



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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Web Site: www.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

December 4, 2020

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597

RE: **PETITION NO. 1430** - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for proposed modifications to an existing rooftop telecommunications facility located at 54 Meadow Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a public meeting held on December 3, 2020 the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k, would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with the following conditions:

1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
2. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed within three years from the date of the mailing of the Council's decision, this decision shall be void, and the facility owner/operator shall dismantle the facility and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The facility owner/operator shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable;
3. Any request for extension of the time period to fully construct the facility shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this decision and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, if applicable, and the City of New Haven
4. Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed;
5. Any nonfunctioning antenna and associated antenna mounting equipment on this facility owned and operated by the Petitioner shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna ceased to function;
6. The facility owner/operator shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v;

7. If the facility ceases to provide wireless services for a period of one year the Petitioner shall dismantle the facility and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council within 90 days from the one year period of cessation of service. The Petitioner may submit a written request to the Council for an extension of the 90 day period not later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 90 day period; and
8. This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred or partially transferred, provided both the facility owner/operator/transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. The Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer. Both the facility owner/operator/transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council with a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition dated August 26, 2020, and additional information received October 26, 2020.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Sincerely,

s/ Melanie A. Bachman

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/CMW/emr

Enclosure: Staff Report dated December 3, 2020

- c: The Honorable Justin Elicker, Mayor, City of New Haven (jelicker@newhavenct.gov)
Scott Jackson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, City of New Haven (sjackson@newhavenct.gov)
Aïcha Woods, A.I.A., Executive Director, City Plan Department, City of New Haven
(awoods@newhavenct.gov)



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Petition No. 1430 **Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless** **54 Meadow Street, New Haven**

Staff Report
December 3, 2020

Introduction

On August 26, 2020, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed modifications to its existing wireless telecommunications facility on the roof of a building located at 54 Meadow Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

On August 26, 2020, Cellco provided notice of the project to abutting property owners and City of New Haven (City) officials.

On August 27, 2020, the Council sent correspondence to the City stating that the Council has received the petition and invited the municipality to contact the Council with any questions or comments by September 25, 2020. No comments have been received.

The Council issued interrogatories to Cellco on October 22, 2020. Cellco provided responses to the Council's interrogatories on October 26, 2020.

Existing Facility

On April 1, 1991, the Council approved the existing facility in Docket No. 140. Cellco currently maintains 12 antennas located on the façade of the rooftop penthouse of the building owned by Gateway Partners LLC located within a BE Wholesale and Distribution zone. MCM Holdings LLC manages the facility for the property owner.

Cellco's existing equipment is located in an equipment room inside the building.

The host building is an office building. Surrounding land use includes New Haven Police Department Headquarters to the east, the New Haven Train Station and a parking garage to the south, a commercial building owned by the Knights of Columbus to the north and vacant land along South Orange Street to the west.

Proposed Facility

Cellco proposes to remove nine existing antennas (leaving three antennas) and install 12 new antennas and 10 remote radio heads at various locations on the roof of the building. Three of the existing antennas would remain on the façade of the rooftop penthouse. Four new antennas would be attached to the penthouse façade. Two existing antennas and four new antennas would be attached to the existing mechanical screen wall in the northwest corner of the building rooftop. One existing antenna and one new antenna would be attached to the building façade on the southeast corner of the building.

Cellco would provide wireless services in the 850 MHz, 1900 MHz, 2100 MHz and 28 GHz frequency ranges. The facility would provide 5G services in the 850 MHz, 2100 MHz and 28 GHz frequency bands.

Emergency backup power is supplied by the facility's existing battery backup power system and is connected to the building's backup generator. No change to backup power is proposed. Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers are licensed by and are under the jurisdiction and authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). At present, no standards for backup power for CMRS providers have been promulgated by the FCC. Every year since 2006, AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon have certified their compliance with the CTIA Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Program and the Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council standards and best practices to ensure network reliability during power outages.

The proposed installation may be visible from surrounding properties; however, the building currently has multiple antennas and equipment installed on the penthouse façade, therefore, the proposed modifications would not increase visibility of the facility.

The installation would not be a hazard to air navigation and no notice to the Federal Aviation Administration is required.

A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the existing building and antenna mounting systems are adequate to support the proposed loading.

The highest calculated power density level for Cellco's proposed antennas would be 4.05 percent of the applicable exposure limit established by the FCC at ground level with a -10 dB off-beam adjustment.

Cellco contends that this proposed project would not have a substantial adverse environmental impact.

If approved, staff recommends the following condition:

1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff.

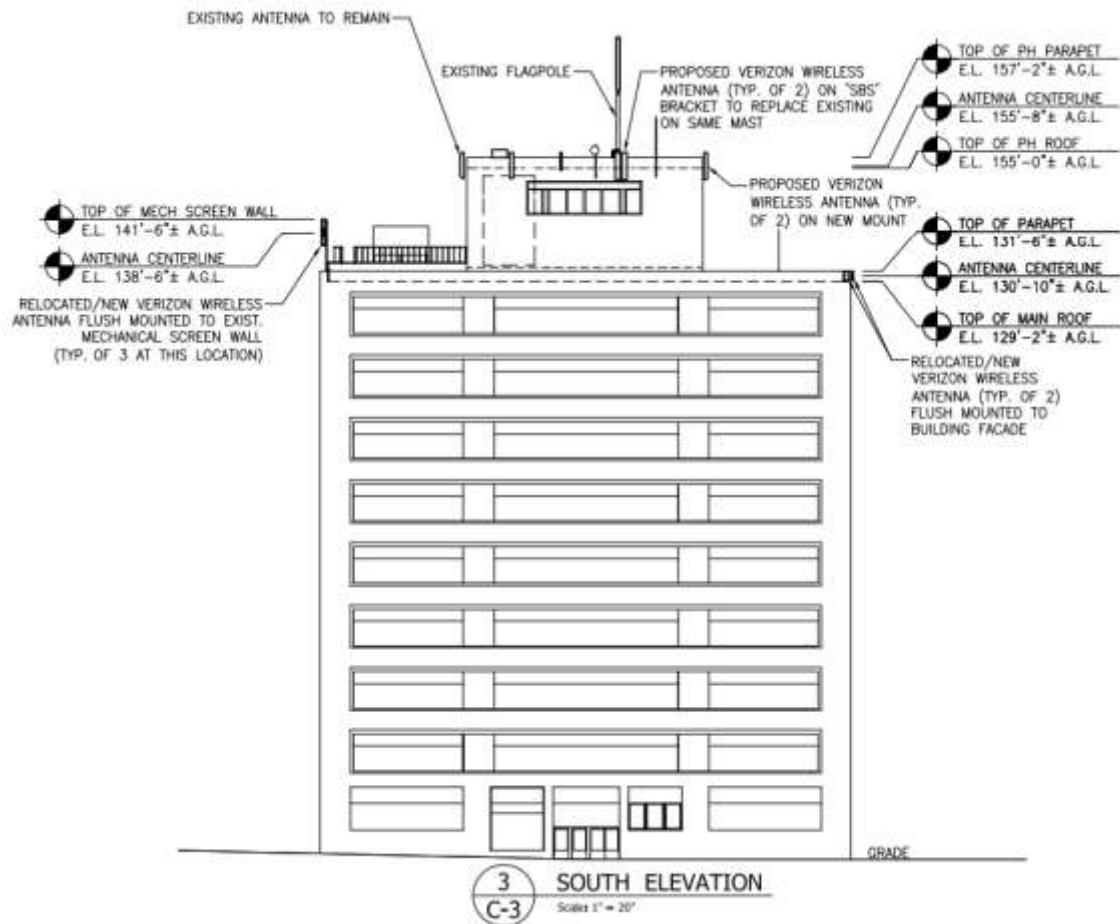


Figure 1. Facility elevation drawing.



Figure 2. Site schematic



Figure 3. Existing facility.



Figure 4. Proposed facility.