



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

POLICY STATEMENT

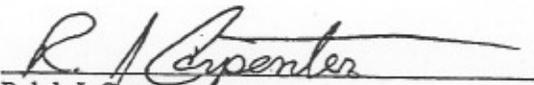
POLICY NO. E&H.O. - 53
August 7, 2006

SUBJECT: Telecommunications Installations Within the State Highway Right of Way

There is an increasing demand for improved wireless communication coverage and capacity within the State, particularly along the major expressway routes. The Department will permit the installation of telecommunications towers within the State highway right of way provided that all of the following parameters are satisfied:

- The safety of the traveling public is of paramount concern and no telecommunications installation will be permitted within the right of way of a State highway when the Department determines that the installation is contrary to the safety needs of its users.
- Access to construct and maintain telecommunications facilities located within the right of way of limited access State highways shall not be permitted from the mainline travel lanes or ramps.
- The Department will expect that all telecommunications providers work cooperatively to ensure that the number of telecommunications installations within the State highway right of way is kept to an absolute minimum.
- Telecommunications providers will be required to execute a Master License Agreement with the Department.
- Federal Highway Administration approval will be required for certain State routes. If this approval is not granted, the installation cannot be permitted.
- The Department has designated certain State highways as "Scenic Roads." Any telecommunications facility that is proposed to be located within the right of way of a scenic road shall be reviewed by the Department's Scenic Road Advisory Committee (SRAC). Furthermore, the SRAC shall make recommendations to the Commissioner of Transportation on the acceptability of any proposed telecommunications facility within the right of way of a scenic State highway.
- The Merritt Parkway is a designated "scenic highway" and is also listed on the "National Register of Historic Places." All matters related to any proposed telecommunications facility within the right of way of the Merritt Parkway are to be reviewed by the Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee (MPAC). Furthermore, the MPAC shall make recommendations to the Commissioner of Transportation on the acceptability of any proposed telecommunications facility within the right of way of the Merritt Parkway.

To the extent feasible, the Department intends to work cooperatively with the Connecticut Siting Council and telecommunications providers to improve communications coverage and capacity, subject to the limitations noted above.


Ralph J. Carpenter
COMMISSIONER