WHAT ARE MY RISKS FROM RADIO FREQUENCY EMISSIONS

The City of Los Angeles ensures that all infrastructure installed within the public right –of-way meet all federal safety standards. They are placed within safe distances in accordance with Federal Communications (FCC) standards and marked accordingly. Each installation is required to have a separate emissions report that stipulates the required time and distance that is safe. The FCC has more information about the studies they use to provide safe distances to all small cells installed within the City.

Cities are limited in the right to restrict the placement of small cells due to any health concerns as long as the carrier complies with the FCC regulations. Section 704 of Title 7 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 contains the following language: "No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions." Any concerns regarding health risks for this proposed facility should be directed to the Federal Communications Commission, - Office of Engineering and Technology – 445 12th Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554 or www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety.

SMALL CELLS ARE NOT A CELL TOWER. THEY SIT CLOSE TO THE GROUND AND ARE LOW POWERED. THEY HELP TRANSMIT DATA IN A DENSELY POPULATED AREA.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.







WHAT IS 5G? AND WHY DO CARRIERS NEED MORE NODES?

The Fifth Generation (5G) of wireless technology is the latest iteration of cellular technology, engineered to greatly increase the speed and responsiveness of wireless networks. Every so often communication technology makes significant advances from 1G (was about voice), 2G (allowed SMS texts), 3G (faster voice and data speeds) and then 4G/LTE (enhanced transmission speeds and offered broadband internet access wirelessly) to now 5G. 5G makes an extraordinary leap in speed and reduction in data transmission/latency. This will enable a faster, more robust network of connected devices in the home and public space. This enhancement requires more nodes/small cells to carry this data. The City's streetlights have the right locations, height and infrastructure to allow for these small cells to co-locate while minimizing an additional pole in the sidewalk area.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

An expanded wireless broadband network will provide a more reliable system as you check your email, watch that video clip on twitter or load data. These days technology is creating more data-hungry apps, wireless devices that require more capacity and faster service. Also, smartphones are turning into mini-computers where you handle all of the day's business and receive the latest news. These systems also improve the City's emergency services, increasing the bandwidth for 911 calls and communication between first responders. The desire and demand for increased and faster services does not happen without the required infrastructure to support the system.

SMALL CELLS INSTALLED IN THE CITY

The City of Los Angeles has a population of 4 million in an area of 503 square miles that is the second largest City in the Country. This doesn't include the countless tourists and businesses that are in our City every day. In addition, the City provides emergency services through LAPD and LAFD as well as our Emergency Operations Center that rely heavily on communication services during an emergency. This reality is the reason that communication companies need to not only expand their coverage but increase their capacity of users on their networks.

The connective threads required to keep up with these services include small cell antennas and fiber installed throughout the City. The FCC issued a Declaratory Order on September 27, 2018 that limited the rights of cities to restrict access to small cells in the public right-of-way. The City of Los Angeles has proactively worked with these carriers to attach their small cells to our existing infrastructure as much as possible in order to eliminate additional unsightly poles installed in an already busy sidewalk. Nevertheless, if the carrier cannot attach to an existing streetlight then they will and have the right to install a new pole just for the small cell.

THE SIGNALS TO AND FROM THE CELL TOWERS CAN ONLY CARRY SO MUCH DATA. WHEN TOO MANY DEVICES TRY TO CONNECT AT THE SAME TIME OR TOO MUCH DATA IS REQUIRED, THINGS SLOW DOWN OR DON'T TRANSMIT AT ALL.