

Mobile Telephone Base Stations

Owner:	Planning and Development
Distribution:	All Employees
Implementation:	01 May 2001 – Res No. W143-05/01
Reviewed:	14 December 2004: Item No: PD01-12/04
Next Review:	December 2006

Objective

To facilitate a well planned network of mobile telephone base stations throughout the City, in a manner which:-

- proactively provides for comprehensive and reliable mobile telephone coverage throughout the City.
- locates and designs mobile telephone base stations in a manner that provides for high standards of amenity and minimal exposure to electromagnetic energy.
- allows for the legitimate concerns of the community about the location and health impacts of these facilities to be taken into account.
- provides guidance to telecommunication carriers concerning the development of mobile telephone base stations.

Statement**1. Strategy**

- 1.1 That the City takes a proactive role, working with telecommunication carriers to develop a plan for a comprehensive network of mobile telephone base stations throughout the developing parts of the City and incorporating this plan in existing and proposed structure plans.
- 1.2 That the City seek the support of telecommunication carriers in complying with the criteria set out in this policy for low impact facilities that are normally exempt from approval under the City's District Planning Scheme No.2.
- 1.3 That the City consults with the community in regard to proposals for mobile telephone base stations where planning applications have been received for these facilities.

2. Location Criteria

2.1 New base stations must:

- 2.1.1 not be located within 500 metres from sensitive land uses (residential, child care centres, schools and other similar uses as determined by Council on an individual basis), and
 - 2.1.2 be located and designed so that the base station will cause minimal visual impact; and
- 2.2 The co-location of antenna facilities on a single tower is encouraged, except where it is considered that the visual impact of two or more towers would be less detrimental in a particular instance. In any case, new towers should not be located closer than one kilometre from an existing or approved tower, unless it can be demonstrated that this is unreasonable or undesirable in a particular instance.
- 2.3 The location of antennas and dishes on existing buildings or other structures is encouraged. In this case, they should be positioned and designed in order to minimise adverse visual impact.
- 2.4 New base stations should not be located in Landscape Enhancement Areas or within 500 metres of a scenic road. The 500 metre buffer may be reduced if it can be demonstrated that local topography or a permanent, publicly owned, landscape feature will form a permanent screen between the base station and the scenic road.
- 2.5 The base of towers and associated equipment shelters should be located out of public view or be screened by mature vegetation, walls or fencing. Where equipment shelters are designed to a high architectural standard, complementary landscaping, rather than screening would be appropriate.

3. Design Criteria

- 3.1 Monopole towers, towers designed for dual purposes such as car park or sports ground lighting or towers designed as a feature to complement the surrounding environment will be encouraged. Lattice tower designs will only be supported where the technical necessity can be demonstrated.
- 3.2 Antennas and dishes should be flush mounted to a tower rather than located on a headframe, except in industrial or rural areas where it can be demonstrated that the use of a headframe would reduce the need for additional facilities elsewhere in the City.
- 3.3 The external colour of towers and any antennas or dishes should blend with the background landscape.
- 3.4 New towers should be designed to facilitate co-location of facilities by other telecommunication carriers.

Responsibility for Implementation

Manager Development and Health Services