PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2010

2010-7095 - Anthem Telecom, LLC [Applicant] Lockheed Missiles and Space Co., Inc. [Owner]: Special Development Permit to allow a 112’ tall wireless telecommunications monopine including antennas for up to six carriers and associated ground equipment within a new enclosure on the Lockheed Martin campus located at 1111 Lockheed Martin Way (Negative Declaration) (APN: 110-01-025) MH

Steve Lynch, Senior Planner, presented the staff report. He said staff is recommending approval of the project subject to the Conditions of Approval in Attachment B. He said one new item of information since the report was written is the applicant has now contracted with a fifth potential carrier, Clearwire, to also be located on the pole if approved.

Comm. Klein discussed with staff the photo simulations in Attachment E. Comm. Klein asked about the existing chain-link enclosure and why a masonry enclosure is not required with staff explaining the pole is located in the Lockheed complex so noise would only affect Lockheed. Comm. Klein discussed the height of the pole with staff and the feasibility of making the pole 100 feet or less. Trudi Ryan, Planning Officer, said staff understands that one of the particular carriers needs the height because of the taller buildings in the vicinity.

Comm. Sulser asked staff to discuss whether the proposed height being requested is considered a deviation or a variance. Ms. Ryan said this is essentially a deviation and the code allows for height greater than 100 feet north of 237 subject to City Council review, noting that the buildings in the Moffett Park area can be very tall. Staff showed samples of the materials used for the faux tree.

Comm. Rowe discussed with staff the illustrations and antenna of the proposed tree pole with staff saying that the additional five feet on the top of the pole is for aesthetic purposes.

Chair Chang opened the public hearing.

Matt Yergovich, representing Anthem Telecom, the applicant, discussed the proposed design, location, and the collocation of the carriers. He said the proposed pole balances the needs of Lockheed Martin, co locaters, and the City. He discussed Anthem Telecom and Lockheed Martin’s need for a secure site. He said this pole keeps all carriers in one location and off of Lockheed’s buildings. Mr. Yergovich presented a PowerPoint, and said representatives from the five proposed co locators and Lockheed Martin are in the audience. Mr. Yergovich
discussed the configuration of the carriers on the one pole, the separation requirements for the carriers, and the secure site for Lockheed. He discussed the aesthetics of the branches and the stealth vendor that supplies the “tree”. He said Lockheed allowed staff to visit, and endorses the Anthem proposal. He said the location was chosen as there are surrounding trees and a nearby building that partially obscures the tree. He said the visual impact is minimal from any public areas. Mr. Yergovich said the proposal balances all of the parties needs: Lockheed’s need for security and a high level of service for the area, the carriers needs, and the City needs in minimizing visual impact with a stealth design.

Comm. Sulser asked the applicant about the height of the pole being much taller than the surrounding trees. Mr. Yergovich said the nearby redwoods are currently 50 or 60 feet high, however the proposed pole does balance needs. Comm. Susler discussed the aesthetics of the pole with the applicant saying the redwood would be tailored to this site.

Comm. Rowe discussed with the applicant the nearby 50 foot buildings and trees and whether all of the antennas need to be above the buildings and trees. Mr. Yergovich said the antennas need a line of site and that the Use Permit needs to be renewed in 10 years which allows a time for the applicant and the City to review the permit.

Comm. Klein discussed the spacing and height of the colocation on the pole. Mr. Yergovich said that everything has been done that can be done to minimize the height of the pole with all of the carriers on it.

Comm. Hungerford further discussed with the applicant the height of the pole and the carriers’ coverage needs. Mr. Yergovich said that the coverage is a complex issue.

Mr. Yergovich thanked the Commission for their time.

Chair Chang closed the public hearing.

Comm. Rowe moved for Alternative 1, to recommend the City Council adopt the Negative Declaration and approve the Special Development Permit with the Conditions of Approval located in Attachment B. Comm. Klein seconded the motion.

Comm. Rowe said the staff report was thorough and she is convinced that the pole will not be a problem for Sunnyvale and it meets the needs of Lockheed.
Comm. Klein said he would be supporting the motion as he was able to make the findings. He commended the applicant for not proposing something that would be an eyesore. He said generally in a business park the poles are just poles and what is proposed will be more aesthetically pleasing. He said he visited the Carlisle monopine today, which is similar to the proposed pole, and it fits in well. He said this tree pole should fit in at Lockheed. He said he was concerned about the height, however this is in a business area and there are extenuating circumstances.

Comm. Hungerford said he is on the fence regarding this project because of the height of the pole. He said this is a unique situation and he would be supporting the motion due to the unique location.

Comm. Sulser said he would be supporting the motion and commended the applicant for making the effort to provide a tree pole that fits in.

**ACTION:** Comm. Hungerford made a motion on 2010-7371 to recommend the City Council adopt the Negative Declaration and approve the Special Development Permit with the Conditions of Approval located in Attachment B. Comm. Klein seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

**APPEAL OPTIONS:** This item is scheduled to be considered by City Council at their meeting of July 20, 2010.