



**CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA  
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

**AGENDA ITEM**

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Report: Amendment to Lease Agreement with Crown Castle International

- 1) Motion authorizing the Interim City Manager, or designee, to amend the existing lease agreement with Crown Castle International to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$47,000 for renting space necessary to accommodate additional microwave radio equipment on the tower at the Mount Lukens radio site for the remaining term of the initial five-year lease with two additional five-year renewal options.

**COUNCIL ACTION**

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**Item Type:** Consent Calendar

**Approved for** October 27, 2020 **calendar**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION**

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**Submitted by:**

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**Prepared by:**

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**Reviewed by:**

John Takhtalian, Deputy City Manager  
Michele Flynn, Director of Finance  
Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney

**Approved by:**

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., Interim City Manager

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff respectfully requests the City Council authorize the Interim City Manager, or designee, to amend the existing lease agreement (Contract No. C103364D) with Crown Castle International to increase the not-to-exceed amount of \$202,583 by \$47,000 for renting space necessary to accommodate additional microwave radio equipment on the tower at the Mount Lukens radio site for the remaining term (32 months) of the initial five-year lease with two additional five-year renewal options.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

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Since 2003, the City of Glendale has leased space in a telecommunications building that is located on Mount Lukens, from Mountain Union Telecom now operating as Crown Castle International. The building is located at an elevation of 5,000 feet, directly above La Crescenta, and provides reliable radio coverage for City of Glendale personnel throughout La Crescenta, Montrose, Tujunga, La Canada, Whiting Woods, and the north-facing drainages of the Verdugo Mountain range.

All the public agency owned buildings on Mount Lukens are either full, or are located too far north to provide coverage into the Glendale-La Crescenta area located at the southern foot of the mountains. Construction of a City-owned building at Mount Lukens is not possible as the land is owned by the U.S. Forest Service and a construction moratorium is in place. The building owned by Crown Castle International is located on the extreme southern edge of the ridge and provides a line-of-sight propagation path into the required coverage area. Based upon its technical suitability and the availability of physical space, the City Council approved a five-year lease with two five-year renewal options.

In October of 2018, the City Council approved an extension of the lease with Crown Castle for an additional five years plus two five-year options as the conditions that were present in 2003 still exist in that (1) all the public agency owned buildings on Mount Lukens are either full or located too far north to provide coverage and, (2) and the construction moratorium still exists.

Subsequent to the Council approval of the lease extension in 2018, the City purchased additional microwave equipment via the State Homeland Security Grant (SHGHP) to address a single point of failure within the Glendale and the Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) radio systems. The additional microwave radio equipment will provide a redundant connection to the Mount Lukens radio site and address a single point of failure. Currently, Mt. Lukens only has a single connection to the rest of the radio system via the San Augustine radio site. The new link will connect Mt. Lukens to the Mount Lee radio site, which is located above the Hollywood Sign. Bookending the City, the radio sites at Mt. Lukens and Mt. Lee are important as they provide coverage into mountainous areas overlooked by the Mount Thom site and bisects the north and south parts of the City. They also assure coverage in the City in the event of an outage at Mount Thom. Given the importance of providing redundant

connections to the two radio sites, staff is respectfully requesting the City Council authorize the lease amendment to accommodate additional microwave radio equipment on the tower at the Mount Lukens radio site.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

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The City's cost for the additional equipment is \$1,400 per month for the remaining 32 months of the initial five-year lease, which equates to \$47,000 and includes a 3.5% annual increase. The cost relative to FY 2020-21 is \$11,200 and can be absorbed in the Wireless Communications Internal Service Fund Budget, Account 46006-6600-5500. Funds for the remaining two years under the initial five-year term will be budgeted and approved by the City Council as part of the annual citywide budget process. The new total amount not to exceed for the initial five-year lease is \$249,583 (\$202,583 + \$47,000).

Should the City exercise the first renewal option (years 6 through 10), the total rent and utility cost will be increased by \$99,882 for a new total cost of \$340,488 (\$240,606 + \$99,882). The total cost for the second renewal option (years 11 through 15) will increase \$118,625 for a new total cost of \$404,389 (\$285,764 + \$118,625). With the addition of these costs due to the additional equipment, they will replace the original amounts of \$240,606 (years 6 through 10) and \$285,764 (years 11 through 15) as was presented to Council on October 30, 2018. The annual cost for the renewals, if exercised, will be included as part of the annual budget process.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

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Alternative 1: City Council may choose to approve the attached motion authorizing the Interim City Manager, or designee, to amend the existing lease agreement with Crown Castle International to increase the not-to-exceed amount of \$202,583 by \$47,000 for renting space necessary to accommodate additional microwave radio equipment on the tower at the Mount Lukens radio site for five (5) years with two additional five (5) year renewal options.

Alternative 2: City Council may choose to not approve the attached motion in which case the Mount Lukens and Mount Lee radio sites will remain subject to single-points of failure and possible maintenance-related outages. This vulnerability will affect their availability to provide coverage in the event of a failure of the Mount Thom radio site.

Alternative 3: Council may consider any other alternative not currently proposed by staff.

## **CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

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Crown Castle International represents that its Legal and Contract Development team has reviewed the City's Campaign Disclosure requirements and is unable to provide

specific information about the names of the individuals with Interest in the company of 10% or greater. Vendor represents that ownership information is publicly available; however, information as to who owns certain percentages of the company is not readily accessible.

## **EXHIBITS**

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None.