



City of Calexico

Community Development Department - Planning Division

INFORMATION BULLETIN 2019-003

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INTERIM DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY JUNE 26, 2019

SECTION 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of these interim design standards (Standards) is to establish aesthetic and location criteria for small wireless facilities in the public right-of-way while the City of Calexico ("City"). These Standards can be amended by the City from time to time.

SECTION 2. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR ALL FACILITIES. The following design and development standards shall apply to all small wireless facilities in the public right-of-way:

A. Visual Criteria.

1. Generally. Small wireless facilities shall be designed in the least visible means possible and be aesthetically compatible with the surrounding area and structures (e.g., color, materials, size, and scale).

2. Materials. The materials used shall be non-reflective and non-flammable.

3. Concealment. The small wireless facility and pole-mounted equipment should be camouflaged or concealed to blend the facility with surrounding materials and colors of the support structure on which the facility is installed. Concealment elements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Radio frequency (RF) transparent screening or shrouds;
- b. Matching the color of the existing support structure by painting, coating, or otherwise coloring the wireless facility, equipment, mounting brackets, and cabling;
- c. Placing cables and wires inside the pole or beneath conduit of the smallest size possible;
- d. Minimizing the size of the site;
- e. Installing new infrastructure that matches existing infrastructure in the area surrounding the proposed site; and
- f. Using paint of durable quality.
- g. Using underground utility boxes

B. Location.

1. Preferred Locations/Zones. The City prefers commercial and industrial zones. However, when the carrier can demonstrate an operational need to place a small cell in residential zones the City prefers the public right of way where residential yards are not open to the road.

2. Infrastructure. The City has a preference for the use of existing infrastructure.

3. Discouraged Locations/Zones. Installations on residential streets in residential zones where yards are open to the street are discouraged.

B. Location. (continued from previous page)

4. Curb Setback Requirements. New or replacement poles shall be a minimum of 18 inches from the face of the curb.

5. Strand-Mounted Facilities. Strand-mounted facilities are discouraged.

C. Prohibition of Generators. Generators are prohibited in the right-of-way.

D. Electric Service. The City strongly encourages site operators to use flat-rate electric service when it would eliminate the need for a meter. Where meters are required, use the narrowest electric meter and disconnect available.

E. Security. All equipment and facilities shall be installed in a manner to avoid being an attractive nuisance and to prevent unauthorized access, climbing, and graffiti.

F. Safety. All small wireless facilities in the right-of-way, including each piece of equipment, shall be located and placed in a manner so as to not interfere with the use of the right-of-way; impede the flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic; impair the primary use and purpose of poles/signs/traffic signals or other infrastructure; interfere with outdoor dining areas or emergency facilities; or otherwise obstruct the accessibility of the right-of-way. Further, all wireless facilities and associated equipment in the right-of-way shall comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

G. Noise. Small wireless facilities and all accessory equipment and transmission equipment must comply with all noise regulations and shall not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, 65 dBA.

H. Lighting. No facility shall be illuminated unless specially required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or other government agency. Any required lighting shall be shielded to eliminate, to the maximum extent possible, impacts on the surrounding area property.

I. Signs. No facility may display any signage or advertisement unless it is expressly allowed by the City in a written approval, recommended under FCC regulations, or required by law or permit condition. Every facility shall at all times display signage that accurately identifies the facility owner and provides the owner's unique site number and a local or toll-free telephone number to contact the facility owner's operations center.

J. Landscaping. In addition to any landscaping used for concealment or screening purposes, the applicant shall propose and install additional landscaping to replace any existing landscaping displaced during construction or installation of the applicant's facility in the right-of-way. The applicant's landscaping plan shall be subject to the City's review and approval but shall, at a minimum, match the existing landscaping and foliage surrounding the installation site.

K. Modifications. Any modifications to existing facilities or equipment or collocations shall not defeat the concealment elements of the existing structure/facility.

SECTION 3. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR POLE-MOUNTED FACILITIES.

In addition to the generally applicable standards set forth in Section 2 of these Standards, the design and development standards for pole-mounted facilities in the ROW are as follows:

A. Definition of Pole-Mounted Facility. For purposes of these Standards, the term "pole-mounted facility" means a small wireless facility that is, or is proposed to be, attached to, contained in or on, or otherwise mounted to, in, or on a pole.

SECTION 3. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR POLE-MOUNTED FACILITIES. (continued from previous page)

B. Poles, Generally. For facilities installed on any pole:

1. Antennas. Antennas and radio relay units (RRUs) shall be top-mounted in a shroud. RRUs attached to the side of the pole are discouraged, but if they are required due to technical reasons, should use the smallest RRU volume possible and be stacked vertically and close together with minimal distance from the pole.

2. Dimensions. Antennas shall be of the smallest possible size, but in no case more than three cubic feet in volume. Pole-top wireless facilities, including shroud, shall be no more than 72 inches in height and 15 inches in diameter.

3. Accessory Equipment. Undergrounding equipment, including RRUs that cannot be placed with the antenna in the shroud, is preferred. Vaults and pull boxes shall be installed flush to grade. Ground-mounted equipment is prohibited unless required for technical reasons. If required, ground-mounted equipment shall incorporate camouflaging and shrouding to match the colors, appearance, and materials of existing facilities and screen facilities from public view as much as is technically feasible. Further, if ground-mounted equipment is required, it must be enclosed in cabinets, sized only for the needed equipment and camouflaged using paint that matches the surrounding environment.

4. Cables and Wiring. All cables and wiring must be within the structure, or if not feasible, within conduit on the exterior of the structure. The conduit must be a color that matches the pole and of the smallest size technically feasible.

5. General Orders. All installations shall fully comply with the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) General Orders, including, but not limited to General Order 95 (“GO 95”). None of the design standards are meant to conflict with or cause a violation of GO 95, including, but not limited to, its standards for a safe installation on a utility pole. Accordingly, the Standards can be adjusted at the City’s discretion to ensure compliance with CPUC rules on safety.

6. Pole Owner Authorization. Proof of authorization from the pole owner is required. If the City owns the pole, then the applicant must enter into an agreement with City to install the pole-mounted facility.

C. Replacement Poles. If an applicant proposes a replacement pole to accommodate the facility:

1. Placement. The base of the replacement pole shall be a minimum of 18 inches away from the face of the curb. Further, a replacement pole must be in the same location as the pole that it is replacing or as close to the original location as possible, taking into account pole owner safety-related requirements and all applicable location and placement standards herein.

2. Design. Replacement poles should match the design (e.g., color, dimensions, height, style, and materials) of the existing pole that is being replaced to the greatest extent feasible. The maximum pole height is 35 feet, excluding wireless equipment.

D. New Poles.

1. Waiver Required. New poles are prohibited, unless a waiver is approved by the City to prevent a prohibition of service.

D. New Poles. (continued from previous page)

2. Design. New poles shall have a maximum height of 35 feet and a maximum diameter of 14 inches. The poles should be designed so that cables and wiring can be contained inside the poles, and wooden poles are prohibited. If existing poles are present in the surrounding area, then the new pole shall be designed to resemble the existing poles in appearance, color, materials, and distribution pattern/spacing.

3. Installations on New Poles. Antennas shall be pole top-mounted in a shroud, and cables and wiring shall be contained within the new pole. Equipment that cannot fit in the shroud with the antenna shall be undergrounded, but if undergrounding is not technically feasible, then equipment shall be enclosed in cabinets, sized only for the needed equipment and camouflaged using paint that matches the surrounding environment.

For more information please contact the Development Services Department, Planning Division at 760.768.2118 or by email at planning@calexico.ca.gov.