

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Brett Sikoff, Director of Mobile Telecommunications Franchises

Date: March 8, 2021

Subject: Mobile Telecommunications Franchise Reservation Phase Plan

As previously communicated in its January 4, 2021 memo to the Public Design Commission (PDC), the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) is planning to open a series of pole reservation phases that will allow mobile telecommunications franchisees to deploy PDC-approved 5G enclosures on pole tops throughout the city. The plan will be heavily focused on ensuring that there is an equitable distribution of new 5G infrastructure.

Beginning on March 15th, DoITT will open the first of five quarterly reservation phases, making available a total of 7,500 poles over the next 15 months. 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.

In advance of the second quarterly reservation phase, and prior to the commencement of each subsequent quarterly reservation phase thereafter, DoITT will continue to inform PDC staff of the exact start date of each reservation phase and the total number of poles that are being made available, with a breakdown by zone. DoITT will also provide PDC staff with an update on the status of the installation and activation of new 5G equipment.

To further facilitate the deployment of 5G in neighborhoods traditionally underserved and in need of improved wireless service, DoITT consulted with the Mayor's Taskforce for Racial Inclusion and Equity (TRIE) to identify those neighborhoods in all five boroughs most in need. Starting with the March 15th reservation phase, franchisees will be strongly encouraged to concentrate their deployment efforts within these TRIE equity districts.

DoITT will continually monitor and evaluate 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 once again for your ongoing partnership to help make NYC a world leader in 5G infrastructure.