

Planning Commission Meeting
March 29, 2012
Verbatim Excerpt

2232A-L00-17-1 - MID-ATLANTIC TELECOM TOWER, LLC (Mount Vernon District)

After the Close of the Public Hearing

Chairman Murphy: Without objection, the public hearing is closed; recognize Mr. Flanagan.

Commissioner Flanagan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Application 2232A-L00-17-1 from Mid-Atlantic Telecom Tower, LLC, to increase the height of a monopole is for an unusual tower located within the Fullerton Industrial Park next to the Engineering Proving Grounds of Fort Belvoir. I say "unusual" because the present is a relay for communication between the Pentagon and outposts such as Iraq and Afghanistan. Communication between the Pentagon and the tower were interrupted by the recent construction of high-rise buildings to house the thousands of National Geospatial Intelligence Agency employees to be relocated into one facility as a result of BRAC. This amendment permits a higher tower to re-establish the uninterrupted critical service. I attended a balloon demonstration and found no adverse impact on the adjacent residential neighborhoods from the increased height and I think that that probably would be coordinated by staff as well because they were there as well. And as such, I concur with staff's conclusion that the proposal by Mid-Atlantic Telecom Tower, LLC, as amended for the telecommunications facility at 7956 Twist Lane satisfies the criteria of location, character, and extent as specified in *VA Code* Section 15.2-2232, as amended. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I MOVE THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION FIND THE SUBJECT APPLICATION 2232A-L00-17-1, AS AMENDED, SUBSTANTIALLY IN ACCORD WITH PROVISIONS OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

Commissioners Lawrence and Sargeant: Second.

Chairman Murphy: Seconded by Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Sargeant. Is there a discussion of the motion? All those in favor of the motion to approve 2232A-L00-17-1, say aye.

Commissioners: Aye.

Chairman Murphy: Opposed? Motion carries. Thank you very much.

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(The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Hall, Hurley, and Litzenberger absent from the meeting.)

JLC