Delegated Action of the Executive Director

PROJECT
AT&T Replacement Antennas on the U.S. Department of Agriculture South Building
1300 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC

SUBMITTED BY
United States General Services Administration

NCPC FILE NUMBER
8826

NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER
00:00(38.30)46296

ACTION TAKEN
Approve preliminary and final building plans

REVIEW AUTHORITY
Approval
Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

The General Services Administration (GSA) has submitted preliminary and final buildings plans for antenna replacements at the U.S. Department of Agriculture South Building at 1300 Independence Avenue, SW. This project is part of AT&T's modernization project which will upgrade the technology to the existing AT&T rooftop telecommunications site. This upgrade will add significant speed and capacity to the existing AT&T macro site to support National/Homeland Security and First Responders ahead of major events at the National Mall and support future enhancements to the FirstNet Platform.

AT&T is proposing to relocate two (2) exiting antennas and install four (4) new antennas. There are four existing sectors on the existing rooftop, including Alpha – Sector 1, Beta – Sector 2, Gamma – Sector 3, and Delta – Sector 4. Each sector houses four (4) antennas which define the macro site. The proposed installation will upgrade the site by installing new Ericsson equipment. Three (3) existing antennas will be removed, and two (2) existing antennas will be relocated. The remaining antennas will stay in the same locations. AT&T is proposing to keep the existing antenna sled mounts in place. No changes will be made to the antenna sled locations. Overall, staff finds the proposed changes will not adversely impact views of the building or views from other surrounding locations. The installation approach is consistent with that previously implemented with the building. As such, the project is generally consistent with the federal elements of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital.*

GSA previously determined the rooftop antennas will not adversely affect the federal building or adjacent historic resources, and the DC State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) concurred with this finding, with the condition that all equipment, including all mounts, are painted to match the darker background of the building's penthouse faux windows. This condition continues to be met. Due to its approval authority over the project, NCPC has an independent obligation to comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and NCPC elected to designate GSA as lead agency pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2) to satisfy the Commission's Section 106 responsibility.

Pursuant to the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), GSA previously determined the project qualifies as a categorical exclusion based on GSA's environmental review standards. Due to its approval authority over the project, NCPC has an

independent obligation to carry out the requirements of NEPA. Staff finds that this project is in conformance with the NCPC Categorical Exclusion requirements under § 601.12 (a)(5) of the Commission's NEPA Regulations, which apply to the approval of the installation of communication antennae on federal buildings. Staff found that no extraordinary circumstances were present.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its October 15, 2026 meeting. Without objection, the Committee forwarded the proposed preliminary and final building plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies. Participating agencies were: NCPC, the District Department of Transportation, the District Department of Energy and the Environment, the District Office of Planning, the DC SHPO, the National Park Service, the General Services Administration, Commission of Fine Arts, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

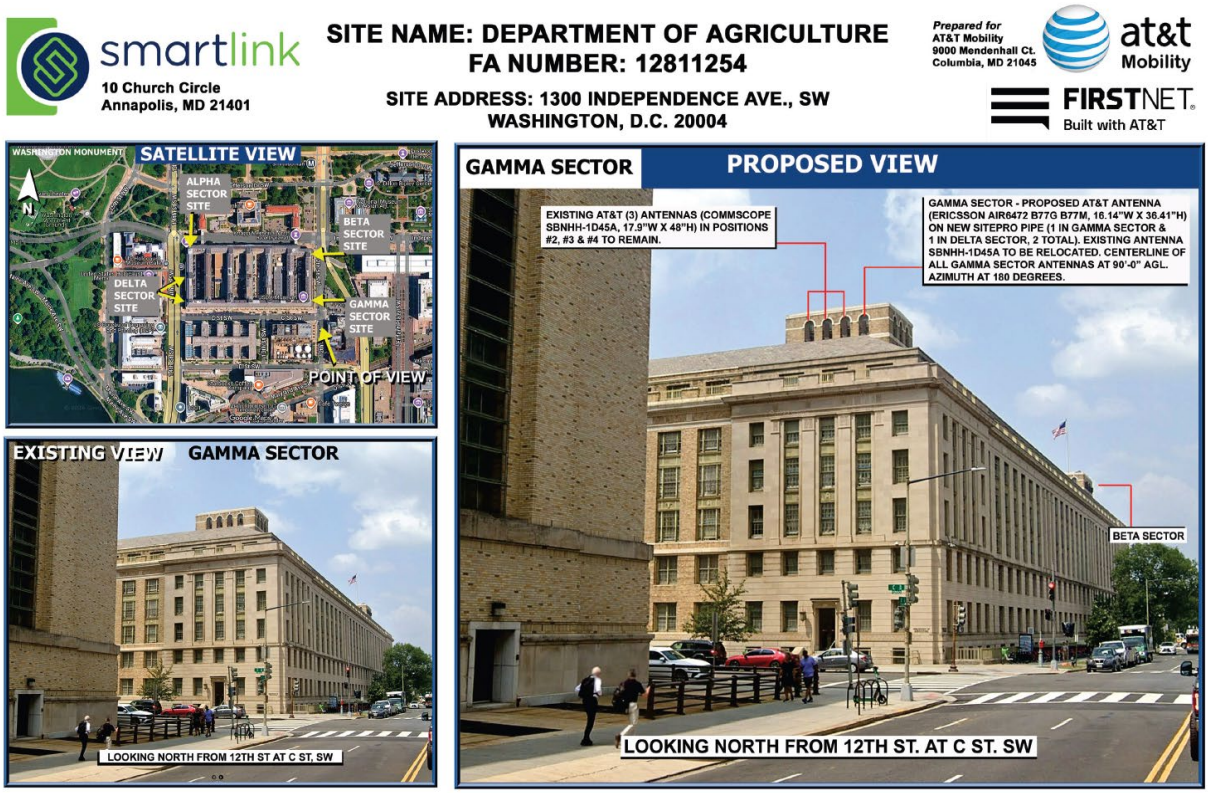


Figure 1: Image showing Building with Gamma Sector Antenna Replacement.

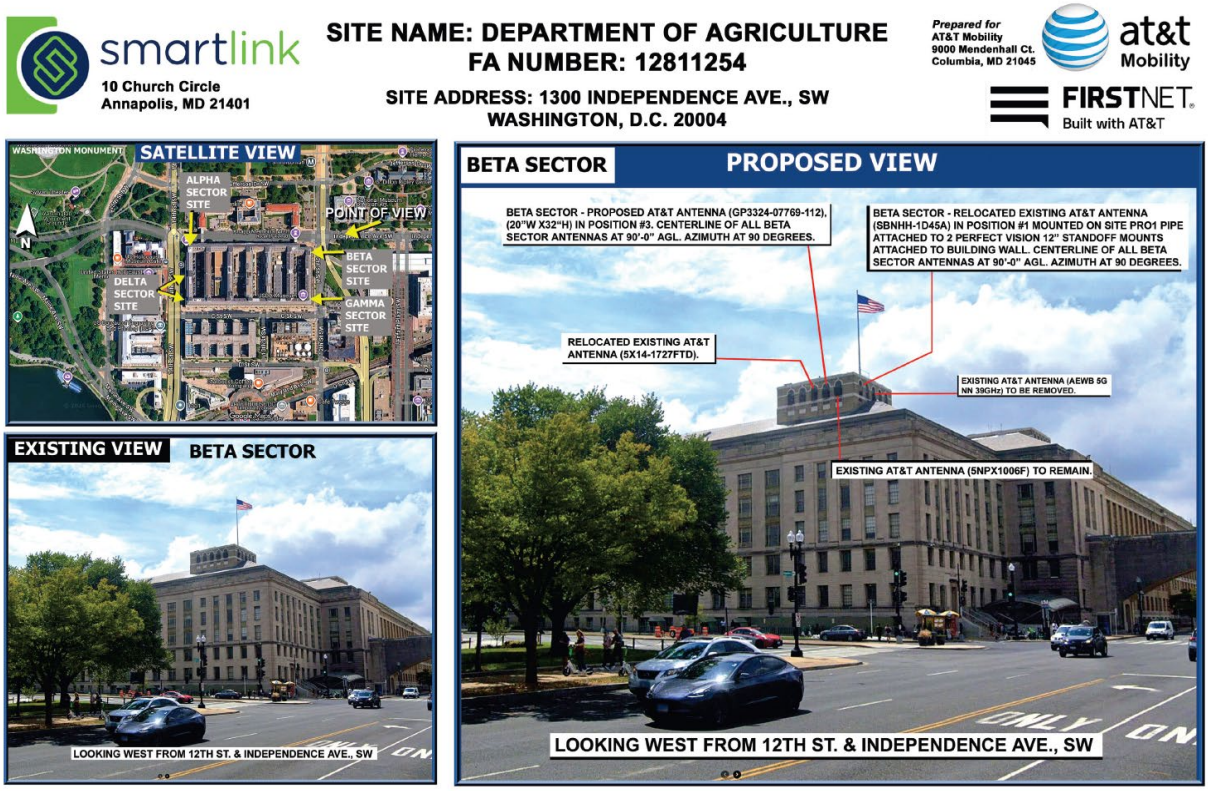


Figure 2: Image showing Building with Beta Sector Antenna Replacement.

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Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on March 6, 2025 and per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final building plans to allow AT&T to relocate two (2) and add four (4) rooftop cellular panel antennas on the Department of Agriculture South Building in Washington, DC, for a period of five years.

Diane Sullivan
Acting Executive Director

Date