



## Agenda Abstract

Department: Planning

Authorizing Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitting Official: Jason Sullivan

Meeting Date:	May 21, 2012
Subject:	Request for search ring approval from Matthew Danielson with Raleigh Towers to locate a telecommunications tower within the northeastern portion of the county.
Action Requested:	See Recommendations
Attachments: (List Individually)	1. Application packet is available on the webpage at <a href="http://www.chathamnc.org/planning">www.chathamnc.org/planning</a> under Rezoning and Subdivision Cases, 2012

Introduction & Background:	<p>A public hearing was held on this request March 19, 2012. Two citizens spoke in favor of a proposed tower being located within this search ring. No one spoke in opposition.</p> <p><b>**Planning Board comments and discussion, if applicable, is noted in BOLD below.**</b></p> <p><b>The Planning Board met at their regularly scheduled meeting on April 3, 2012. A discussion about the citizens that spoke at the public hearing was noted and there was a concern raised about how the appearance of a telecommunications tower would be in that area and Planning staff advised that would be reviewed once a site specific conditional use rezoning and permit were submitted. There was no further discussion. The Planning Board recommended approval of the search ring submission.</b></p>
Discussion & Analysis:	<p>Once per year, Chatham County has a public hearing to receive requests from telecommunication tower contractors, providers, etc. to gain the approval to petition a landowner for a potential tower site within the search ring area presented. This is not an approval or permit for a site specific location. The ½ mile search ring is required by ordinance in order to proceed to a site specific application that would come sometime within the one year window to do so.</p>



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	Two citizens, who live in the northeastern portion of the county, stated there is minimal cell service in that area and they feel it is a safety issue as much as it is a convenience issue. They support the potential for locating a cell tower in this area. The RF maps that were included in the application packet support the need for a telecommunications tower in this area.
Budgetary Impact:	
Recommendation:	Planning staff and Planning Board (by unanimous vote - 7 members) recommend approval of the search ring as submitted.