. We support 5G service for Washington. We also support the Public Space Committee (PSC) following its own procedures and support public engagement in the design of 5G with cabinetry (i.e., metal boxes) on free-standing metal poles.

The *Small Cell Design Guidelines* (3rd version March 2019) state that:  
...except for Small Cell Infrastructure attached to wooden poles,  
Small Cell infrastructure requiring any cabinetry, including pole

mounted or ground level, is not to be installed until the cabinetry design has been reviewed and formally adopted by the PSC as part of these guidelines. *Guidelines*, section 5.3.1.

As far as we can determine, PSC has never issued guidance on 5G installations with cabinetry. Nevertheless, a wireless carrier has installed small cell equipment with cabinetry on the 1500 block of T Street, NW and at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Riggs Place, NW. Carriers may have already installed 5G equipment with cabinetry at other locations, and may be planning such installations on Capitol Hill. If PSC adheres to its own rules, cabinetry installations should be functional, uniform, and as attractive as possible. PSC got off to a good start with public engagement on the *Small Cell Design Guidelines*. For these reasons we request that the PSC begin public engagement on cabinetry installations, and suspend issuing permits on cabinetry installations on metal poles until cabinetry guidelines are properly developed and finalized.

Sincerely,



Beth Purcell, President

cc:

CM Charles Allen

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