

# Proposed Small Cell Telecommunication Guidelines

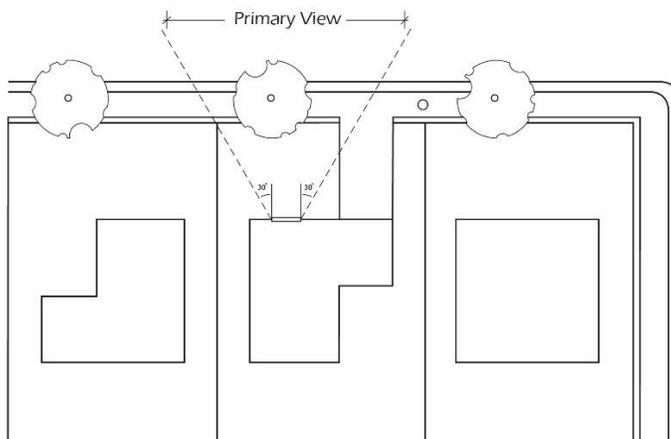
UPDATE TO RESOLUTION NO. 626-13

## DESIGN CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR PROCESSING SMALL CELL WIRELESS APPLICATIONS

The purpose of these guidelines is to minimize visual impact of small cell wireless facilities in the public right-of-way, provide direction to staff and applicants, and to ensure consistency in the application review process. Substantial conformity with these guidelines is required. These guidelines should be interpreted with flexibility to allow telecommunications providers to meet the need for wireless service while avoiding the intangible public harm of unsightly or out-of-character deployments.

### I. DEFINITIONS

1. **Antenna** means a small cell device designed to transmit or receive electromagnetic energy to provide wireless service.
2. **Equipment** means all associated equipment to which a small cell antenna is attached. Equipment includes, but is not limited to, back-up generators, power supply units, remote radio units, cabinets, cables, and connectors.
3. **Residence** means the dwelling unit (single-family, two-family, multiple-family or accessory units) used exclusively for residential purposes.



\* Not Drawn To Scale

4. **Primary View** means within the 30-degree cone-of-vision measured from the side edges of the windows or doors facing the pole and leading from the living room or family room of a residence or first habitable floor of a non-residential building. Bedrooms, offices, hallways, additional living area, patio, balcony, and yards shall not be considered a living room or a family room.
5. **Small Cell Wireless Facility** has the meaning defined by 47 CFR 1.1312(e)(2).
6. **Wireless Facility** means a small cell wireless facility in the public right-of-way.

## **II. REVIEW PROCEDURES**

### **A. Design Review Requiring Public Notice and No Public Hearing:**

An application for a small cell wireless facility shall be considered by the director of community development without a public hearing, if the application meets the following Design Criteria:

1. The wireless facility is not within the primary view of a residence, or first habitable floor of a non-residential building, located on same side of the street as the pole.
2. The wireless facility is a minimum 300 feet away from other small cell wireless facilities;
3. The maximum proposed height increase of the pole does not exceed 10% of the pole;
4. The maximum proposed total height of the pole does not exceed 50 feet (including the antenna);
5. The antenna is no more than three cubic feet in volume;
6. The combined size of pre-existing and proposed equipment on the pole does not exceed 28 cubic feet in volume;
7. No new overhead lines (phone or power) will be added to serve the wireless facility; and
8. The wireless facility will be placed on a pole located more than 300 feet from any property line of a public park, public school, or heritage resource or landmark.

### **B. Design Review Requiring Public Hearing:**

An application shall be considered by the Planning Commission if:

1. The facility does not meet one or more of the Design Criteria under Section A 'Design Review Requiring Public Notice and No Public Hearing'; or
2. If the Director determines, that it is in the public interest to have the application referred to the Planning Commission for hearing.

## **III. LOCATION AND DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The objectives and purposes of the Design Criteria are attained by the following guidelines. These guidelines ensure that the general appearance of proposed facilities will not materially impair the visual aesthetics of adjacent properties. These guidelines shall be used by the Director of Community Development or Planning Commission in determining whether to approve or deny a Design Review application for a small cell wireless facility.

### **A. Guidelines for all Wireless Facilities.**

1. The antenna should be the least intrusive feasible design with regard to appearance and size. Examples include, but are not limited to, using the smallest size antenna that is technically feasible and/or streamlining the antenna to match the shape, width and color of the existing pole.

2. The selected pole should be the least intrusive location available in the public right-of-way. Examples include, but not limited to, avoiding poles within 50' of a street corner, selecting poles next to reducible front yards near the shared property lines, avoiding poles upto 5' of a primary driveway of a residence, and selecting poles that are adjacent to trees or foliage that reduce visual impact.
3. The selected pole should be a minimum of 300 feet away from other small cell wireless facilities unless the applicant demonstrates that disapproval of the applicant's selected location would materially inhibit the provision of wireless service.
4. Avoid utility poles planned for undergrounding by the City (City owned light poles in undergrounding areas can be considered).
5. Equipment shall be located on a pole, except where ground mounting reduces visual impact.

**B. Guidelines for Pole-Mounted Equipment.**

1. Equipment should be the least intrusive feasible design with regard to appearance and size. Examples include, but are not limited to, using the smallest size equipment that is technically feasible, minimizing the number of equipment cabinets, as technically feasible, providing stackable configuration and streamlining the equipment to match the shape, width and color of the existing pole.
2. Cables from equipment cabinets should be configured in an orderly fashion, if not concealed. Conceal all external conduits, conduit attachments, cables, wires and other connectors from public view, to the extent feasible. Rout all cables, wires and other connectors through conduits within the pole whenever possible.

**C. Guidelines for Ground-Mounted Equipment.**

1. Ground-mounted equipment should be the least intrusive feasible design with regard to appearance and size. Examples include, but are not limited to, using the smallest size equipment that is technically feasible; using "stealth" design or artistic wrapping, such that it is less conspicuous and can hide or blend into the surrounding area; or installing the equipment underground, if feasible.
2. Ground-mounted equipment must meet applicable requirements for ADA clearance and must not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
3. The equipment must meet operational noise standards of the City (Sunnyvale Municipal Code 19.42.030).