

CC MEMO 03-019

DATE: MARCH 6, 2003

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THRU: DONNA M. DRESKA, CITY MANAGER  
DOUG BALLARD, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
JEFF KURTZ, CURRENT PLANNING MANAGER

FROM: ASHLEY BAILEY, PLANNER I

SUBJECT: ZCA02-0003 Wireless Facilities Zoning Code Amendment  
Introduction of Ordinance No. 3415

Request: City initiative to amend City of Chandler Zoning Code to clarify the location of wireless facilities on ballfield light poles in proximity to residentially zoned areas.

Applicant: City of Chandler

**RECOMMENDATION**

Upon finding consistency with the City Zoning Code, Planning Commission and Staff recommend approval of a Zoning Code amendment clarifying the location of wireless facilities on ballfield light poles in proximity to residentially zoned areas, as set forth in the attached draft (underlined bolded text indicate language being added).

**BACKGROUND**

At the January 6, 2003 Study Session, Council asked that staff continue the case for additional time to review the amendment with the School Districts. Staff has contacted all School Districts within the City of Chandler. The consensus among the Districts is that while collocating antenna on ballfield light poles by right is easiest, the need for public input, particularly in close proximity to residential areas, is understandable. They are aware the ordinance does not eliminate the possibility of collocating on the light standards within 300 feet and they would still be able to advocate in favor of the facility through a Use Permit process.

The proposed amendment arises from comments expressed by Commission regarding the location of wireless facilities located on ballfield light poles in proximity to residentially zoned areas. The current ordinance has no setback requirements imposed on these facilities.

The current code allows antennas to be constructed on ballfield lights without regard to the light standard location on the property. Typically the light standards on ballfields in schools and parks are located away from residential areas due to the playfield layout.

Therefore, when the ordinance was originally created there were no setbacks imposed for the ballfield light pole antennas. It is recognized, however, that locations of wireless facilities on ballfield lights within the ballfields are varied and that setbacks are necessary for antennas to be compatible with residential areas.

The proposed setback requirements are either a minimum distance of three hundred (300) feet or on the furthest existing light pole away from a residence or residentially zoned area, whichever distance is greater. The amendment also states that any wireless facility that cannot meet this new requirement must obtain a Use Permit. Furthermore, any facility that would be in non-conformance, if said amendments are approved, would not be able to expand or move closer to a residence or residentially zoned area without first obtaining a Use Permit.

The new amendment amends only paragraph 5 of Section 35-2209 of the Code; all other parts of the Ordinance (Ord. No. 2713) remain unchanged.

**PLANNING COMMISSION VOTE REPORT**

Motion to approve: In favor: 7 Opposed: 0

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Upon finding the proposed amendments to the wireless communications ordinance consistent with the General Plan, Planning Commission and Staff recommend approval.

**PROPOSED MOTION**

Move to introduce and tentatively adopt Ordinance No. 3415, approving Zoning Case ZCA02-0003, as recommended by Planning Commission and Staff.

Attachments:

Article XXII, Wireless Ordinance (draft text)

Ordinance No. 3415