

GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION
AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Telecommunications Tower TWR-2020-02 (New Construction – Porter Road)

DATE OF MEETING: August 31, 2020

Regular Meeting (x)

Work Session (x)

BUDGET IMPACT:

Recommendation (x)

Policy/Discussion ()

Report ()

FUNDING SOURCE:

() Annual () SPLOST () Capital (X) N/A

ACTION REQUESTED ON:

TWR-2020-02, 7346 Porter Road, 0226-005
E-A, New ~300' Telecommunications Tower

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

This case represents an attempt by the applicant to construct a new ~300' telecommunications tower within an ~32.5 acre tract, east of Hwy 41 S., south of Lake Park. The subject property is currently zoned Estate Agriculture (E-A) and is allowed to be used for the construction of a new telecommunications tower with GLPC review and LCBOC approval. For further reference, where towers are allowed per the various zoning districts, new towers require LCBOC approval while colocation on existing towers require only administrative approval. Additionally, if the proposed tower is determined to likely interfere with the use of aircraft traffic operations around the Valdosta Regional Airport (VLD) or Moody Air Force Base (MAFB) the application can be required to receive a letter of clearance from the aforementioned bodies. In this case, a letter of clearance is not required from either the Valdosta Regional Airport or MAFB.

The primary motivation for a new tower at the subject property is a gap in the existing coverage area. The subject property is in the Rural Service Area and depicted as Agricultural/Forestry on the Future Development Map. While the character areas comment generally on the preservation of rural areas, Goal 10 of the Comprehensive Plan cites the support of technological infrastructure.

Staff has found this request overall consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the TRC had no objectionable comments regarding this request.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve
2. Approve with Conditions
3. Table
4. Deny

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option #1

DIVISION: Planning & Zoning

Staff: JD Dillard
Molly Stevenson
Trinni Amiot
Sharon Griffith

Action and Motion by the Board: _____