

# **AESTHETIC GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES**

**SECTION 1: BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE.** The City of Fort Bragg is establishing these *Aesthetic Guidelines and Standards for the Deployment of Telecommunication Facilities* for wireless and other facilities in the public right-of-way and within utility easements in public and private properties in order to regulate the design and placement of this infrastructure.

These *Aesthetic Guidelines and Standards for the Deployment of Telecommunication Facilities* provide objective aesthetic design and siting requirements to help achieve a project that is consistent with the purpose and intent of these guidelines, which all wireless facilities installed within the public right-of-way and utility easements in public and private properties must meet for ministerial approval by the City. It is the intent that these guidelines be followed to the greatest extent possible, recognizing that exceptions may be warranted by circumstances unique to specific applications. Whenever an applicant cannot comply with the strict application of these standards, it shall have the option to apply for a discretionary permit.

Small wireless facilities as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 1.6002(1) (also referred to as "small cells") are subject to these guidelines. Three different types of small wireless facilities are permitted in the City of Fort Bragg within the public right-of-way and within utility easements in public and private properties. The types include (1) attachments to existing utility poles and utility lines, (2) placement on streetlights and traffic signal control poles, and (3) new freestanding poles and monopoles. Guidelines that apply to all facilities are presented in Sections 3 and 4. Additional guidelines and standards that apply to telecommunication facilities that are not small wireless facilities are presented in Section 8. Section 9 provides examples of installations that are acceptable and meet these guidelines and standards. Section 10 provides examples of unacceptable installations that do not meet these guidelines and standards.

**SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS.** The terms used in these guidelines shall have the meanings here listed. Definitions for the listed terms from other sources shall not take precedence over the definitions here listed for the interpretation of these guidelines.

**Alley.** A public or private roadway that provides vehicle access to the rear or side of parcels having other public Street frontage that is not intended for general traffic circulation.

**Antenna.** Any system of poles, panels, rods, reflecting discs or similar devices used for the transmission or reception of electromagnetic waves or radio frequency signals.

**Antenna Tower.** Any pole, tower, or other structure, over 10 feet tall, erected for the purpose of supporting one or more Antennas.

**Colocation.** The location of two or more wireless, hard wire, or cable Telecommunication Facilities on a single support structure or otherwise sharing a common location. Colocation shall also include the location of Telecommunication Facilities with other facilities (e.g., water tanks, light standards, and other utility facilities and structures). Colocation includes replacement of an existing Antenna Tower with one capable of supporting additional Antennas.

**Concealed Facility.** Telecommunication Facilities that result in new site or architectural features being added to a property in a manner which complements, enhances, or seamlessly integrates into their surroundings. While this category of facility design allows for limitless innovation, concealed facilities most frequently associated with this category include roof mounted, façade mounted, faux trees, towers, and public art.

**Director.** Director shall mean the then-current Director of the Public Works Department of the City of Fort Bragg, or his or her designee.

**Equipment Cabinet.** A cabinet or structure used to house equipment associated with a wireless, hard wire, or cable Telecommunication Facility.

**Flush-mounted.** Attached to the face of the Antenna support structure, existing building or structure such that no portion of the Antenna extends above the height of the support structure or building. Where a maximum flush mounting distance is given, that distance shall be measured from the outside edge of the Antenna support structure, existing building or structure to the nearest inside edge of the Antenna.

**Ground-mounted.** Supported directly on the ground, or on a structure not more than 10 feet tall, erected to support one or more Antennas.

**Monopole.** A single freestanding pole, post, or similar structure, primarily used to deploy equipment associated with a single wireless Telecommunication Facility without equipment components, cables, wires, or the like attached to or visible on the exterior of the pole, post, or similar structure.

**Multipoint Distribution Service.** A microwave communication service that delivers video programming, data and/or voice communication directly to subscribers, including multi-channel multipoint distribution series, instructional television fixed services, and local multipoint distribution services, or as defined by the Section 207 of the Telecommunication Act of 1996, Section 1.4000 of Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations and any interpretative decisions thereof issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

**Parabolic Antenna.** An Antenna that uses a parabolic reflector, a curved surface with the cross-sectional shape of a parabola, to direct radio waves.

**Protected Zone of a Tree.** The maximum extent of the drip line of the tree plus 5 feet, projected in a circle around the tree, with the trunk at the center of the circle.

**Radome.** A structural, weatherproof enclosure that protects a radar Antenna.

**Service Provider.** Any authorized provider of communication services.

**Small Wireless Facility.** Low-powered wireless telecommunication installations designed to provide network coverage to smaller areas and that typically take the form of small Antennas that are placed on existing infrastructure (both indoors and outdoors) and ground-mounted equipment (also called “small cells”). These facilities help to compliment or stretch tower macrocell coverage and add capacity in high demand areas.

**Stealth Facility.** Telecommunication Facilities that blend the facility or additions to the facility with the natural or man-made environment and result in no perceptible visual impact. There are two primary categories of stealth facilities: (1) those which are completely integrated into an existing structure or architectural feature and (2) those which are imperceptible as a result of careful placement.

**Stealth Manner.** Designed to effectively blend with its surroundings.

**Street.** A public thoroughfare accepted by the City, which affords principal means of access to abutting property, including avenue, place, way, drive, lane, boulevard, highway, road, and any other thoroughfare except an Alley.

**Telecommunication Facility.** An unstaffed public, commercial, or private facility, generally consisting of towers, poles, wires, cables, Antennas, equipment cabinets or structures, and related equipment, which receives, transmits, repeats, and/or broadcasts electromagnetic waves, light waves, radio frequencies or other types of signals for radio, television, telegraph, telephone, data network, and wireless communication, including commercial earth stations for satellite-based communications.

**Tower.** Any ground or roof mounted pole, spire, structure, or combination thereof taller than 10 feet, including supporting lines, cables, wires, braces, and masts, intended primarily for the purpose of mounting an Antenna or similar apparatus above grade.

**Tower-mounted.** Attached to and supported by an Antenna Tower.

### **SECTION 3: DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR ALL SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES.**

**To ensure minimal visual impacts, Small Wireless Facilities should be designed, configured, installed, maintained, and/or removed as follows:**

- A. Small Wireless Facilities shall be designed to be as visually unobtrusive as possible. The applicant shall size antennas, cabinet equipment and other facilities to minimize visual clutter. Facilities shall be sited to avoid or minimize obstruction of views from public vantage points and otherwise minimize the negative aesthetic impacts of the public right-of-way.
- B. Installations should conceal components to the maximum extent feasible with design elements and techniques that mimic or blend with the underlying support structure, surrounding environment and adjacent uses with regard to appearance, size, and location. All equipment and Antennas should be shrouded from view.
- C. Only one Small Wireless Facility is permitted per structure unless the review authority specifically finds that Colocation of multiple Small Wireless Facilities on the structure would be more aesthetically desirable and consistent with the objectives of these guidelines than installations on separate structures.
- D. Installations should be located on or within poles that are located outside of driveway and intersection sight lines. Where feasible, installations shall be located on poles in Alleys. Where poles in Alleys are not available or technically feasible within 250 feet of a preferred location, installations shall be located on poles that are located as close as feasible to shared property lines between two adjacent lots and not directly in front of residences and businesses.
- E. Small Wireless Facilities should be installed on support structures within the public rights-of-way according to the following preferences, ordered from most preferred to least preferred:
  - (1) New facilities on existing or replacement streetlight poles;
  - (2) New facilities on existing or replacement structures other than a streetlight pole or utility pole;
  - (3) New facilities on a new streetlight pole or contained within a new Monopole (not a utility pole);
  - (4) New facilities on existing support structures other than utility poles;
  - (5) New facilities on existing utility poles; and
  - (6) New facilities on new standalone utility poles other than a Monopole.
- F. Installation of wireless on strand or overhead lines shall be prohibited.

- G. Ancillary equipment or components (other than Antennas and Antenna supports) should be located and configured according to the following preferences, ordered from most preferred to least preferred, when technically feasible to do so:
- (1) Within a below-grade equipment vault;
  - (2) Enclosed at the base of the pole on which the Antenna is mounted, provided the size of the base of the pole is minimized;
  - (3) Within an at-grade equipment cabinet, provided the size of the cabinet is minimized; and
  - (4) Within stealth equipment boxes mounted on a pole, provided the size of the box is minimized.
- H. Equipment that is technically infeasible to be located in below-grade equipment vaults or within the pole structure should be located on the pole in a vertical arrangement. Exterior mounted accessory equipment should be within a single shroud of the smallest feasible size not to exceed nine cubic feet in volume (exclusive of the concealing elements like shrouding). Required meters and disconnect switches that are technically infeasible to be shrouded for safety and/or accessibility reasons are excluded from this shrouding recommendation.
- I. Ground-mounted equipment may be permitted in locations that do not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic and within a reasonable distance from the pole. Ground-mounted equipment is not permitted if the City finds that the above-ground equipment would unreasonably interfere with the public's ability to use the right-of-way for uses that include without limitation travel, social, expressive and/or aesthetic uses. The City may condition approval based on new or enhanced landscaping to conceal ground-mounted equipment.
- J. All equipment (other than the Antennas, Antenna supports, ancillary wires, cables and any electric meter) should be installed underground in any area where the existing utilities are not primarily located above ground.
- K. All cables, wires and other connectors should be routed through conduits within poles whenever possible, and all external conduits, conduit attachments, cables, wires and other connectors must be concealed from public view. Surface-mounted conduits shall be mounted and routed in a manner calculated to minimize their visibility.
- L. All wireless facilities must include signage that accurately identifies the equipment owner/operator, the site name or identification number and a toll-free number to the owner/operator's network operations center. Wireless facilities may not bear any other signage or advertisements unless expressly approved by the City, required by law or recommended under existing and future FCC or other United States governmental agencies for compliance with RF emissions regulations. RF

notification signs should be placed where appropriate, and not at pedestrian eye level, unless required by the FCC or other regulatory agencies.

- M. New electric service connections should be underground and routed through the interior of the support structure if technically feasible, or concealed in conduit on the surface of the support structure when that is not technically feasible.
- N. Small Wireless Facilities shall use flat-rate electric service or other method that obviates the need for a separate above-grade electric meter. If flat-rate billing is not available, applicants may install a shrouded smart meter with other electrical components contained within underground vaults or enclosure or pedestal integrated into the base of the support structure. Separate ground-mounted electric meter pedestals are prohibited to the maximum extent permissible under the law.
- O. Small Wireless Facilities should not be installed such that the facility damages existing trees. The City may condition approval based on tree assessment results provided by an ISA certified arborist. If pruning is required for the installation, prior approval of the pruning work must be obtained from the Director.
- P. The applicant or successor in interest shall repair, at its sole cost and expense, any damage (including, but not limited to subsidence, cracking, erosion, collapse, weakening, or loss of lateral support) to City streets, sidewalks, walks, curbs, gutters, trees, parkways, or utility lines and systems, underground utility line and systems, or sewer systems or sewer lines that results from any activities performed in connection with the installation and/or maintenance of a Small Wireless Facility by applicant or successor in interest. In the event the applicant or successor in interest fails to complete said repair within the number of days stated on a written notice by the Director, the Director may cause said repair to be completed and shall invoice the applicant or successor in interest for all costs incurred by City as a result of such repair.
- Q. Replacement or relocation of an existing utility or streetlight pole with a new pole requires the concurrent removal of the existing utility or streetlight pole; leaving the existing utility or streetlight pole in place is prohibited. Structural foundations must be removed when relocating or removing structures in the right-of-way.
- R. All existing landscaping, sidewalk panels, or other hardscape affected by any work associated with the installation, maintenance, or removal of a Small Wireless Facility must be restored to their original condition or better.
- S. Small Wireless Facilities and all accessory equipment and transmission equipment must comply with all noise regulations and shall not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, the applicable ambient noise level standards in Fort Bragg Municipal Code Chapter 9.44, Noise; and the Noise elements of the Coastal General Plan and Inland General Plan. Fans shall not be used, to the maximum extent technically possible.

- T. Pole heights shall be minimized, but in no case shall the maximum height of any facilities exceed the height limits established in the City's Land Use and Development Code. Legally required lightning arresters and beacons shall be included when calculating the height of facilities. Pole height is measured from the top of foundation, which should be flushed with the ground, to the top of pole or top of Antenna, whichever is greater.
- U. Small Wireless Facilities may incorporate reasonable and appropriate site security measures, such as locks and anti-climbing devices, to prevent unauthorized access, theft or vandalism. All facilities shall be constructed from graffiti-resistant materials. The City may require additional concealment elements as the review authority finds necessary to blend the security measures and other improvements into the natural and/or built environment. The City shall not approve barbed wire, razor ribbon, electrified fences or any similar security measures.
- V. All Small Wireless Facilities shall not interfere with access to a fire hydrant, fire station, fire escape, water valve, underground vault, valve housing structure or any other public health or safety facility.
- W. No person shall install, use or maintain any facilities (in whole or in part) that rest upon, in or over any public right-of-way, when such installation, use or maintenance: (1) endangers or is reasonably likely to endanger the safety of persons or property, or (2) when such site or location is used for public utility purposes, public transportation purposes or other governmental use, or (3) when such facilities unreasonably interfere with or unreasonably impede the flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic, including any legally parked or stopped vehicle, ingress into or egress from any residence or place of business, use of poles, posts, traffic signs or signals, hydrants, mailboxes, permitted sidewalk dining, permitted street furniture and/or other objects permitted at or near the location where the wireless facilities are located.
- X. The applicant or successor in interest shall install and maintain permitted Small Wireless Facilities in compliance with the requirements of the Uniform Building Code, National Electrical Code, City noise standards, and all other applicable codes, laws, and regulations.
- Y. The proposed Small Wireless Facility shall be configured, designed and sited to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Z. All Small Wireless Facilities shall be designed and deployed in accordance with the City's *Engineering Design Standards and Permit Conditions for Telecommunication Facilities*, as amended, and as conditioned by the review authority.

#### **SECTION 4: SITING GUIDELINES FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES.**

- A. Preferred Siting Locations. When evaluating compliance with these guidelines, the City will take into account whether any or more preferred locations are technically feasible and potentially available. All applicants for a Small Wireless Facility permit must propose new wireless facilities in locations along Alleys within the public rights-of-way rather than in locations along Streets when a potential Alley location is within 250 feet of a potential Street location. Locations outside the Coastal Zone are highly encouraged and should be considered prior to locations within the Coastal Zone. All applicants for a Small Wireless Facility permit must propose new wireless facilities in locations within the public rights-of-way or utility easements in public and private properties according to the following preferences, ordered from most preferred to least preferred:
- (1) Public Facilities zoning district;
  - (2) Industrial zoning districts other than Timber Resources Industrial;
  - (3) Commercial zoning districts other than Neighborhood Commercial;
  - (4) Neighborhood Commercial zoning district;
  - (5) Timber Resources Industrial zoning district;
  - (6) Residential zoning districts;
  - (7) Open Space and Parks and Recreation zoning districts; and
  - (8) Other special purpose zoning districts not listed above.
- B. Small Wireless Facilities are prohibited in locations that are visible from sites determined to be sensitive visual receptors including parks, schools, public recreation facilities, historic structures or districts, sidewalks in the Central Business District (except if contained within decorative streetlights), and other public gathering places.
- C. Facilities shall not be located directly in front of business or residential windows, primary walkways, primary entrances or exits, or in such a way that it would impede a delivery to a building.
- D. Facilities should be located near shared property lines between two adjacent lots as much as possible or along a secondary side property frontage.
- E. Mid-block locations are preferred instead of at more visible corners and Street intersections except if proposed on traffic signal control poles.
- F. If an Alley location is not available within 250 feet of a proposed location, new poles should be located in the parkway strip of a Street and in alignment with existing trees, utility poles, and streetlights.
- G. New poles should be an approximately equal distance between trees when possible, with a minimum of 15 feet separation such that no proposed disturbance shall occur within the Protected Zone of a Tree.

- H. A Small Wireless Facility location should be no closer than 500 feet away, radially, from another small wireless facility location.
- I. When Alley locations are not available or feasible, collector Streets are more preferable to local Streets for the placement of small wireless facilities.
- J. For new freestanding structures, install eight two-inch PVC (Schedule 40 or better) conduit sweeps to accommodate small wireless facilities (electrical and fiber) with up to four separate sweeps for future service.

**SECTION 5: DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES ON UTILITY POLES AND UTILITY LINES.**

- A. All installations on utility poles and utility lines shall fully comply with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) general orders, including but not limited to General Order 95. None of the following design guidelines are meant to conflict with or cause a violation of General Order 95, including but not limited to its guidelines for a safe installation on a utility pole. Accordingly, size limits can be adjusted at the review authority's discretion to ensure compliance with CPUC rules on safety.
- B. All wireless facility equipment should be installed in an underground vault to the maximum extent technically feasible. Equipment that is only technically feasible to be installed on poles or aboveground should be completely contained within an equipment shroud or otherwise concealed from public view. Equipment shroud and lines should be painted, treated or finished to match existing utility pole and line aesthetics. Utility line installations should be concealed or colored to a non-reflective color.
- C. New Wireless on strand or overhead lines shall be prohibited.
- D. The top of the Antenna, if top mounted, should be no higher than 48 inches above the minimum separation from supply lines required by GO 95, exclusive of the required Antenna mounting bracket. The Antenna should be shrouded.
- E. Side-mounted Antennas are prohibited unless no other option is technically feasible. Side-mounted Antennas should extend no more than is technically necessary and should be the smallest feasible size.
- F. Only one equipment shroud, containing all required accessory equipment that cannot be located in an underground vault or in a ground-mounted enclosure, should be installed per pole. Outer edge of equipment shroud should project no more than 18 inches off the pole circumference and should be the smallest feasible size.
- G. All Antennas should be shrouded. Antenna shroud should have an outer diameter of 15 inches or less and should be the smallest feasible size, measuring no more than five cubic feet. The shroud should be no more than 48 inches tall, including

Antenna, radio head, mounting bracket, and all other hardware necessary for a complete installation.

- H. Antenna shroud should be the same diameter as the supporting pole whenever feasible but shall be no more than 30 percent greater in diameter than the utility pole it is attached to, exclusive of the pole mounting device, and the transition between the pole and the shroud should be tapered where feasible.
- I. All cables, wires, and other connectors should be hidden within the utility pole when feasible to do so, or be concealed in covers or conduits that are painted, treated or finished to match existing utility pole aesthetics in finish and color.
- J. Replacement utility poles require the concurrent removal of the existing utility pole.

#### **SECTION 6: DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES ON STREETLIGHTS AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL POLES.**

- A. Small Wireless Facilities shall not be located on decorative streetlights but may be located within decorative streetlights if doing so does not materially alter the exterior appearance of the decorative streetlight.
- B. Equipment should be painted, treated or finished to match existing streetlight pole and traffic signal control pole aesthetics and materials in finish and color.
- C. The Antenna should be mounted at the top of the streetlight pole or traffic signal control pole where the arm extends from the pole, where feasible. The top of the Antenna, if top mounted, should be no higher than 48 inches above the top of the existing pole unless approved by the review authority after finding that a greater height would promote the aesthetic concerns of the City.
- D. All Antennas should be shrouded. Antenna shroud should have an outer diameter of 15 inches or less and should be the smallest feasible size, measuring no more than five cubic feet in size. The shroud should be no more than 48 inches tall, including Antenna, radio head, mounting bracket, and all other hardware necessary for a complete installation.
- E. Antenna shroud should be the same diameter as the supporting pole whenever feasible but shall be no more than 30 percent greater in diameter than the streetlight or traffic signal control pole it is attached to and the transition between the pole and the shroud should be tapered.
- F. All cables, wires, and other connectors should be hidden within the base and shaft of the streetlight or traffic signal control pole. Where this is not feasible, the equipment should be installed in an underground vault.

## **SECTION 7: DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES ON NEW POLES.**

- A. Monopoles with an integrated Antenna are preferred to new poles with top-mounted or surface-mounted Antennas and ancillary equipment.
- B. New poles other than Monopoles are only permitted if: (1) the applicant demonstrates that preferred above-ground support structures near the project site(s) either do not exist or are not reasonably available to the applicant; or (2) the City specifically finds that a new, non-replacement support structure would be more aesthetically desirable and consistent with the objectives of these guidelines than installations on existing structures near the project site.
- C. New poles are not permitted in locations along Streets within the public rights-of-way rather than in locations along Alleys when a potential Alley location is within 250 feet of a potential Street location.
- D. New poles within open space and parkland areas should be unobtrusive Monopole designs or designed to resemble trees. The species of tree design should be similar to those found within the vicinity of the open space or parkland.
- E. New poles not located within open space or parkland areas should be unobtrusive Monopole designs or designed to resemble existing standalone streetlights in the vicinity (excluding standalone streetlights attached to wooden poles).
- F. Poles should have a maximum diameter of 20 inches and should be tapered toward the top wherever possible.
- G. When technically feasible, all Antennas and associated equipment shall fit within the diameter of the poles with no exterior wires or conduit. If all Antennas and equipment cannot fit within the pole for technical reasons, then the installation shall be subject to the standards above.
- H. Pole material and finishes should match the aesthetics and materials of existing streetlights or decorative poles in the vicinity (excluding wooden poles).
- I. Pole heights shall be minimized, but in no case should the maximum height of any facilities exceed the height limits established in the City's Land Use and Development Code. Legally required lightning arresters and beacons should be included when calculating the height of facilities. Pole height is measured from the top of foundation, which should be flushed with the ground, to the top of Antenna or top of highest pole attachment, whichever is greater. The height to the top of the highest element shall not exceed the average height of existing streetlights or utility poles on the same block as the subject site by more than six feet. In cases of uncertainty, the Director shall have the authority to determine the applicable height limit.
- J. Antennas should be mounted within or on the top of the pole.

- K. Relocated poles may be subject to guidelines in this section and their respective pole type section.

## **SECTION 8: DESIGN GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO OTHER TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES.**

- A. Telecommunication Facilities that are not Small Wireless Facilities shall be designed and deployed in accordance with the relevant guidelines and standards applicable to all Small Wireless Facilities in Section 3, above, to the maximum extent technically feasible.
- B. Telecommunication Facilities that are not Small Wireless Facilities shall be Colocated in a Stealth Manner with an existing Telecommunication Facility, whenever possible. If not possible or aesthetically beneficial to Colocate with an existing Telecommunication Facility, new facilities shall be located on existing structures or buildings. If no suitable existing structures or building exist, facilities may be located on new structures that are Stealth Facilities or located so as to be visually unobtrusive. Colocation is not required when it creates or increases adverse aesthetic effects and/or technical evidence demonstrates to the satisfaction of the City that it is not feasible due to physical, spatial, or technological limitations. Fiscal constraints or competitive conflicts are not considered justifiable reasons for not Colocating a new facility where the opportunity for Colocation with an existing wireless Telecommunication Facility exists, or for failing to locate new facilities on existing or replacement structures.
- C. If it is not possible for a Telecommunication Facility to be a Stealth Facility, a concealed facility may be installed instead. In principle, facilities seeking approval under this category must be designed such that they would be supported irrespective of the equipment they seek to conceal, and in a manner consistent with other adopted plans or design requirements or guidelines as applicable. In that concealed facilities often seek to mimic, recreate, or expand upon existing site or architectural features, colors, and materials, applicants are required to provide samples of the materials the applicant seeks to duplicate and compare those samples against the existing site features.
- D. Highly visible sites and sites within or near residential areas, schools, or parks are discouraged and will only be considered when there is compelling evidence that no other feasible alternative exists. Where possible, Telecommunication Facilities should be located in Industrial, Commercial, or Public Facilities zoning districts.
- E. The design of Telecommunication Facilities should promote Colocation among different communication services providers. To the extent feasible, lease areas, Antenna Towers, and equipment structures shall be designed to provide for the consolidation of future facilities to eliminate or minimize the visual clutter resulting from multiple telecommunication structures. Applicant shall not enter into a lease that precludes possible Colocation.

- F. Existing Telecommunication Facilities should make available unutilized space for Colocation of other Antennas and equipment, including space for competing communication services providers.
- G. If use of any portion of a Telecommunication Facility is discontinued for more than one year, such portion of the facility no longer in use, above grade, shall be completely removed from the site and disused portions of the site shall be restored to a natural-appearing condition.
- H. No signs, other than those required or necessary for the safe operation of a Telecommunication Facility shall be displayed on a Telecommunication Facility site. An identification sign for each company responsible for operation and maintenance of facilities at the site, not larger than two square feet, shall be posted at a location from which it can be easily read from outside the perimeter of the Telecommunication Facility, and shall provide the name, address, and emergency telephone number of the responsible company.
- I. All Telecommunication Facilities shall comply with the applicable provisions of the California Building Code, National Electrical Code, California General Order 95 and General Order 128, California Plumbing Code, California Mechanical Code, California Fire Code, and rules and regulations imposed by local, state and federal agencies, including the City's *Engineering Design Standards and Permit Conditions for Telecommunication Facilities*, as amended.
- J. Antenna Towers shall not be built with guy wires in the absence of compelling evidence that there is no feasible construction alternative.
- K. Roads constructed or improved to provide access to a Telecommunication Facility shall be provided with drainage facilities sufficient to convey storm runoff to natural drainage channels to prevent erosion.
- L. Generators shall be equipped with mufflers and spark arresters, and shall not produce noise levels exceeding 60 dBA at the nearest property line. Routine testing and maintenance shall be limited to weekdays between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Repairs and emergency use are not included in this limitation.
- M. Antenna Towers shall be subject to any setbacks required by the City's Land Use and Development Codes.
- N. All exterior surfaces of structures and equipment associated with a Telecommunication Facility shall be painted the same color as the pole or structure they are mounted on and shall use non-reflective materials.
- O. New Telecommunication Facilities shall not be located where they will be visible from highly used public locations such as a public trail, public park or other public outdoor recreational area or historic area, unless supported by a finding that it

blends with the surrounding existing environment in such a manner as to be the least visually intrusive possible or is effectively unnoticeable.

- P. Telecommunication Facility towers, Antennas, buildings and other structures and equipment visible from adjacent residences or public vantage points, shall be designed, located, constructed, painted, screened, fenced, landscaped or otherwise architecturally treated to minimize their appearance from off-site locations and to visually blend with the surrounding natural and built environments.
- Q. Faux trees are effectively an Antenna Tower facility camouflaged to resemble a tree. Design of these facilities should include an assessment of the appropriate tree species, shape, and size, as well as the quality and longevity of materials (branches and bark), color, and finish in consideration of the facilities' surroundings. Detailed specifications must be provided. In addition to the general review criteria, all faux tree facilities shall comply with the following standards:
- (1) The tree species shall be selected based on its proposed surroundings and ideally placed in an established grove of trees of comparable size, height, species and shape as the proposed.
  - (2) Faux trees utilized must replicate the shape, structure, height, and color of live trees.
  - (3) The canopy shall completely envelop all tower-mounted equipment and extend beyond the tower-mounted equipment at least 18 inches.
  - (4) The canopy shall be naturally tapered to mimic the particular tree species.
  - (5) All faux trees must incorporate a sufficient number of branches (no less than 3 branches per foot) and design materials so that the structure is as natural in appearance as possible.
  - (6) Where branches are connected to the pole, the branches shall make a seamless connection with the faux bark cladding.
  - (7) All tower-mounted equipment, including, without limitation, Antennas, equipment cabinets, cables, mounts and brackets, shall be painted flat, natural colors to mimic the bark or branches of the particular tree species based on the predominant backdrop.
  - (8) All Antennas and other tower-mounted equipment cabinets shall be covered with leaf or needle "socks" to blend in with the faux foliage.
  - (9) The entire vertical structure shall be covered with permanently-affixed three-dimensional faux bark cladding to mimic the particular tree species.
  - (10) All wires and cables must be routed directly from the ground up through the pole.

- R. Tower facilities include Monopoles, lattice towers, guyed towers, freestanding towers, and/or other structures (other than faux trees) are to be designed to include or support Antennas. Towers shall be designed to architecturally blend with the building, structure, and/or setting in which they are proposed. Towers shall be built at the lowest height possible. For flag poles, Antennas must be enclosed within the pole or a Radome. The wireless Telecommunication Facilities must fully comply with the U.S. Flag Code. All cables must be routed directly from the ground up through the pole. The overall height and diameter of the flag pole must be compatible with the surrounding area. Decorative elements must be included in the overall height measurement.
- S. Outdoor lighting shall be kept to a minimum. Towers requiring FAA lighting are discouraged. Tower lighting, if approved, shall be the minimum required by FAA regulations. Towers requiring strobe lighting shall be prohibited. Other outdoor lighting shall be designed or located so that only reflected, non-glaring light is visible from beyond the immediate vicinity of the site, and shall be turned off except when in use by facility personnel.
- T. Satellite dishes, other Parabolic Antennas, and components of Multipoint Distribution Services shall be located in the least visible technically functional location on the site. In general, preferred locations will be close to the ground, on a wall below the roofline, or back from the edge of a roof.
- U. Towers located in open areas are encouraged to utilize existing vegetation to screen the facility's presence. Clearing should be limited to the minimum area required to accommodate facilities.
- V. The grouping of two or more towers close together is strongly discouraged; however, the grouping of towers is acceptable if the visual impact is lower than other alternatives. If towers must be close together, appropriate camouflage and concealment techniques must be used.
- W. Existing trees and other vegetation shall be protected from damage during and after construction. No trees that provide visual screening of the Telecommunication Facility shall be removed after project completion except to comply with fire safety regulations or to eliminate safety hazards. Tree trimming shall be limited to the minimum necessary for operation of the facility.
- X. Additional landscaping shall be installed and maintained where it would provide a useful reduction in the visual impact of a Telecommunication Facility. Introduced vegetation shall be native, drought tolerant species compatible with the predominant natural setting of the project area. Non-native drought tolerant species compatible with surrounding vegetation may be used in urban settings.
- Y. Telecommunication Facility sites, whether leased or purchased, shall be of sufficient size to include vegetative screening if landscaping would provide a useful reduction in visual impact.

- Z. Areas of bare soil resulting from construction shall be restored to conditions compatible with or better than those existing prior to excavation or construction activities, including replanting with vegetation sufficient to stabilize soil and prevent erosion, or replacement of existing hardscape or paving with like materials.

**SECTION 9: EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE INSTALLATIONS.** The following installations are examples of Small Wireless Facility installations that meet the requirements of these *Aesthetic Guidelines and Standards for the Deployment of Wireless Telecommunication Facilities*.



**SECTION 10: EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE INSTALLATIONS.** The following installations are examples of Small Wireless Facility installations that do not meet the requirements of these *Aesthetic Guidelines and Standards for the Deployment of Wireless Telecommunication Facilities*.

