



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
STAFF REPORT**

**Meeting Date:** May 13, 2009

**To:** City Council

**From:** Mahdi Aluzri, Assistant City Manager/Economic Sustainability

**Subject:** Information on Temporary Use of Cellular Equipment on City Owned properties

**Attachments:**

1. AT&T Examples of Temporary Installations in the Greater Los Angeles Area.
2. Photo images of three potential locations for temporary equipment installations.

**INTRODUCTION**

This report is intended to provide information to the City Council about a request from the Police Department working with AT&T, the City's cellular services provider to deploy temporary equipment at three locations in the Trousdale area of the City. The request was reviewed and approved by staff from Policy and Management after consultation with Public Works, Recreation and Parks, and Planning Division staff.

**DISCUSSION**

For the past several years, both the Beverly Hills Police and Fire Departments have been utilizing the AT&T cellular network to establish connectivity between the mobile computers in the field and the dispatch center. Although the overall performance has been satisfactory with respect to throughput, the local geography has posed significant challenges for signal propagation. This issue is especially predominant in the northern areas of the City, such as the Trousdale Estates area. Mobile data and voice performance is marginal at best, posing potential risk to City responders. When a mobile data signal connection drops, it is usually difficult to re-establish due to the tedious, necessary computer log-in procedures, especially while operating a motor vehicle.

Expansion of cellular networks in these and other local neighborhoods has been very slow and difficult for not only AT&T Mobility but all cellular providers. To this end, the Police Department have been meeting and working with AT&T Mobility to identify potential solutions that may improve overall local performance and reliability of their network. After extensive field testing by AT&T engineers working together with our IT and Police Departments, it was discovered that several areas in the City, particularly in the north end, don't provide adequate coverage but have potential for improvement.

AT&T has offered to install a mobile cell site at one of few pre-identified sites in the Trousdale area to determine if radio frequency performance could be enhanced, thereby providing reliable mobile connectivity for Public Safety in hillside neighborhoods.

AT&T Mobility plans to place a cell-on-wheels (COW), essentially a 2-axle trailer containing cellular equipment and an attached, expandable antenna mast at one of three potential locations where radio frequency coverage is insufficient. Typically, a COW is approximately 21' long and 8' wide, with outriggers extending further out for stability. Factors involved in the selection of a specific site include but are not limited to electrical requirements, footprint space, security, surrounding obstacles (both geographic and manmade) and of course neighborhood considerations.

The following is a listing of selected locations to situate a COW for a period not to exceed 30-day at any one location:

- 1180 Loma Vista Drive (Reservoir 4B).
- 409 Walker Drive (Reservoir 7).
- Greystone Park (most appropriate location on the property is the parking area behind the Garden shed just below the stables)<sup>1</sup>.

Staff investigated the above noted sites and it appears that the temporary equipment could be located on each site without creating access constraints to site facilities or significant visual impact to the surrounding neighborhood. A notice will be provided to the neighboring property owners in case the temporary installation, because of signal access, needs to be located where it could be seen from any neighbor's property or the street.

It should be noted that the equipment would not be located at any single site for more than 30 days. If any of these three sites prove to be adequate in providing the desired coverage in the area then AT&T, the City's current air card service provider for public safety Mobile Data Terminals, will submit an application for permanent installation. The application documentation along with the appropriate lease agreement will be brought forth to the City Council for approval. The permanent installation will also offer providers other than AT&T the opportunity to co-locate and install their cell equipment at the approved site offering more choice for future service.

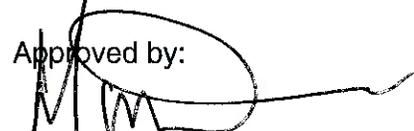
### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Except for the cost of providing power supply to the equipment which is not expected to exceed \$1,500 total for all three locations, all other cost associated with the temporary installation will be borne by AT&T.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that City Council receive the report on the temporary equipment installation and confirm staff's approval.

Approved by:

  
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Mahdi Aluzri, Assistant City Manager  
for Economic Sustainability

<sup>1</sup> The equipment at this location will be screened by the "back of house" buildings near the stables area and would not be seen from any part of the park used by the public.

# GREATER LOS ANGELES NETWORK

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at&t

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**COWS deployed for  
USC games 2008**



**Cell on Light Truck (COLT)**



**Microwave on Van (MOV)**



**Cell on Wheels (COWS)**



**Reservoir 4B**  
**1180 Loma Vista**



**Reservoir 7  
409 Walker Drive**



Greystone Park Location

