

DSG Policy Memorandum
Administrative Interpretation
#01-07



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES GROUP
9611 SE 36TH St., Mercer Island, WA 98040
(206) 236-5300

TO: DSG Staff

FROM: Richard Hart, Development Services Director

DATE: February 1, 2001

RE: Interpretation of Radio Antennas Different than WCF's and Dish Antennas

The Code Official under Section 19.15.010 C. 5. (a.) of the Unified Land Development Code makes this administrative policy determination and interpretation of the Unified Land Development Code of Mercer Island. The Mercer Island Unified land Development Code is silent on the review process and extent of review for radio antennas used for one way communication of data. This interpretation will distinguish radio antennas as different than Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF's), as spelled out in Section 19.16.010 and 19.06.040, and different than Dish Antennas as spelled out in Section 19.06.030 of the MICC.

USE AND EXTENT OF REVIEW FOR RADIO ANTENNAS ASSOCIATED WITH GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMERCIAL/RETAIL/ OFFICE FACILITIES.

General Rule- Dish Antennas and WCF's have specific regulations governing their placement and review prior to permitting.

Our zoning code is silent on placement and review of radio antennas as an accessory use to government/community use buildings or accessory to commercial/office buildings. As the Code Official, I am making an interpretation that such radio antennas used for one way communication of information will be considered different than Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF's) as referenced in our land use code in Section 19.16.010 and 19.06.040, and different than Dish Antennas as referenced in Section 19.06.030. Radio antennas, which do not provide communication other than relaying data and information to one location, shall not be considered a WCF and do not have to follow such WCF regulations as outlined within our MICC. Said radio antennas will have to follow an administrative design review process as outlined within MICC if they substantially impact the design of the facility to which they are attached through change of color or addition of a service box or other electrical equipment associated with the radio antenna. (Title 19, Division II Part 3. A. 3.)