

**Engineering Department** 

## SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITY DESIGN STANDARDS

- A. Purpose: The following provisions are intended to ensure that small cell wireless facilities mounted on utility poles within the public rights-of-way are designed in a manner that minimizes aesthetic impacts to public views from the public rights-of-way, and to promote health, safety, and walkability of the community.
- B. Pole Standards:
  - 1. Installation of new utility poles (wood, steel, and composite) shall only be allowed when it is not feasible to locate on existing infrastructure.
  - 2. Facilities located on existing utility poles may require certification from a licensed engineer that the structure can support the proposed equipment.
- C. Location, Size, and Operational Requirements:
  - 1. Location
    - i. All equipment facilities shall comply with ADA requirements.
    - ii. To limit obstructions on sidewalks and protect health, safety, and walkability, ground mounted equipment, including meter pedestals, shall be located a minimum of 10 feet from utility poles and should be off-set from utility poles along the street frontage instead of directly behind utility poles. Exceptions to the separation requirement may be granted by the City Engineer or their designee if unique or unusual circumstances are present related to topography or existing improvements/structures within the right-of-way.
  - 2. Height, Clearance, and Projections
    - i. The combined height of any utility pole/structure with a small cell wireless facility shall not exceed 50 feet (including antennas).
    - ii. The combined height of any structure and small cell wireless facility shall be no more than 10 percent greater than other structures located within 100 feet.
    - iii. The lowest point of any pole-mounted equipment shall be at least eight feet above ground level adjacent to the pole. If applicable laws require polemounted equipment to be placed less than eight feet above ground level, the clearance from ground level shall be no less than required for compliance with such laws.
    - iv. Side-mounted antennas shall not protrude more than 24 inches from the support structure. If applicable laws require a side-mounted antenna to protrude more than 24 inches from the support structure, the protrusion shall be no greater than required for compliance with such laws.

- 3. Operational Requirements
  - i. All equipment and facilities shall comply with noise control standards of the Lemon Grove Municipal Code.
  - ii. All small cell wireless facilities and associated infrastructure shall be operated and maintained in compliance with applicable health and safety regulations, which includes all applicable regulations for human exposure to radio frequency emissions and compliance with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
- D. Design Standards
  - 1. Shrouding/Finishes
    - i. All antennas and associated cables, jumpers, wires, mounts, masts, brackets and other connectors and hardware shall be installed within a shroud or stealth structure.
    - ii. All exterior surfaces shall be painted, colored, or shrouded in non-reflective hues that match the underlying support structure or blend with the surrounding environment.
    - iii. All surfaces shall be treated with graffiti resistant sealant.
    - iv. All finishes shall be subject to approval by the City Engineer or their designee
    - v. Any legs, handles, and logos shall be removed from any antennas or equipment
  - 2. Landscaping/Walls
    - i. If the placement of ground mounted equipment requires the removal of landscaping, replacement landscaping may be required.
    - ii. Retaining walls or screening walls way be required for ground-mounted equipment not placed within an equipment cabinet, with exposed wiring, or with a design/color that would unnecessarily attract attention.
  - 3. Signs
    - i. Signs or advertising devices shall be prohibited, except for certification, warning, or other legally required seats or legally required signage (e.g. warning sticker at minimum size and visibility).
    - ii. Facilities must include signage that accurately identifies the site owner or operator, the owner or operator's site name or identification number and a contact phone number to the owner or operator's network operations center.
  - 4. Security Measures
    - i. Small cell wireless facilities may incorporate reasonable and appropriate site security measures, such as locks or anti-climbing devices, to prevent unauthorized theft or vandalism
    - ii. The City Engineer or their designee shall not approve barbed wire, razor ribbon, electrified fences or similar security measures.
  - 5. Preapproved Designs
    - i. The City Engineer or their designee may authorize preapproved designs when such designs conform to the requirements in this policy.
    - ii. Preapproved designs may apply to existing and new utility poles.