

Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC)
Interim Telecommunications Equipment Location Policy – Approved By the Board, 4-13-11

Whereas the mission of the GWNC) is to maintain and improve the quality of life in the community, and

Whereas the placement of telecommunications equipment such as but not limited to cell phone towers, utility boxes, and other devices in public right-of-ways and on and about buildings can impact the aesthetics and value of the community's environmental and historic surrounds, and

Whereas the City of Los Angeles is delayed in adopting an ordinance to regulate the placement of telecommunications equipment including cell towers, and

Whereas the placement of visible telecommunications equipment has consistently raised concerns amongst property owners, tenants, and neighbors within the boundaries of the GWNC community,

Therefore, the GWNC adopts the following interim telecommunications standards that shall be used by the GWNC Planning and Land Use Committee (GWNC PLUM) to prepare recommendations with regard to the placement of telecommunications equipment and other similar or equivalent components.

1. Telecommunications equipment shall be placed along commercially zoned boulevards or at commercially zoned properties. If an applicant demonstrates that no viable location exists within or at a commercially zoned property, and such equipment is proposed at a residentially zoned property, or immediately adjacent to or adjoining a residentially zoned property, such equipment shall be permanently placed so as not to be visible.
2. Telecommunications equipment of all types shall not be placed within either approved or submitted for approval City of Los Angeles Historic Preservation Overlay Zones, other federally and state recognized historic districts or proposed districts, or on or about any other listed or proposed for listing historic structure or resource. If an applicant demonstrates that no viable location exists other than an historic district or property or proposed historic district or property, than such equipment shall be permanently placed so as not to be visible.
3. Telecommunications equipment, utility boxes, and other components associated with telecommunications should generally be placed underground or in locations that are hidden and/or not visible such as, but not limited to, existing infrastructure such as light poles and standards.
4. Telecommunications equipment that mimics or simulates trees or other natural conditions shall not be utilized as a means to hide or disguise equipment as this provides a false and unnatural appearance.
5. Telecommunications equipment incorporated into a structure shall be hidden in such a manner that the appearance of the structure and its architectural character is not altered.

When cell phone towers and associated equipment are proposed within the Greater Wilshire area, applicants shall prepare and submit the following materials:

- Diagram of existing cell phone service in area.
- Written and visual information related to service need.
- Permit submittals and zoning requests, if any, and status.
- Site plan showing location of equipment and conditions within 300' of location.
- When telecommunications equipment is visible, to-scale plans and elevations of existing conditions and proposed conditions including an overall site plan, elevations, and sections incorporating surrounding properties and fully delineating proposed equipment, equipment sizes, locations, and appearance.
- When telecommunications equipment is visible, photo-rendering of proposal accurately depicting context and proposed equipment within context.