



# TOWN of PORTOLA VALLEY

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## Development Standards for Small Wireless Facilities

The following standards are established by the Planning & Building Director per PVMC Section 18.41.080.D. The Planning & Building Director may establish, publish, and revise from time to time, specific regulations that implement PVMC Chapter 18.41. The Planning & Building Director may elect to treat co-locations, modifications or replacements of wireless transmission equipment at an existing wireless tower or base station as described in Section 6409 of the Spectrum Act as a small wireless facility. In that case, the development standards below shall apply.

1. Transmission Antenna Design for Facilities on Public Utility Poles
  - a. A single radome antenna centered at the top of the pole is preferred to multiple panel antennas on separate arms or to circular side-mounted antennas.
  - b. The diameter of the top-mounted antenna or antenna enclosure should not exceed the diameter of the top of the support pole, and to the maximum extent practical, should appear as a seamless vertical extension of the pole. Top-mounted radome antennas shall have a shroud (skirting) at the base of the antenna to hide the bracket and cables and provide a smooth transition to the pole.
  - c. Panel antennas on separate arms shall only be allowed if the design is required to meet operational specifications. The applicant shall demonstrate that a top-mounted antenna is not feasible at the proposed location. Panel antennas shall be flush mounted to the support pole. Flush mounted shall mean the minimum offset between the pole and antenna to structurally attached the antenna and to achieve the antenna angle necessary to meet operational requirements. The offset is expected to be 6 inches or less at the closest point between the panel antenna and support pole.
  - d. Circular side-mounted antennas shall only be allowed if the design is required to meet operational specifications. The applicant shall demonstrate that a top-mounted antenna is not feasible at the proposed location.
  - e. Circular side mounted antennas shall be mounted in a shrouded arm which covers the mounting brackets and cables. The distance from the support pole shall be the minimum distance to meet operational requirements.
2. Equipment Design
  - a. Undergrounding of equipment is strongly preferred and required in utility undergrounding districts.
  - b. Pole-mounted equipment shall be flush mounted to the support pole. Flush mounted shall mean a maximum 4 inch offset between the pole and the equipment

- c. Pole-mounted equipment shall be designed with a vertical orientation to reduce visual impacts. The maximum width and depth of the equipment is expected to be approximately the same width (diameter) as the support pole.
- d. Ground-mounted equipment cabinets may be used in locations where they reduce the overall visual impact of the facility. Specifically, they may be used where they can be screened sufficiently to be less visible than pole-mounted equipment, as determined by the Planning & Building Director. Screening typically includes native plantings consistent with the Town's Design Guidelines, but may also include other structures if appropriate to the site. If utilized, ground mounted equipment must be placed in a location that does not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic associated with roads or trails.
- e. Wireless facility designers shall use PG&E Smart Meters or flat-rate billing with no electric meter, if available.
- f. If electric meters are proposed to be wider than the width (diameter) of the pole, the applicant shall provide documentation that the size is required. In no case shall the electric meter be allowed to be more than two times the width (diameter) of the support pole.
- g. Conduit/cables shall be flush mounted to the pole and covered.
- h. GPS Antennas shall be built into transmission antennas or flush mounted to transmission antennas. GPS antenna height shall be limited to height of the transmission antenna.

### 3. Additional Requirements

- a. All equipment, including but not limited to antennas, cabinets, equipment, and mounting brackets shall be painted to match the existing pole with a non-reflective color to be approved by the Planning & Building Director. In cases where ground-mounted equipment is approved, the equipment shall be painted to match the surrounding environment.
- b. The only stickers or signage allowed shall be those required by governmental agency. RF notification signs shall be placed where appropriate, and not at pedestrian eye level, unless required by the FCC or other regulatory agencies. The background color of the RF sticker shall match the color of the pole unless prohibited by law.
- c. No logos or brand names are allowed on any poles or equipment. No non-essential graphics or lettering are allowed.
- d. No lighting/illumination is allowed unless required by governmental agency. Any internal lights associated with electronic equipment shall be shielded from public view.
- e. Noise from fans and other noise generating equipment shall be considered "tonal sound" and noise levels shall be lowered by 5 dBA per PVMC 9.10.030. If the facility does not generate noise, this information shall be included in the submittal.
- f. The small wireless facility must meet all appropriate structural standards and wind loading specifications.
- g. Installation and maintenance of the wireless facility shall not interfere with or cause damage to any trees or significant landscape planting. As determined by the Planning & Building Director, the applicant shall demonstrate that no damage

will occur to landscaping. Reports and recommendations by an arborist may be required to ensure compliance.

- h. All facilities shall utilize available best practices to minimize fire risk in the interest of public safety. The Fire Marshall is authorized to require any reasonable measures to implement this requirement.