



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1056: LOCAL GOV PERMITTING WIRELESS TELECOM FACILITIES

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Lukens; Bacon
Sen. Roberts; Hinrichsen

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Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, which was recommended by the Cell Phone Connectivity Interim Study Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill makes changes to procedures for local government approval of applications for siting or construction of wireless communications facilities.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas:

- Minimal State Workload
- Local Government

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact¹	Budget Year FY 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Beginning January 1, 2026, the bill adjusts procedures for local government approval of telecommunications provider applications for siting, constructing, or substantially modifying wireless communications facilities. Specifically, an application is deemed approved by a local government if:

- the local government has not approved or rejected the application within 60 days after the application is submitted to the local government, or within 60 days after a pre-application meeting or other documented communication between the local government and provider is conducted, whichever is earlier;
- the provider has fulfilled all public notice requirements for the application; and
- the provider notifies the local government that the 60-day time period has elapsed.

The bill allows a local government to extend the 60-day time period in order to make timely requests for information to complete an application. Additionally, the provider and local government may mutually agree to extend this deadline. If a local government requires a provider to obtain a traffic control plan or other safety-related permit, the provider cannot begin its project until it obtains the plan or permit.

Furthermore, the bill prohibits a local government from requiring a provider to file a new application or secure additional permits when telecommunications equipment is being removed, discontinued, or replaced, as long as:

- the provider notifies the local government of the removal, discontinuance, or replacement of the equipment; and,
- modifying the equipment does not substantially change the facility.

State Expenditures

Beginning January 1, 2026, the bill minimally increases workload in the Judicial Department for trial courts if any local governments seek judicial review of applications. This fiscal note assumes few cases will be brought to trial courts and any increase in workload will be absorbable within existing resources.

Local Government

Local governments currently have 150 days to process applications for a new wireless facility. The bill significantly decreases the application period to 60 days, which can cause counties and municipalities to devote more resources and time to review applications in a timely manner. However, the bill also eliminates the application for new small cell facilities, currently a 90-day period, which could allow local governments to redirect staff resources. Impacts will vary by jurisdiction, depending on local processes, number of permit applications, and other factors.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect January 1, 2026, assuming no referendum petition is filed. It applies to applications filed on or after this date.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties

Local Affairs

Judicial

Municipalities

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).