

Report to Planning and Environment Committee

To: Chair and Members
Planning & Environment Committee

From: John M. Fleming
Managing Director, Planning and City Planner

Subject: Revised City of London Telecommunications Facilities
Location and Public Consultation Council Policy
City of London
City-wide

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner the proposed by-law attached hereto as Appendix "A", BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on October 1, 2019 to amend By-law No. CPOL.-126-378, as amended, being "A by-law to revoke and repeal Council policy related to Telecommunication Facilities Consultation Policy and replace it with a new Council policy entitled Telecommunication Facilities Consultation Policy" by renaming the Council Policy "Telecommunication Facilities Location and Public Consultation Policy", to reflect changes in the process that have occurred since the Policy was first developed.

Executive Summary

Purpose, Effect and Rationale of Recommended Action

To make changes to the Policy to reflect changes in the process that have occurred since the policy was first developed, and to better organize the policy to provide clarity to users.

Analysis

Relevant Background

3.1 Evolution of Council Policy

Prior to 2000, new telecommunication towers required little public consultation. Industry Canada did "*recognize the importance of local consultation and encourages proponents of significant antenna structures to notify and consult with the local land-use authority.*" However, Industry Canada did not require that property owners in the vicinity of new towers or structures be advised or consulted. In June 2001, Industry Canada published a guideline document "Guidelines to Assist Land Use Authorities in Developing a Local Protocol Respecting Antenna Structures" to assist municipalities in developing their own policies.

It is important to note that the participation of land-use authorities in the consultation process does not confer the right to prevent the location of a telecommunication facility; the decision ultimately rests with Industry Canada.

Starting in 2003, London used the Industry Canada default consultation process, augmented by additional procedures until the City developed its own policy.