



April 25, 2016

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: Update on the City's Rural Internet Access Project

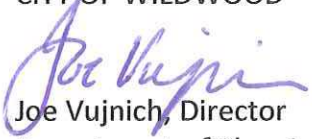
Council Members:

The Department of Planning, per the ongoing request of City Council, has prepared the following update regarding the internet access issues facing large areas of rural Wildwood. The main points of this update are as follows:

1. The Department of Planning has not received an update from Wisper ISP regarding its potential fiber optic installation in the areas of Wild Horse Creek Road and State Route 109. The last correspondence from Wisper ISP noted that something would be provided to the City by the week of March 28, 2016.
2. The representative from Wisper ISP advised the Department of Planning that it had just received a revised contract for tower access from St. Louis County the week of April 18, 2016. Ms. Huering, the Wisper ISP representative, had not yet reviewed it and could not comment on its content at that time.
3. The City Administrator contacted Chief Greg Brown of the Eureka Fire Protection District regarding the St. Louis County tower issue and access for the two (2) internet providers serving Wildwood. The results of this contact is a meeting has now been set with St. Louis County officials, the two (2) providers – Bays ET and Wisper ISP, and City staff to discuss this matter.
4. The Department of Planning has completed the draft letter to the St. Louis County Emergency Communications Commission regarding this tower matter, which was discussed by the members at the City Council meeting on April 11, 2016. The City Council requested to review the draft letter, before it would be sent to the respective parties in this regard.

If any of the City Council members should have questions or comments in this regard, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. Thank you for your continued support of this project and the efforts to address the needs of rural Wildwood residents.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF WILDWOOD


Joe Vujnich, Director
Department of Planning

Cc: The Honorable Timothy Woerther, Mayor
Ryan S. Thomas, P.E., City Administrator
Rob Golterman, City Attorney
Kathy Arnett, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Chris Bay, Malinda Heuring, and Nathan Stooke, Service Providers – Bays ET and Wisper ISP

From: Ryan Thomas ryan@cityofwildwood.com
Subject: Use of County Emergency Towers
Date: April 20, 2016 at 3:36 PM
To: Joe Vujnich JVujnich@cityofwildwood.com

RC

Joe,

I contacted Eureka Fire Chief Greg Brown (member of the County ECC) about the use of the County towers by Bays and Wisper, and he indicated that he brought up this issue at the last meeting of the ECC, and indicated he would like to get together very soon to get this resolved for us. He also apologized that it has taken so long.

Also, FYI, Duff Barney is now retired and Captain Steve Sack is the Interim Director of the ECC.

It sounds like this might be on the right track for us.

Ryan S. Thomas, P.E.
City Administrator
City of Wildwood
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WILDWOOD

April 26, 2016

(Ret) Chief Bill Karabas, Chairman
St. Louis County Emergency Communications Commission
1150 Hanna Road
Ballwin, Missouri 63021

Re: Use of the Emergency Communications Commission's Towers for High-Speed Internet Access

Dear Chief Karabas:

The City of Wildwood has been an ardent supporter of the emergency communications network, since it was first proposed by St. Louis County officials to the City of Wildwood several years ago. In these discussions with representatives of the E-911 Commission, Wildwood officials understood the need and benefits regarding the placement of towers throughout St. Louis County, including this community. This support recognized that rural residents of this community would benefit from an improved emergency network, but also being part of the larger system and a partner in this laudable effort to the benefit of the region's health, safety, and general welfare. Therefore, during the discussion on the towers that were planned for Wildwood, the City provided a detailed explanation of the problems its residents were facing in regards to communication issues as well. These communication issues dealt with high-speed internet access.

It was at this time, the City began to request access to the towers for two (2) providers it had agreements with for high-speed internet service to the unserved areas of Wildwood. These towers would provide access to locations in areas that were determined to be very difficult for the City to address with its utility pole installations, given the difficult topography and extensive woodland coverage. Accordingly, the City explained this situation to the Executive Director of the Commission and was promised all accommodations would be made to make such an arrangement work for both parties. This commitment has now continued for over three (3) years, with no end in sight. This extended delay is the reason for this letter.

The City Council and Mayor are respectfully requesting your assistance in meeting this past commitment and address this current and pressing need that could help to alleviate the current lack of high-speed internet access to at least a portion of over one thousand (1,000) households in the rural areas of Wildwood that are currently unserved or significantly underserved. This assistance to break this extended delay would be very much appreciated and be a major public service to the City.

If you should need more details regarding this matter, the City Council and Mayor would be glad to host a meeting of the Emergency Communications Commission with its members and allow the parties to explain the reasons and respective needs and positions. The meeting logistics, or general answers or details on this matter, can be handled and/or provided to you by Joe Vujnich, the City's Director of Planning at (636) 405-2030. Thank you for our consideration of this request and invitation to meet on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF WILDWOOD

James R. Bowlin, Mayor

Cc: The Honorable City Council of the City of Wildwood
Captain Steve Sack, Interim Director, St. Louis County Emergency Communications Commission
Ryan S. Thomas, P.E., City Administrator
Rob Golterman, City Attorney
Kathy Arnett, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks

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