

County of Santa Clara

Department of Planning and Development

County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95110
Phone: (408) 299-5700
www.sccplandev.org



November 30, 2023

Alec Adams
1 PARK PL, Ste. 300
Dublin, CA 94568
Email: alec.adams.contractor@crowncastle.com

****Sent via email ****

FILE NUMBER: PLN23-195
SUBJECT: Additional Information – Architecture and Site Approval (ASA) for a
New 49'-11'' Wireless Telecommunication Facility
SITE LOCATION: 805 Raimundo Way, Stanford (APN: 142-21-084)

Dear Alec:

Staff has reviewed the submittal that was received on November 1, 2023, and would like to request additional information related to the project. The items provided below are not incomplete items and are not required to deem the application complete for processing. The following additional information is required to be able to approve/ condition the project:

PLANNING

Contact Lulu Pang at (408) 299-5718 or lulu.pang@pln.sccgov.org regarding the following:

1. On Sheet T-1, it appears that the project description does not reflect the height information correctly. Please clarify and update the information accordingly.
2. Submit an arborist report with analysis regarding protection measures for surrounding trees. This information is required to ensure that trees adjacent to the project limit line can be protected in place and will not be damaged by the proposed construction.
3. The proposed 49'-11'' tall wireless telecommunication facility is located along Stanford Avenue, submit the following for Staff to conduct further review and make recommendations on whether the proposed project complies with Stanford GUP policies:
 - a. Setback from Stanford Avenue;
 - b. Landscape plan for the proposed development;
 - c. Statement of justification for the potential visual impact on Stanford Avenue;
 - d. Statement of justification for the proposed height

4. Pursuant to County Zoning Ordinance § 5.40.040, “ASA may be granted if the Zoning Administrator makes all of the following findings:

- A. Adequate traffic safety, on-site circulation, parking and loading areas, and insignificant effect of the development on traffic movement in the area;*
- B. Appearance of proposed site development and structures, including signs, will not be detrimental to the character of the surrounding neighborhood or zoning district;*
- C. Appearance and continued maintenance of proposed landscaping will not be detrimental to the character of the surrounding neighborhood or zoning district;*
- D. No significant, unmitigated adverse public health, safety and environmental effects of proposed development;*
- E. No adverse effect of the development on flood control, storm drainage, and surface water drainage;*
- F. Adequate existing and proposed fire protection improvements to serve the development;*
- G. No significant increase in noise levels;*
- H. Conformance with zoning standards, unless such standards are expressly eligible for modification by the Zoning Administrator as specified in the Zoning Ordinance;*
- I. Conformance with the general plan and any applicable area or specific plan, or, where applicable, city general plan conformance for property located within a city’s urban service area; and*
- J. Substantial conformance with the adopted “Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval” and any other applicable guidelines adopted by the County.*

- a. Submit the following for Staff to conduct further review and make recommendations on whether all required findings can be met:
 - i. Average height of the surrounding trees on elevation;
 - ii. Photo simulations from at least four different vantage points.

- b. Based on the antenna height placement of 47’ and Predicted Emission Levels in the RF report, it is not clear to what degree the General Population will be exposed to RF emissions along the adjacent trail paths. The report does not provide an analysis of RF emissions in relation to the adjacent trail path. Based on the information that is provided on page #12, the RF emissions appear to be limited to an elevation of 40’ above the ground (approximate). In addition to that, the proposed development is located close to Lucille M. Nixon Elementary School and Tolman playground. Please revise the RF report to include the following for Staff to conduct further review:
 - i. RF emissions exposure analysis to adjacent trail paths;
 - ii. Exposure evaluation regarding the potential impacts on nearby school and playground;

City of Palo Alto Comments

5. Clarify the shut-down procedures/plan for this facility when maintenance is needed on surrounding trees as the General Population levels of Radio Frequency (RF) exposure may extend into the surrounding canopy. The plan shall be developed to protect maintenance workers via signage or agreed-upon shut-down procedures any time work happens near the facility at the antenna level.

6. The elevation drawing (sheet A-5) appears to indicate that the faux canopy will oscillate from top to bottom. Staff found that oscillation hinders the installation's ability to properly blend into its surroundings where a pyramidal shape looks more natural.
7. On sheet A-3, the proposed antennas already appear to be poking out of the proposed canopy which will serve to conceal the antennas. Staff recommends having either the canopy extend more forward from the antennas, or the antennas pulled closer to the monopole in order to better achieve the "screening objective". In addition to that, Staff recommends that the antennas either be painted to match the green color palette on the tree or have "socks" on them using faux pine materials to ensure the antennas don't visibly stick out inside the tree.

For questions regarding this letter, please call me at (408) 299-5718 to discuss by telephone or to schedule an appointment to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'L' and 'P' in a cursive, stylized font.

Lulu Pang
Assistant Planner

cc:

Samuel Gutierrez, Principal Planner
Charu Ahluwalia, Senior Planner
Joanna Wilk, Senior Planner