



Telecommunications infrastructure installation process: proposed changes

To support the evolution into [5G and beyond](#), Wireless Service Providers (WSPs) need access to public and private infrastructure to deploy wireless equipment.

The City of Calgary, WSPs, members of Council and community associations have a long history of working collaboratively on wireless equipment installation, through a concurrence process. This process is guided by a document called the Telecommunications Antenna Structures Siting Protocols.

The City of Calgary is [updating the siting protocols](#) to address small cell technology that supports new generation platforms such as 4G and 5G. The city sees value in working collaboratively with wireless service providers for installations but it is important to know that small cell antennas are exempt from public consultation and land use authority review under federal approval processes.

Based on learnings during the pandemic, the updates also propose the option of allowing virtual open houses where required by the protocols for certain antenna types.

When a WSP [applies for concurrence](#), The City **advises** on the placement and visual impact of the wireless infrastructure, and reviews the submission with a focus on design and location. Public feedback may also be considered for certain submission types.

The City then provides a letter of concurrence or non-concurrence*.

The siting protocols have remained unchanged since 2014, and these updates will address new approaches to address technology changes.

Visit calgary.ca/antennasubmissions to learn more about the proposed changes and next steps.

***Did you know?** In cases where non-concurrence is issued in submission review the City cannot prevent WSPs from ultimately gaining permission from the federal government to install telecommunications.

The City's review of both City-owned and private assets does not assess or evaluate health and radiofrequency exposure. Health and health safety concerns fall under national [Health Canada](#) guidelines.