

MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

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MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

June 15, 2020

Dear Wellesley Resident,

Since 2007 the Municipal Light Plant ("MLP") Board and staff have been actively involved in identifying opportunities that improve Town-wide cellular coverage without deploying large cell towers. Still, there are many areas in Wellesley that have little or no cell coverage. As the use of wireless technology continues to expand even those locations that currently have coverage will likely experience degradation in quality as a result of the additional bandwidth required.

In an effort to improve coverage, in June of 2019 the WMLP Board authorized the staff to issue a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for Small Cell Wireless Antenna Attachments. Upon evaluation of responses to this RFP, the staff determined that AT&T's proposal was most favorable to the Town. The Board authorized the Director to negotiate and execute an Agreement with AT&T for the deployment of 42 Small Cell Antenna Attachments on utility poles in Wellesley.

Each Small Cell Antenna Attachment installation consists of a two (2) foot antenna mounted at the top of a WMLP utility pole and radio equipment in a shroud mid-pole. The antenna is surrounded by a shroud that is the same circumference as the pole. These antennas are similar to those used by wireless carriers, utilities and safety providers for their communication purposes.

WMLP crews, along with the AT&T contractor, have begun make-ready work and will be installing the Small Cell equipment at the 42 requested locations during the months of July and August.

On Thursday, June 25th, 2020 at 7pm the WMLP will host an Informational Webinar on Small Cell Antenna Attachments to answer any questions residents of Wellesley may have. The format and logistics for participating in this Webinar are included herewith.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email, dnewell@wellesleyma.gov or telephone, 781-235-7601 if you would like to review the list of locations or if you have any questions or comments.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald H. Newell".

Donald H. Newell
Director