Town of Westwood Planning Board Meeting Minutes 50 Carby Street, Champagne Meeting Room June 17, 2008 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Chairman Robert Malster, Robert Moore, Steve Olanoff, Henry Gale and Bruce Montgomery.

Staff Members Present: Nora Loughnane, Town Planner; John Bertorelli, Town Engineer; Peter Alpert, Esq., Ropes & Gray.

Chairman Malster opened the meeting at approximately 7:12 p.m. and read the Legal Notice for the public hearing.

Public Hearing to Consider Application of MetroPCS Massachusetts for EIDR and Special Permit to Install Wireless Communication Antennas on Existing Communications facility at 60 Glacier Drive

James Hoyt, Esq. of Prince, Lobel, Glovsky & Tye was present on behalf of the applicant, MetroPCS; who is seeking an amendment to the Special Permit and EIDR Approval for the Major Wireless Communications Facility located at 60 Glacier Drive, pursuant to Sections 7.3 and 9.4 of the Westwood Zoning Bylaw, to install three (3) antennas mounted behind stealth panels on the existing 80 foot monopole, at a height of 82.5 feet (antenna centerline), and to install equipment cabinets, back-up battery cabinets and a power/telephone demarcation cabinet along with associated cabling.

Mrs. Loughnane stated the original special permit application, filed August 27, 2001, requested approval to construct a ninety (90) foot high wireless communications monopole. She stated that the Planning Board denied the ninety (90) foot monopole but granted approval of a sixty (60) foot monopole on November 27, 2001, with a condition that use of the monopole be limited to no more than two carriers. Mrs. Loughnane added that an appeal was filed by the applicant, and a court-ordered amendment of the special permit was approved on January 21, 2003, increasing the maximum height of the monopole to eighty (80) feet. She noted that the special permit was further amended on October 25, 2005 to permit a third carrier on the monopole. Mrs. Loughnane stated that the current application filed by MetroPCS requests permission to increase the height of the monopole to by five (5) feet to eighty-five (85) feet and to permit use of the monopole by a fourth carrier.

Mr. Hoyt stated that the Applicant seeks to add three antennas fully enclosed within a five (5) foot canister extension added to the top of the existing monopole. He said that the applicant also wished to install three equipment cabinets inside an existing fenced equipment compound at the base of the monopole. Mr. Hoyt noted that the Applicant is making every effort to utilize existing facilities in order to minimize any impact on the community while providing good coverage and a reasonable alternative for consumers.

There was some discussion as to why the height extension was necessary. Mr. Hoyt explained that it had to do with the lack of space available at the desired location. Mr. Olanoff noted that the existing pole was slightly tapered from its base to its top. He stated that the proposed extension should be designed to continue the tapered profile of the monopole. Mr. Hoyt said that the new section would be designed to match the tapering of the existing monopole. Mr. Olanoff asked if a tapered five (5) foot extension would be large enough to hold the proposed antennas without causing interference with other antennas already attached to the monopole. Mr. Hoyt replied that the proposed antennas would fit and would not interfere with any existing equipment.

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Mr. Kamal Johari, Radio Frequency Engineer was present to explain the technical aspects of the antennas and assure compliance with the FCC. Mr. Johari discussed the appearance and dimensions of the towers, spacing and coverage areas.

Mr. Olanoff stated that all Planning Board approvals of wireless communication facilities include a condition that all equipment be removed and the area restored if the carriers discontinue use of those facilities. He suggested that a this condition be drafted so that the proposed five (5) foot extension of the monopole would be removed if and when MetroPCS discontinued use of the proposed antennas.

Chairman Malster opened up the meeting for comments from the public. No members of the public were present. Mr. Malster asked the Board for a motion to close the hearing. Mr. Gale moved that the hearing be closed and Mr. Olanoff seconded the motion. Mr. Olanoff suggested that a draft of the conditions be reviewed and a stamped engineered plan be prepared for the building department.

Chairman Malster opened the Westwood Station public hearing portion of the meeting at approximately 7:50 PM.

Continuation of Planning Board Public Hearing: Amendment #1 to the MPSP for the Westwood Station Area Master Plan

Continuation of Planning Board Public Hearing: EIDR for Phase 1B of the Westwood Station Area Master Plan

[A verbatim transcript of this public hearing entitled Westwood Station Subdivision Hearing, Tuesday, June 17, 2008, 8:00 p.m. at 50 Carby Street, Champagne Meeting Room, Westwood, Massachusetts 02090, Robert C. Malster, Chairman; Steven H. Olanoff, Vice Chairman; Robert E. Moore, Jr., Secretary; Bruce H. Montgomery, Member; Henry W. Gale, Member; Nora Loughnane, Town Planner; John Bertorelli, Town Engineer, Peter Alpert, Esq.; Ropes & Gray. Pages 1-74, transcribed by G&M Court Reporters, Ltd., 42 Chauncy Street, Suite 1A, Boston, MA 02111-2211 will serve as the official minutes. A copy of this transcript is in the Westwood Station file.]