

From: [Alison Middleton](#)
To: [Laurel Evans](#)
Cc: [Michelle Crocker](#); [Carolyn Rentenbach](#); [Chet Janik](#); [Debra Rushton](#); [Laurel Evans](#); [Melinda Lautner](#); [Patricia Soutas-Little](#); [Tony Ansoorge](#); [Ty Wessell](#); [Will Bunek](#)
Subject: FW: Comments GTB Fiber and Tower leases with GTB and Aspen Wireless
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:46:44 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Public comment:

From: tim@cherrycapitalconnection.com <tim@cherrycapitalconnection.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:31 AM
To: clerk@co.leelanau.mi.us
Subject: FW: Comments GTB Fiber and Tower leases with GTB and Aspen Wireless

FYF

From: tim@cherrycapitalconnection.com <tim@cherrycapitalconnection.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 6:08 AM
To: 'mlautner@co.leelanau.mi.us' <mlautner@co.leelanau.mi.us>
Cc: 'Justin maylone' <jmaylone@cherrycapitalconnection.com>; 'wbunek@co.leelanau.mi.us' <wbunek@co.leelanau.mi.us>; 'mlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop' <mlautner@cherrylandelectric.coop>
Subject: Comments GTB Fiber and Tower leases with GTB and Aspen Wireless

Melinda Lautner,

During public comment we will make these comments. If we run out of time or there are technical issues with the remote meeting we ask that you present this content to the board and ask the board to consider these concerns.

Cherry Capital Connection, a Modern Telephone company licensed by the Michigan Public Service commission as a CLEC, currently leases tower space on all (5) Leelanau County owned tower assets. CCC has been delivering High Speed Internet access and telephone services in Leelanau county over the past 15 years. The LC emergency management group and the LC administration have been professional and thoughtful in all our dealings.

Leases:

However CCC that these proposed leases have not studied the harm that will be caused to current Lessee such as CCC. We recommend that these leases be tabled until after there is a county level study conducted involving all current lessees to ensure there are no negative effects to current providers.

The primary concern associated with these leases are related to the following.

A review of the leases with GTB and Aspen wireless contain a number of clerical errors that need to be addressed.

More significant is the frequencies to be deployed by these vendors. 5Ghz, not 5G, uses the unlicensed bands between 5.1Ghz and 5.9Ghz.

As consumers have demanded high speeds and increased data usage current providers have been forced to utilize 80Mhz bands.

These bands have over saturated the entire frequency space. Making servicing the current customer base challenging.

Polluting this already saturated space by adding additional vendors using these frequencies on these towers will make it impossible to service our current customer base.

This will negatively affect over 400 CCC customers.

There is a wide range of unlicensed or lite licensed frequencies that can be used to address the internet needs of LC including the newly authorized 6Ghz and CBRS ranges that has sufficient frequency space to accommodate multiple providers, while presenting similar deployment and operating costs that are typically associated with 5.1 – 5.9 frequencies with limited interference issues.

GTB Fiber:

CCC has encouraged GTB to construct additional main line fiber throughout LC. The GTB using a route that interconnects the 5 LC tower assets is a natural route.

As a CLEC - CCC has offered to lease or purchase under IRU multiple strands of fiber creating dozens of meet points through out LC in support of our Fiber to the Home delivery.

Currently we are limited to AT&T and Spectrum. CCC strategy is to lease routes using at least three separate vendors providing vendor and geographic separation.

In addition to encouraging GTB we are working with additional region fiber backbone providers to construct additional routes throughout LC.

Our current 2020 fiber to the home efforts are focusing on an area between Leland and Northport addressing the High speed Internet access needs of over 500 households. Our design is complete and materials have been order. We are moving into the staking and permit stages and plan to start construction July 2020. The Gills Pier project requires permits from LC, the state of Michigan and a number of private associations. CCC construction crews will soon be staging equipment. We are collecting petitions throughout other areas of LC and have received over 1,000 petitions for fiber. The primary townships for 2020 and 2021 are areas of Leelanau, Leland, Suttons Bay, Centerville and Solon.

We are confident with the efforts of the GTB fiber team and other fiber providers, CCC can quickly expand our fiber to the home efforts to include all townships of LC.

Please consider including CCC on the May 19, 2020 agenda. We would be pleased to present our fiber and LTE plans for LC and to answer any questions.

Kind Regards,



Tim Maylone

CEO and Managing Member, Cherry Capital Connection, LLC

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A modern Michigan Telephone Company

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