

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC & CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 19, 2022

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

RE: **PETITION NO. 1526** – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed installation of a wireless telecommunications facility and associated equipment on the roof of an existing commercial building located at 1300 Hall Boulevard, Bloomfield, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a public meeting held on August 18, 2022, 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 Town of Bloomfield;
- 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 tower 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 June 29, 2022 and additional information received on August 3, 2022.

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

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

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MAB/RDM/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated August 18, 2022

c: The Honorable Danielle Wong, Mayor, Town of Bloomfield (<u>dwong@bloomfieldct.org</u>)
The Honorable Shari Cantor, Mayor, Town of West Hartford (<u>mayor@westhartfordct.org</u>)



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Petition No. 1526 Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless 1300 Hall Boulevard, Bloomfield, Connecticut Rooftop Wireless Telecommunications Facility

> Staff Report August 18, 2022

Introduction

On June 30, 2022, 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 installation of a wireless telecommunications facility on the roof of a building at 1300 Hall Boulevard in Bloomfield, Connecticut (Petition or Project).

The purpose of the proposed facility is to provide coverage and capacity relief to the Cellco network along Route 218 to the north and Route 185 to the south of the proposed site, and to partially replace service provided by another existing site located at the University of Hartford approximately 1.7 miles to the southeast that will be decommissioned due to the lease expiration. The proposed facility will also increase network capacity needed to serve existing Cellco customers in the office building on the host property.

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40, on or about June 29, 2022, Cellco notified the Town of Bloomfield, the Town of West Hartford¹, the host property owner, and abutting property owners of the proposed Project. No comments from the municipalities, host property owner or abutting property owners were received.

On July 1, 2022, the Council sent correspondence to the municipalities stating the Council has received the Petition and invited the municipalities to contact the Council with any questions or comments by July 30, 2022. No comments have been received.

The Council issued interrogatories to Cellco on July 20, 2022. Cellco provided responses to the Council's interrogatories on August 3, 2022.

Jurisdiction

Pursuant to CGS §16-50i(a)(6), the Council has exclusive jurisdiction over telecommunications towers, including associated equipment, owned or operated by the state, a public service company or a certified telecommunications provider or used in a cellular system.

Under Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-2a (30), "Tower" means a structure, whether free standing or attached to a building or another structure, that has a height greater than its diameter and that is high relative to its surroundings, or that is used to support antennas for sending or receiving radio frequency signals, or for sending or receiving signals to or from satellites, or any of these, which is or is to be:

¹ The Town of West Hartford is located within 2,500 feet of the proposed facility site.

- a) used principally to support one or more antennas for receiving or sending radio frequency signals, or for sending or receiving signals to or from satellites, or any of these, and
- b) owned or operated by the state, a public service company as defined in Section 16-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes, or a certified telecommunications provider, or used in a cellular system, as defined in Section 16-50i(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes. (Emphasis added).

The proposed rooftop tower has a height greater than its diameter. It will be used principally to support Cellco antennas. It would be owned and operated by Cellco, a certified telecommunications provider. Thus, the Council has jurisdiction over the proposed rooftop telecommunications facility.

Proposed Telecommunications Facility

Cellco's proposed facility would provide wireless service to the surrounding area in the 700 MHz, 850 MHz, 1900 MHz, 2100 MHz, 3730 MHz and 3625 MHz frequency range.

The proposed site is on the roof of a four-story office building located on a commercially-zoned 37-acre parcel. The highest part of the building roof (penthouse) extends to a height of 76.2 feet above ground level (agl). A dipole antenna, used by the building owner, is located on the penthouse roof, extending to a height of 93.8 feet agl.

The proposed facility consists of a 12.5-foot tall steel lattice tower installed on top of the penthouse roof, extending to a height of 88.3 feet agl. Cellco would install 9 panel antennas and 9 remote radio heads at the 85.5-foot agl level of the tower. The facility would be capable of providing 5G wireless services.

Cellco would install a 210 square foot metal frame on the main building roof below the penthouse to support an equipment cabinet and battery cabinet. A cable tray and cable covers would protect fiber lines connecting the equipment area to the tower.

Electrical and telephone service would extend down the exterior side of the building within a utility shaft to connection points at ground level.

Emergency backup power would be supplied from a battery cabinet located on Cellco's rooftop equipment platform. The batteries would provide power to the facility for 4-8 hours depending upon site loading. 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.

The estimated cost of the Project is \$350,000.

Environmental

Project construction will occur within and on the existing building and no ground disturbance is necessary. Access to the proposed facility would be through the existing building.

Surrounding land use consists of commercial and a golf course to the north of the host parcel. Visibility of the proposed facility would generally occur on the property in the areas surrounding the four-story building. Limited visibility of the facility would occur from the golf course.

Facility Construction

Construction would occur over a 4 to 6 week period. Typical construction hours and workdays of the week are as follows: Monday – Saturday, 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Public Safety

Cellco's proposed equipment installation would be capable of supporting text-to-911 service and would comply with federal E911 requirements and the Warning, Alert and Response Network Act of 2006.

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

A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the tower, metal frame mounting structure and building is adequate to support the proposed loading (to a design speed of 105 mph). The design standards are protective of the adjacent glass atrium roof. The proposed facility is not designed to support additional carriers.

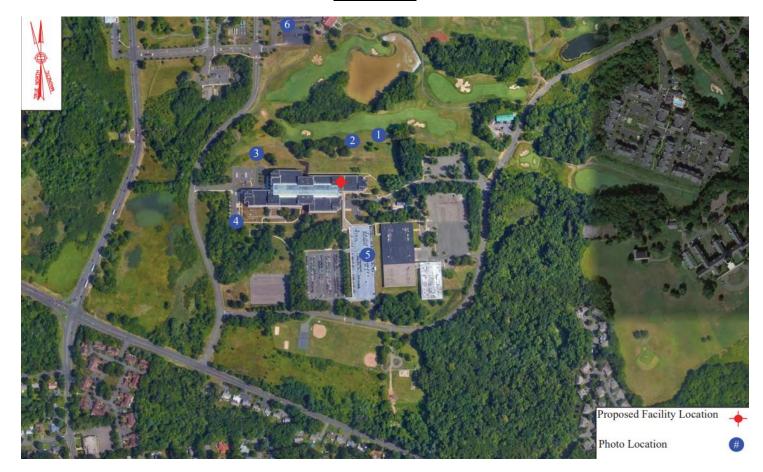
The highest calculated power density level for Cellco's proposed antennas would be 23.9 percent of the applicable exposure limit established by the Federal Communications Commission at ground level with a -10 dB off-beam adjustment.

Conclusion

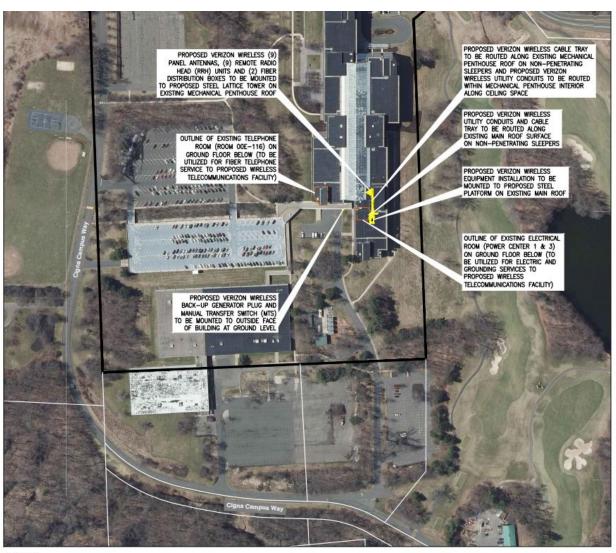
If approved, staff recommends the following condition:

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

Site Location

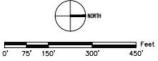


Proposed Facility on Building





Map Notes: Base Map Source: 2019 CT ECO Imagery Map Scale: 1 inch = 300 Feet Map Date: Spring 2019



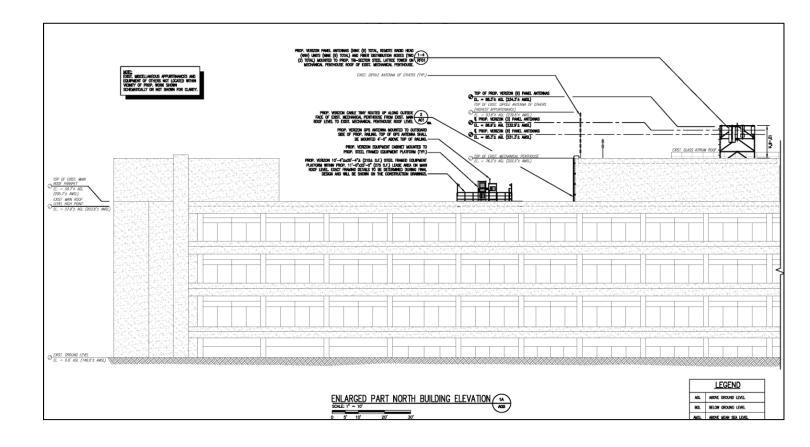
Site Schematic

Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility Bloomfield 4 CT 1300 Hall Boulevard Bloomfield, CT 06002





Building Elevation Plan



STATE OF CONNECTICUT)			
	: ss. Southington, Connecticut	August 19, 2022		
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)			
I hereby certify that the foregoing is	s a true and correct copy of the Decision	and Staff Report in Petition		
No. 1526 issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.				
	ATTEST:			
	Maluin Back			
	Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council			
STATE OF CONNECTICUT)			
	: ss. New Britain, Connecticut	August 19, 2022		
COUNTY OF HARTFORD) I certify that a copy of the Connecticut Siting Council Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1526				
has been forwarded by Certified First	Class Return Receipt Requested mail,	on August 19, 2022, to all		
parties and intervenors of record as listed on the attached service list, dated July 1, 2022				

ATTEST:

Lisa A. Mathews Office Assistant Connecticut Siting Council

ua no

Date: July 1, 2022 Petition No. 1526 Page 1 of 1

LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS SERVICE LIST

Status Granted	Document Service	Status Holder (name, address & phone number)	Representative (name, address & phone number)
Petitioner	⊠ E-mail	Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless	Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597 (860) 275-8200 kbaldwin@rc.com