

Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department

Wireless
Wireless
Communication
Master
Plan

City Council Workshop

November 16, 2010

... “The approach in this Plan encourages short or disguised facilities almost anywhere, and with only administrative review, while providing appropriate guidelines to consider taller “towers” through a more streamlined public review process. Given the uncertainties of future technology and consumer demand, no one can reliably pinpoint all the locations for future wireless communication facilities.” ...

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“Wichita/Sedgwick County and other public/governmental agencies should not locate any facilities that contravene guidelines that wireless communication facilities are held to in this Plan. It sends a negative message when the regulatory authority holds itself less accountable than the private sector in the name of ‘public safety’.”

PUBLIC SERVICE & EMERGENCY SYSTEMS

This chapter contains guidelines for location, siting and design of new wireless communication facilities. The term “guidelines” is used in recognition that deviations from these guidelines can be considered on a case-by-case basis, if consistent with the general spirit and intent of this Plan.

LOCATION DESIGN GUIDELINES

“As a general rule, the less visible and obtrusive a proposed wireless communication facility is, the more acceptable it will be to the community. The visibility of facilities can be minimized by techniques such as concealment, disguise, camouflage, and sensitive design and siting. Specific guidelines include:

3. Minimizing the silhouette presented by new support structures and antenna arrays. **Generally, monopoles are favored over lattice-type support structures to a height of at least 150 feet, and antennas mounted flush to the support structure are favored over triangular “top hat” antenna arrays.”**

DESIGN GUIDELINES

- Typical monopole cell phone tower for broadband
- Top hat array
- 110' high



Pawnee & Broadway

- Westar lattice tower
- 199' high



Central & I-135

- **Clear Channel tower**
- **300' high**
- **Guy wired**



21st St. N. & I-135

- Monopole with top hat & microwave array for broad band & microwave signals
- 120' high



21st St. N. & Waco

- Ground level equipment with microwave dish



21st St. N. & Waco

- Base of tower



21st St. N. & Waco

- “Old style” fully utilized lattice tower
- 150’ high
- Cables exposed



Kellogg & Maize

- Fully utilized monopole with broad band signal
- 150' high



I-235 & Meridian

- Monopole adjacent to lattice tower
- Monopole 150' high/lattice tower 120' high



- “Old style” USD 259 lattice tower with microwave array



Glenn & Diane

- IT lattice tower with microwave array
- 120' high



I-235 & Meridian at fire station

Are monopoles generally still favored over lattice-type towers?

Should the Design Guidelines be modified? Or, do we continue to review on case-by-case?

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION