

# AMP IT UP!



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## Keeping Local Government Local

**T**his month “AMP It Up!” from **Wireless Tower Solutions** examines the regulatory tensions between our various levels of government as they react to the expansion of 5G wireless technology. Serving the people where they live remains a primary duty and aim.

### Where the Tensions Come From

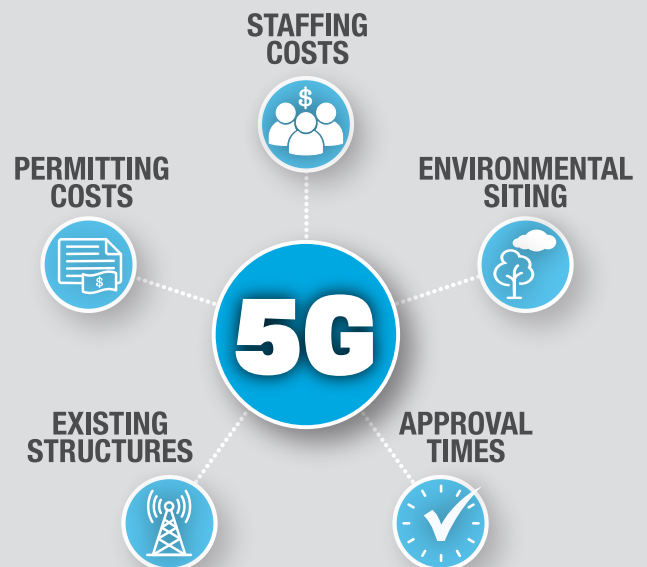
In the past half-decade, we’ve seen the new wireless technology move out relentlessly. Equally relentless: the efforts of communications providers to make their expansion seamless. Federal, state and regulatory authorities have responded with rules addressing how this new small cell technology can be placed in communities across America.

Generally, those responses have meant restrictions on how local government deals with the installation of thousands of a newer, smaller, faster type of cell antenna. That involves things like staffing and other permitting costs, scenic and environmental siting, use of existing structures, approval times — in short, all those things that affect your town and ours.

***Where the people live!***

That’s what makes this a crucial matter for local governments, and ***why AMP can be such a critically useful tool to restore the balance.***

### LOCAL 5G CHALLENGES



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WIRELESS TOWER SOLUTIONS

115 Dave Lyle Boulevard, Rock Hill, SC 29730  
866-748-7963

[www.wirelesstowersolutions.com](http://www.wirelesstowersolutions.com)

## Why “Balance” Is Important

As we talk about dealing with 5G expansion, “balancing” the rulebook is vital for three important reasons:

- 1** Local governments, closest to the people, have both legal and intrinsic responsibilities to their best interests — economic, environmental, and cultural.
- 2** Small 5G cells are needed in close clusters on rooftops, not on towers 6 miles apart.
- 3** Growing numbers of taxpayers want the new level of telecom service.

These three imperatives require local officials to find efficient and transparent ways to meet this growing 5G demand.

Indeed, in the 2014 case of a carrier challenging a denied permit, the US Supreme Court held 6–3 that lack of a full written record of the process, including council minutes, favored T-Mobile over the City of Roswell, Ga. (Roswell has since, in 2019, adopted a small cell ordinance that draws on Georgia’s new state law).

Our **AMP** program handles and records all facets of every individual application, from beginning to end, even in followup. Transparency works for citizens, too, not just judges.

## AMP Can Help You Keep Local Control

What 5G permit issues challenge local government? Adequate staffing, for one. Time and costs of processing permits, for another, in the face of state limits on fees and time. What about structural and other cell location requirements? Consider the

“look” of an attractive downtown or neighborhood. How can leaders weigh these issues and still offer their citizens the latest communications tools? It’s all about “balance” and what’s best for the community, not just the vendors.

We think the solution’s all about **AMP**. Our program easily handles all of these issues and then some — for example, calculating expense loads that support legally acceptable higher fees. Model ordinances and regulations, for another. And with a bow to the courts, it maintains a written timeline of every step in every permit process. It resolves issues before they arise.

Good news? It’s not only issue-free, it’s free of cost for local government (there’s that term again)! All it costs you is collaboration and your local knowledge and preferences. Isn’t that in the best interests of the taxpayers who live there and whom you serve?



## Let’s talk AMP!

There’s plenty more to talk about. We can start, implement or offer a turnkey solution to 5G. That’s the power of AMP. Questions? References? **Call WTS today to get started.**

