



Albemarle County

Legislation Text

File #: 21-397, **Version:** 1

AGENDA DATE: 8/18/2021

TITLE:

Walnut Creek Park Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility Special Use Permit Application

SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Authorize the County Executive to sign Celco Partnership (Verizon Wireless)'s special use permit application for a Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility at Walnut Creek Park.

ITEM TYPE: Consent Action Item

STAFF CONTACT(S): Richardson, Henry, Kamptner, DeLoria, Culp, Filardo, Fritz

PRESENTER (S): N/A

LEGAL REVIEW: Yes

REVIEWED BY: Jeffrey B. Richardson

BACKGROUND: On April 8, the County received a proposal to lease a small portion of Walnut Creek Park to Celco Partnership (Verizon Wireless) for a Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Infrastructure Investment - Prioritize, plan and invest in critical infrastructure that responds to past and future changes and improves the capacity to serve community needs.

DISCUSSION: Walnut Creek Park, and the area surrounding it, have limited cell phone coverage. Verizon has approached the County with a proposal to build a Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility at Walnut Creek Park, which is owned by the County.

A Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility requires a special use permit. A special use permit application may only be made by the owner of the property, or the owner's designee. Staff is requesting that the Board authorize the County Executive to sign Verizon's special use permit application on behalf of the property owner.

Authorizing the County Executive to sign the application does not necessarily indicate support for the proposal and does not obligate the County to approve the special use permit application. It merely allows Verizon to submit a special use permit application for review. The special use permit would be reviewed for compliance with County Code regulations and require a community meeting, a Planning Commission public hearing, and a Board public hearing.

If the special use permit were approved, staff would schedule a public hearing (as required) for the Board to consider leasing County property to Verizon.

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no budget impact anticipated.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the attached Resolution (Attachment A) authorizing the County Executive to sign Cellco Partners (Verizon Wireless)'s application for a special use permit for a Tier III Personal Wireless Service Facility at Walnut Creek Park.

ATTACHMENTS:

A - Resolution