


**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



Public Space Regulation Division

TO: Master License Agreement Holders

FROM: Elliott Maurice Garrett, Associate Director 

DATE: May 3, 2024

RE: New Option to Bundle/New Review Process when Applying for a Small Cell Construction Permit

The District Department of Transportation, Public Space Regulation Division (PSRD) is granting a new option, a “Bundled Telecommunications Service,” to power Small Cell attachments. This option involves placing low-voltage power and fiber in a single co-axial cable to energize a Small Cell attachment. The low-voltage power is provided through a handhole separately metered through PEPCO and does not require a PEPCO “make ready” pole work drawing to provide power connection. Please note, the Telecommunications service provider must have the approval of the Public Service Commission (PSC) to operate in the District as a Telecommunication and/or Power Facility Owner.

Effective Monday, May 13, a new review process has been established to address applications that utilize this option when applying for a Small Cell Construction permit. The new process when applying for a Small Cell Construction permit will be as follows:

Once a pole selection is made and verified in the Transportation Online Permitting System (TOPS), the application will proceed through the standard review process, which will be completed in thirty (30) days.

There will be a drop-down box to select “Bundled Telecommunications Service” if the MLA wants to choose this option.

The current process, which will remain when applying for a Small Cell Construction permit, is as follows:

Once a pole selection is made and verified by TOPS, the application is automatically placed in Revise and Resubmit status “referred to as the Reservation stage” for 365 days. This time allows the MLA to gather all the required documents to complete the application. The package includes the “make ready” pole work and provision of power and fiber connections.

This new option is available to any MLA who utilizes this service to energize their Small Cell attachment. Each MLA will have both options as they continue building their network. Please note that power usage fees will be assessed through the handhole provider.

For additional information, contact Rosadene Gill at rosadene.gill@dc.gov.

CC Sandra Marks, *Chief Project Delivery Officer*
Glenn Dubin, *Senior Attorney Advisor*