

June 28, 2017

Ms. Teixeira,

As requested please find one full size copy of the resubmittal for the Verizon Wireless project at 5075 Flintridge Drive.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need.

Enjoy your day,

Retherford Enterprises, Inc. 7093 Silverhom Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439 Phone: 720-261-2064 Email <u>Joy.Retherford@retherfordenterprises.com</u>



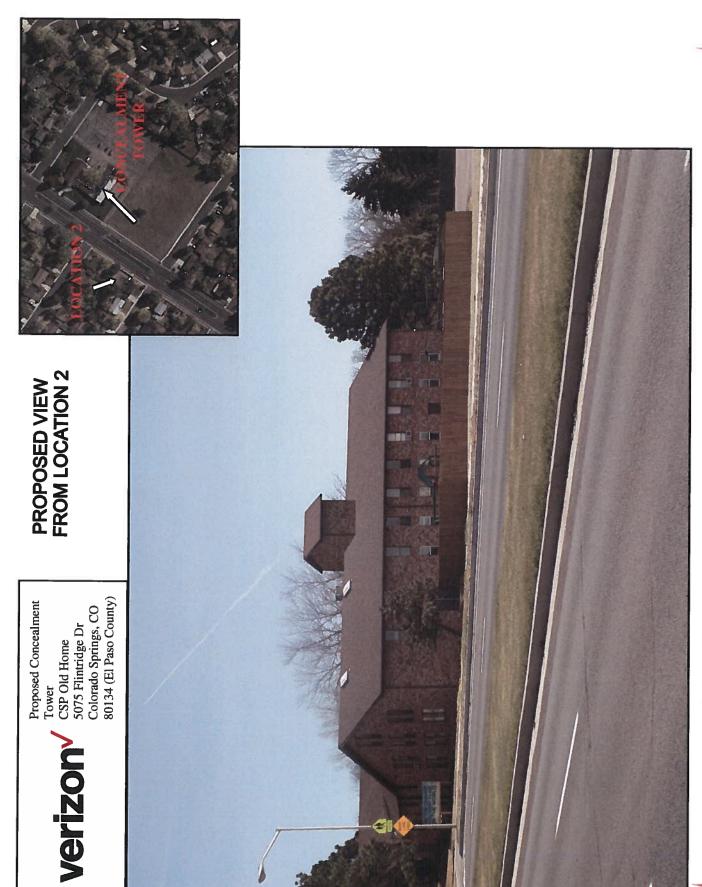
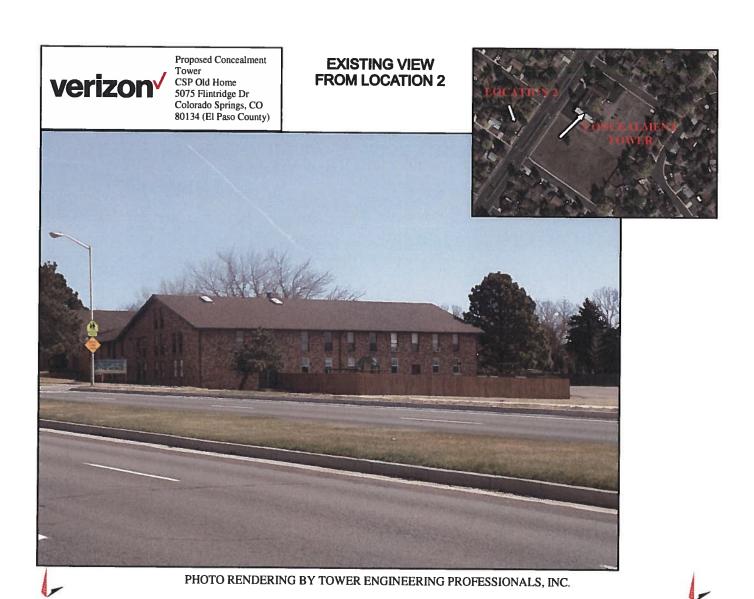


PHOTO RENDERING BY TOWER ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS, INC.

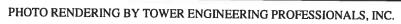




Proposed Concealment Tower CSP Old Home 5075 Flintridge Dr Colorado Springs, CO 80134 (El Paso County)

## PROPOSED VIEW FROM LOCATION 2







#### Colorado Springs Planning - New construction of CMRS facility 6/28/2017

Verizon Wireless Project Name: CSP Old Home

**Property Owner** 

Center for Spiritual Living

Colorado Springs 5075 Flintridge Dr.

Colorado Springs CO 80918

**Applicant** Verizon Wireless

3131 S. Vaughn Way, Suite 550

Aurora, CO 80014

Attn: Jennifer Thomas Schneider

(303)873-2778

**Applicant's Representative** 

Retherford Enterprises 7093 Silverhorn Drive Evergreen, CO 80439 Attn: Jov Retherford

(720) 261-2064

Site Plan/Project Name:

Verizon Wireless, CSP Old Home

Site Address:

5075 Flintridge Drive, Colorado Springs CO 80918

Lease Area

153 sq. feet ground, 169 sq. feet. for rooftop. Total of 322 sq. feet.

PARCEL#:

6322106016

Legal Description:

Lot 1, Block 1, Vista Grande filing number 24

**Current Zoning:** 

R16 CU single family residential 6000 sq. ft. (exempt religious worship)

Process:

permitted use

Planner:

Rachel Teixeria

Request:

Construct a roof top structure/cupola for a wireless facility and associated supporting ground equipment. This structure will in no way

prohibit additional carriers from locating at the premise.

**Project Description:** 

Erect 13' x 13' roof top disguise cupola for wireless communications facility. All supporting electronics to be located within an enclosed cedar fenced 17' x 9' area on the ground adjacent to the west wall of the

Spiritual Center west wing.

#### Request and Justification

First, I would like to applaud the citizens and neighbors who took the time and made the effort to voice their opinions. Verizon Wireless (VZW) LLC, d/b/a Verizon Wireless (VZW) has reviewed all the comments and letters submitted and redesigned the facility to address as many of those comments as possible. VZW strives to make every effort to be a good neighbor. Verizon Wireless, the nation's largest wireless telecommunication provider with over 109 million subscribers, has performed through and extensive testing and received numerous customer complaints to determine the wireless coverage along Flintridge Drive and Montebello Drive between the intersections of Flintridge Drive and Saddlewood Drive in Colorado Springs is spotty and less than optimal. With the increased demand for wireless data ranging from smartphones, tablets, laptops, down to household appliance interface, and the residential traffic and street traffic of the Flintridge Drive corridor near this location, the demands on current wireless facilities has been exponentially increasing daily. To rectify the problem Verizon Wireless is proposing a new wireless communications facility.

#### Facility Design & Details

Several of the letters submitted to the City were regarding the appearance of the proposed site. Verizon Wireless has carefully redesigned the facility to blend into the existing environment and architecture as much as possible. The new proposal is a rooftop disguise cupola structure with the antennas being mounted and completely concealed within this cupola. The ground based equipment has been moved to be screened by mature landscaping and fencing to match the existing fencing. Section 7.4.608 of the City Code, Design Criteria and Construction Standards states the design, materials, color and location of these facilities shall be selected to achieve the architectural compatibility with the host building to which they are attached. The antennas and equipment shall blend in with the building to the maximum extent possible.





The goal for new telecommunications facilities is to acquire a site which blends in with the local character and is unobtrusive to the community It is important to note that wireless communications facilities must be considered as part of a network, not an individual location, and that communications facilities are like links in a chain. Each link connects to the next and they strengthen, improve, and expand the network, so placement of new facilities is critical in addressing coverage issues. The proposed facility is designed to ensure: 1) residents have the ability to access E-911 services and emergency service providers; 2) the continued provision of wireless and data services with the requisite coverage and capacity needed for reliable voice, data and other services for use by the public on a daily basis; 3) the wireless services are tailored to meet the evolving needs of mobile devices used by the public such as 4G, 5G and LTE "smart phone" devices.

Verizon Wireless is committed to serving its customers and the community by providing the optimum level of service and is mandated by the Federal Communications Commission to provide wireless communications services for the benefit of the public good. This requires the development of communication sites to provide this service. Adequate service to the residents of this area of Colorado Springs cannot be maintained without the proposed facility.



The land use for this 3.97-acre parcel is currently zoned R-16-CU / with an exemption for religious worship and an allowable conditional use of telecommunications structures per city code 7.4.606. Uses surrounding this property are predominately residential with a few educational facilities and schools. The specific location is within an existing lot on a religious campus. With the redesigned structure at this location it will integrate into the area and provide usable service where there is currently less than optimal Verizon Wireless service. The proposed facility will not adversely impact the surrounding land. This facility is unmanned and is typically visited only for routine maintenance unless there are outages that require immediate attention. All Verizon Wireless sites are secure with restricted access and have alarm systems that alert a 24-hour Verizon Wireless monitoring office if there are any issues or concerns. At this time the generator has been eliminated from this proposal as a result of the neighborhood opposition.

This proposed facility will conform to all Colorado Springs standards and requirements. Furthermore, this facility will comply with all FCC rules governing construction requirements, technical standards, interference protection, emissions, power and height limitations and radio frequency standards as well as FAA rules of location and operation. All permits necessary to add the new antennas to this site shall be obtained prior to construction if the are approved by the City.

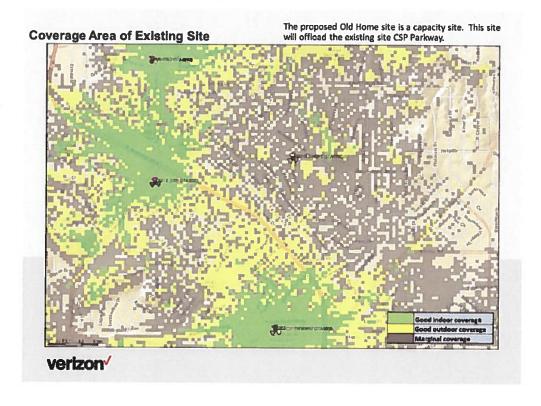
#### Coverage Objective

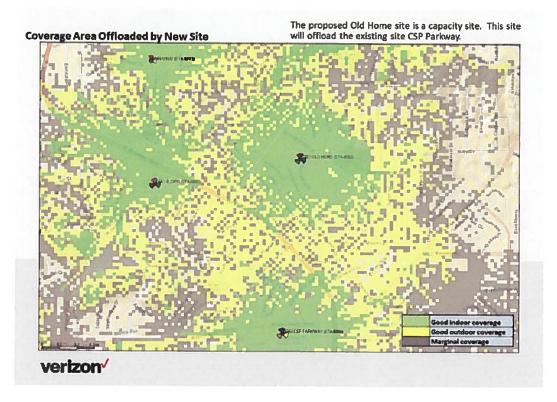
There were comments from the neighborhood as to why the facility had to be placed in this location. As demonstrated in the coverage maps located below, there are existing gaps in personal wireless service coverage and capacity in this specific area. A need for this site was determine by Verizon Wireless Radio

Frequency Engineers as coverage is spotty or lacking altogether as evidence by customer complaints and testing. With advancements that are offered throughLTE/4G/AWS technology and now 5G, this site is being proposed in order to support these technologies for the surrounding residentiaal and educational area. E911, speed, precision, and public safety will all improve with greater reliability. This proposed site will beome a critical component for seamless service for Verizon Wireless.

In reviewing options for expansion in this area to rectify the coverage issue, Verizon Wireless has looked for collocation possibilities on other existing telecommunications towers or existing structures in the vicinity. This building was found to be the best option, offering the ideal location and height. With the fact that Verizon Wireless' digital technology operates at extremely low power, it is critical that key network sites, like this one being proposed, be located within a limited vicinity from the locations identified by Verizon Wireless' RF Engineers. The search area for this facility was limited to a very specific geographic area in order to fit within the existing network.

Verizon Wireless' customers communicate and transmit massive amounts of data through smart phones, tablets, and other mobile devices via a network of wireless facilities, each of which operate at low power and use the finite amount of the radio frequency spectrum allotted by the Federal Communications Commission.





The significance of providing adequate wireless and data service (i.e., coverage and capacity) is important considering the increased reliance on mobile devices for access to emergency services. Many emergency personnel and first responders rely upon wireless networks not only for secure encrypted wireless communications, but also for use of mobile first response equipment which has become common place in emergency vehicles and for the transmission of data services.

### Compliance with Colorado Springs' Conditional Use Review Criteria

Surrounding Neighborhood: That the value and qualities of the neighborhood surrounding the conditional use are not substantially injured.

This telecommunications facility application conforms to this standard.

Intent of Zoning Code: That the conditional use is consistent with the intent and purpose of this Zoning Code to promote public health, safety and general welfare.

E911 services, public safety, and residents of the area will all benefit from the additional technologies requested for this site by enhancing speed, accuracy in locating mobile 911 calls, increasing capacity for current and future users.

Comprehensive Plan: That the conditional use is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan of the City. Colorado Springs' Comprehensive Plan specifically discusses telecommunications uses. The applicable policies are as follows:

A. Wall And Roof Mounted Facilities:



1. The design, materials, color and location of these facilities shall be selected to achieve the architectural compatibility with the host building to which they are attached. The antennas and equipment shall blend in with the building to the maximum extent possible.

This telecommunications facility application conforms to this standard.

2. Roof mounted equipment which will be visible against the skyline shall be painted white, gray or some alternative light shade, which will allow it to blend with the sky background as viewed from adjoining streets and neighboring properties.

The color of the cupula was chosen to match the building it is attached to.

3. Wall mounted equipment shall be mounted as flush to the building as technically possible.

This is not applicable to this project.

4. Installation shall meet or exceed National Electrical Safety Code clearances.

This telecommunications facility application conforms to this standard.

#### **Summary**

From 2012 to 2013, wireless usage increased significantly as data traffic doubled, and this growth is projected to increase by another 650% by 2018. A smart phone generates 49 times the data traffic as a typical handset. In addition, the number of wireless only (no land lines) households has increased to 51%.

The Verizon Wireless proposal shall comply with all standards and requirements as listed in the Colorado Springs Land Development Code. E911 services, public safety, and residents of the area will all benefit from the additional technologies requested for this site by enhancing speed, accuracy in locating mobile 911 calls, increasing capacity for current and future users, and off-loading neighboring sites to prevent blocked calls, busy signals, or no service at all.

The integrity of the Verizon Wireless network continues to rely on sites such as this to fill in small areas where coverage is lacking or current capacity has reached or is approaching maximum capabilities. This site shall comply with the intent of Colorado Springs Comprehensive Plan of the city. The construction shall not cause any unsightly visual or other negative impacts on the area while at the same time, offering the residents, businesses, and public with better and faster voice and data technologies.

- Full disclosure Verizon is building a 4G LTE site, which means voice calls will be carried over our LTE network. THIS IS A CHANGE AND WILL REQUIRE CUSTOMERS TO HAVE A DEVICE CAPABLE OF ADVANCED CALLING.

What is a 4G LTE site?

A Verizon 4G LTE cell site uses the latest technology to carry both voice and data. Voice service is provided over VoLTE or Voice Over Long Term Evolution technology through a service Verizon calls Advanced Calling 1.0. Advanced Calling offers high-definition or HD voice and video calling. To complete calls on this new cell site, customers' phones must be capable of Advanced Calling and that feature must be activated in the phone itself. Both customers on a call must be served by 4G LTE and have the Advanced Calling feature activated to experience HD voice and video service.

Customers with older 1X, 3G or 4G devices without Advanced Calling will not experience a change in voice service.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.



Irvine, CA 92618

September 5, 2017

Planning and Development Department City of Colorado Springs 30 South Nevada Avenue, Suite #105 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Re: 484 Supporters for Verizon Wireless Facility 5075 Flintridge Drive, Colorado Springs

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Verizon Wireless Marketing Director over the team that maintains and manages all data and information messages that are sent to Verizon Wireless customers in Colorado. In connection with the application referred to above, Verizon Wireless arranged for a text message to be sent to customers with billing addresses within ZIP codes 80918 and 80917 in the northeast Colorado Springs area. The entire text message sent reads as follows:

Free VZW Message: Reply YES to this text to show your support for improved Verizon Wireless service in Northeast Colorado Springs. Add a message to tell the City that you support a wireless facility concealed within a new rooftop cupola at 5075 Flintridge Drive. Include your email address for updates.

The text message above was sent on August 31, 2017. As of September 5, 2017, we have received 484 affirmative text message responses indicating support for the proposed facility and seven respondents opposed. Text messages received confirmed the need to provide improved Verizon Wireless service in the northeast Colorado Springs area. Samples of the text messages of support received from Verizon Wireless customers appear on the attached pages.

I am available to verify the above information as you may require.

Sincerely,

Jeremy McCarty

Director

Customer Relationship Management

Attachment

# Sample Text Messages of Support 5075 Flintridge Drive, Colorado Springs

YES As a business owner, I support the Verizon wireless facility.

I am for more wireless support to be located at 5075 Flintridge Drive in Colorado Springs.

I get dropped calls all around that area. This is necessary.

I support a wireless facility concealed within a new rooftop cupola at 5075 Flintridge Drive.

I support this proposal.

I support this push for increased coverage

I support.

Must happen, too much money riding on that part of town. Will only continue to expand and needs service to improve

Sounds good

With all the rolling hills in COS there are so many dead spots and in this area there are many of them!

Yes I support a wireless facility on rooftop

YES Strong cell coverage improves both safety and security throughout the city. I support concealed wireless construction throughout the city.

YES we need good wireless service in Colorado Springs--we're a high-tech community; let's act like it.

YES I support a concealed wireless facility at 5075 Flintridge Drive.

Yes I support the proposed wireless facility at 5075 flintridge drive in Colo Sprgs.

YES I support the wireless facility

Yes I support this

Yes I support upgraded service

Yes Please upgrade poor signal strength all over the city. There are many dead spots.

Yes support 5075 flintridge improvement

yes we need a tower in & around Flintridge.

Yes we need this upgrade which hopefully will bring better service to us folks in the Raindrop Circle and Raindrop Place area of Colorado Springs

Yes we support the concealed facility.

Yes, I support a Verizon wireless facility at 5075 Flintridge Dr.

Yes, I support a wireless facility at 5075 Flintridge Dr.

YES, I support concealed Verizon wireless facility on Flintridge Drive.

YES, I totally support a wireless facility at 5075 Flintride Drive.

YES, this new wireless is great!

Yes, we need better service in NE Colo Springs

Yes, we would like improved service.

Yes! Please improve cell phone service for this area. It is badly needed.

Yes. I get very poor reception from Lexington to Union to Woodman. And only 1-2 bars at my home on Flintridge and Academy.

Yes. Service in this area is awful. I'm lucky to get 1-2 bars in my house. I support correcting this issue.

Yes. I am near Austin Bluffs and Brenner, and I have many calls drop.

Yes. I need better cell service in the northwind neighborhood

YES. I support a wireless facility concealed within a new roof top cupola at 5075 Flintridge Drive.

Yes. I will support this, but only if it means the rates don't increase.

Yes. It will give me service at my house off Flintridge.

Yes. Service on the east side is intermittent.