

Verizon Wireless “Downtown Sunnyvale”

Project Description

295 E Evelyn Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

APN: 209-06-082

Summary

Type of Project: Installation of a new Wireless Telecommunications Facility at the top level of the Sunnyvale Caltrain Station parking structure.

Address: 295 E Evelyn Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Zoning: ECR (El Camino Specific Plan Area) – Combining District (Commercial).

Structure: Existing 45’ Tall Parking Garage Structure.

Equipment: At the rooftop level of the parking structure, Verizon proposes to install two (2) slimline monopoles, each in a small antenna lease area of approximately 2’ x 2’ in size, and each consisting of (3) panel antennas, (1) raycap, and (1) hybrid cable. At the ground level, Verizon proposes to install (3) equipment cabinets, (1) transformer, (1) fiber box, (1) electrical panel, (1) surge protector, and (1) GPS antenna within an 18’ x 11’ lease area. The ground equipment will be enclosed with steel fencing and cover.

APPLICANTS OBJECTIVE

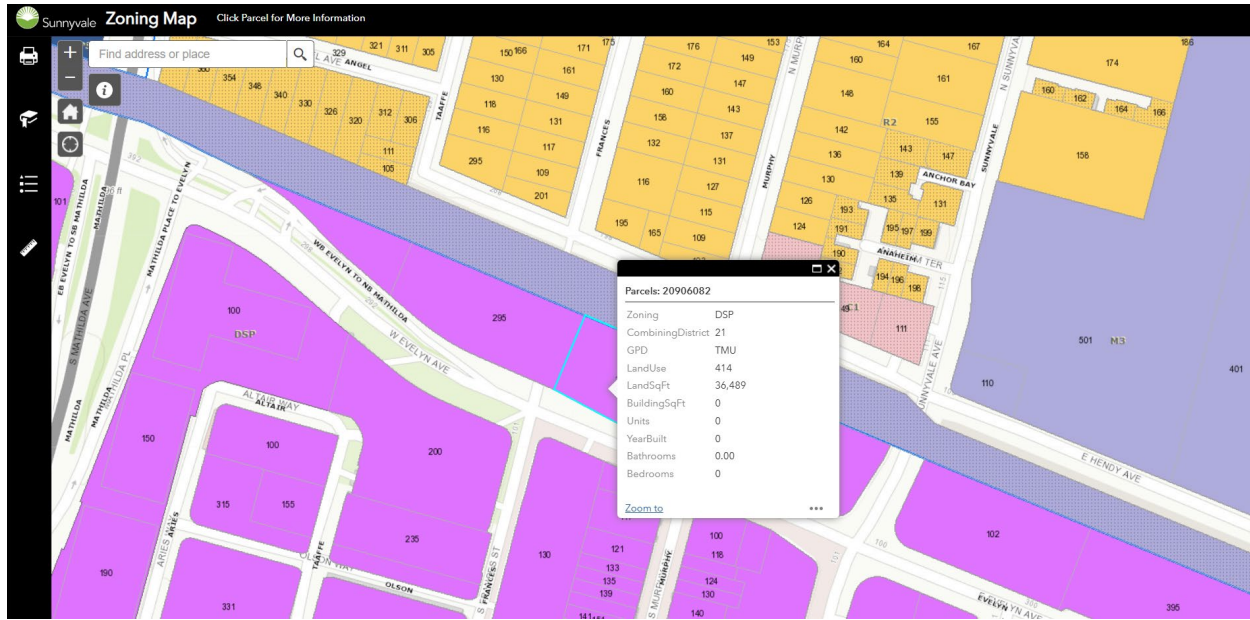
Verizon Wireless formally requests approval of a **Minor Use Permit** for a commercial telecommunications facility situated on the roof of a building in a DSP – Downtown Specific Plan Area with Commercial Combining District zone. This Planning Application is made pursuant to the City of Sunnyvale General Plan and City of Sunnyvale Code of Ordinance, Title 19 Zoning, Article 4 General Development Standards, Chapter 19.54 Wireless Telecommunication Facilities.

Verizon Wireless has identified a service gap and a need for increased capacity in its Long-Term Evolution (LTE) both 4G and 5G wireless services in downtown Sunnyvale. This proposed Verizon Wireless Facility is located at 295 W Evelyn Ave and is designed to increase capacity and coverage to users in the downtown Sunnyvale area and to users at the Caltrain Station. This coverage will also help offload existing nearby Verizon Wireless facilities in Sunnyvale.

This site will improve network performance and help commuters with augmented in-vehicle coverage where wireless service quality is intermittently not accessible to Verizon subscribers.

Verizon network is key to providing wireless service to its customers in Sunnyvale as well as supporting emergency services such as 911 calls. The proposed site will augment the Verizon network in said areas and improve user’s experience especially during peak hours of data usage.

PROPERTY PROFILE



The DT Sunnyvale search ring is focused near the intersection W Evelyn and S Frances St. The downtown Sunnyvale area is comprised of many commercial businesses, offices and nearby apartment residential areas. This candidate was chosen for its ability to provide the Verizon network with a robust site in an area that has elevation and line of sight that satisfies the intended coverage and integration into the network. Coverage of the downtown area from the north is especially important.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

To provide a clear, consistent mobile communications service, Verizon Wireless proposes installing antennas on two (2) slimline monopoles on the upper level of the Caltrain Station parking structure. Each pole will consist of three (3) antennas; these poles have been designed to blend in with the existing light poles at the parking structure. The ground equipment/cabinets will be installed on the first floor of the parking structure within an 8' tall metal railing fence. Cables will run from the ground equipment area through the infrastructure of the parking structure to the proposed poles on the top floor of the structure.

Alternative Sites: The proposed location at the Caltrain Station was selected following Verizon's efforts to advance a proposed facility at 460 W California Ave. A proposed design at that location was submitted to the City by Verizon's previous vendor, Epic Wireless, but was ultimately not supported by the Planning Dept. Other potential candidates considered by Epic and Verizon included 234 Carroll Street, 200 W Washington Ave, 150 S Mathilda Ave, and 250 S Mathilda Ave, all of which were unavailable due to property redevelopment. When the project was transitioned to Verizon's new vendor, Centerline Communications, focus immediately shifted to a proposed site at the Caltrain Station due to its ideal location in meeting Verizon's objective to improve coverage in the downtown area. Other properties not considered include new residential developments at 100 Altair Way (green space on rooftop), 315 Olson Way (blocked), 235 Olson Way, 331 W Washington Ave, and 145 S Frances St (all with significant rooftop solar installations).

ZONING ANALYSIS

Commercial telecommunication facilities are a **use permitted with a minor use permit** in the DSP (Combined District: Commercial), subject to the applicable criteria set forth in **Section 19.54.110 Minor Use Permit Required.**

Zoning Districts	Minor Use Permits
Residential, Public Facilities, Commercial and Office R-O, R-1, R-1.5, R-1.7, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5, RMH, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, O, PF, DSP, LSP, PPSP, MXD-I, MXD-I/S, MXD-II, MXD-III, MXD-IV, O-R, ECR-C, ECR-MU, ECR-O, ECR-PF, ECR-R3, ECR-R4	For properties with nonresidential uses: (1) Façade mounted antennas extending above structure ridgeline or projecting more than 18" from building façade. (2) Roof mounted antennas or antennas mounted on an existing electrical transmission tower which extend up to 15' above the structure ridgeline. (3) Any facility or equipment which, when installed, would result in 2 or more telecommunications facilities at the same property.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The proposed facility will not result in significant impacts to the environment or to the area in which it is located. It does not present a safety hazard, and there is minimal traffic impact (typically one to two site visits per month). Operation of the facility will not conflict with other existing uses in the area. Construction will result in minimal disturbance to the area.

The project should be considered exempt under the California Environmental Quality Control Act (CEQA) under Section 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures. Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures.

MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The proposed facility will be unmanned and will not require the use of services such as water or sewer. Electric power and telephone services are the only necessary utilities. Local utility companies will assist in extending services to the proposed location. After construction is complete, the site will be visited one or two times a month for routine maintenance.

In addition, each facility is monitored 24 hours a day, electronically for intrusion and environmental disruption. The facility will also contain a sign identifying a 1-800 number to call in case of an emergency (manned 24 hours a day by Verizon employees) and identifying it as a Verizon facility. Verizon will be in compliance with all FCC regulations regarding signage at the facility.