

MEMORANDUM

To: Grace Han, Director of Capital Projects, Public Design Commission

From: Brett Sikoff, Director of Mobile Telecommunications Franchises

Date: January 4, 2021

Subject: Plan for 5G Installation of PDC-Approved Shroud Design on Pole Tops

The City of New York intends to announce a plan to open a series of pole top reservation phases that will allow Mobile Telecommunications franchisees to deploy the PDC-approved 5G shroud for pole tops across the City. The plan will jump start the build-out of 5G, and do so with an emphasis on connecting parts of the City that have been historically underserved by telecommunications companies.

Increase Pole Reservations and Update Related Policies

Beginning in February 2021, the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) plans to open pole reservation phases, making available a total of 7,500 poles over 15 months. These 7,500 poles represent a two-fold increase in the total number of City-owned light poles reserved over the past 15 years.

To make the City a leader in municipal 5G deployments, DoITT and the Department of Transportation will release the 7,500 poles over the next five quarters, averaging 1,500/quarter. To ensure that the 5G is built out equitably, more than 75% of the poles will be in either the outer boroughs or in Manhattan above 96th Street.

DoITT will administer the rollout of 5G to ensure that the poles reserved by franchisees are used within a reasonable amount of time for the intended purpose of deploying 5G.

Quarterly Reporting Commitment to PDC

Beginning in February 2021, and prior to the commencement of each subsequent quarterly reservation phase thereafter, DoITT will inform PDC staff of the exact start date of the reservation phase and the total number of poles that are being made available, with a breakdown by zone.

In advance of the second quarterly reservation phase, and prior to the commencement of each subsequent quarterly reservation phase thereafter, DoITT will also provide PDC staff with an update on the status of the installation and activation of new 5G equipment.

DoITT will continually monitor the reservation and installation process and work to ensure that the effects of the targeted phase plan are improving service in traditionally underserved communities.

We thank you for your ongoing partnership as we collaboratively work together to ensure that NYC is a world leader in 5G infrastructure and will be a model to other cities in doing so in an equitable manner.