



January 25, 2021

Via Email to publiccomment@newportoregon.gov

Newport OR Planning Commission

Chair Lee Hardy
Bob Berman
Bill Branigan
Dustin Capri
Gary East
Braulio Escobar
James Hanselman
Jim Patrick
Greg Sutton

RE: Small Cell Wireless Code Update – Meeting January 25, 2021

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Verizon Wireless, thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed code update for small wireless facilities ("SWF"). Please include this letter in the record for the Planning Commission's meeting this evening.

Verizon has asked Wireless Policy Group to assist in developing a workable path forward for small wireless facilities in the right of way that is compliant with federal law and addresses the aesthetic concerns of your community. My firm specializes in helping the wireless industry achieve those goals by working collaboratively with municipal government staff.

We have some concerns with the letter and comments submitted by Central Lincoln PUD dated January 21, 2021. The letter states that the poles owned by the PUD are not subject to FCC oversight. That is incorrect. While the rates and pole standards are regulated by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission and the Oregon Joint Users Association, when a carrier deploys small wireless facilities on poles in the right of way in cities like Newport, the city is subject to the FCC rules regarding permitting, city

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imposed fees and charges, and the federal shot clocks which govern the time in which applications must be approved. The proposed SWF code and design standards are consistent with the model code and standards developed by the League of Oregon Cities in partnership with members of the wireless industry. Verizon supports adoption of the code and standards as presented.

Verizon would also like to take this opportunity to provide information to you about the enormous increase in consumer demand for data capacity and cell service, as well as input on the technical requirements for the new small wireless technology. This new technology is vital to address the capacity needs of wireless customers. More people are using more wireless devices to do more things than ever before, like streaming video, remote meetings, remote medical visits and monitoring, remote education, and ordering goods and services. A robust and reliable wireless network has proven to be essential during the global pandemic.

Verizon is working to stay ahead of the demand by adding small wireless facilities to connect people where they need it most. Small wireless antennas are usually mounted on existing and replacement utility and street light poles. The low visual profile of small wireless facilities makes them an excellent solution for delivering capacity and coverage to residential neighborhoods, where more and more people are working and engaging in online learning. Verizon is committed to working with local communities to provide the level of service residents and businesses need and expect.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly Allen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kimberly Allen,
Wireless Policy Group, LLC on behalf of Verizon