

Project Description

Verizon Wireless Cell Site

2/6/19

DRA Properties, LLC proposes to develop a communication tower on property owned by the Cross & Crown Lutheran Church at 1122 W Rand Road in Arlington Heights. The tower will be designed to accommodate Verizon Wireless cellular antennas and equipment.

The proposed tower will be 75' tall and designed to shield the antennas, cables and brackets from view in a stealth canister. The appearance will be similar to a flagpole without the flag, however the pole will be thicker to accommodate the antennas. The pole can be painted any color, but recommend a dark brown.

The equipment area at the base of the tower is 30' x 30'. This will accommodate the tower and Verizon's equipment. The enclosure will be masonry to conceal the equipment area, which will include an emergency back-up generator to continue cell phone coverage in the event of a power outage.

This site was selected since the location is near the middle of a growing dead-zone due to capacity and coverage issues. The church property was selected since the adjacent ComEd transmission towers will greatly reduce the visibility of our tower.

We approached ComEd early in the process to determine existing transmission tower's capacity to permit a collocation of Verizon's antennas. Manny Alonso and Karen Warner Halstead both confirmed the tower in the ROW were not suitable for two reasons: 1) The risk of outage to a large number of important customers was too large to permit attachment to existing towers and 2) there is not room available for a free-standing tower since this ROW is identified as needing additional power lines to serve demand for power in this area.

We selected the location of the tower to maximize the distance from the neighboring properties. We held a neighborhood meeting and incorporated feedback into the design of the cell tower.

The design changes brought about by the neighborhood meetings and planning review are:

1. Tower height was reduced from 100' to 75'.
2. Equipment area was reduced by 50% and relocated from the parking lot to the corner of the church building.
3. The fence was changed from chain-link to masonry (brick façade). The metal canopy over Verizon's equipment cabinets was removed since it would be visible above masonry wall.
4. We will paint the pole a dark color to further reduce visibility.

To reduce the need for future cell towers, we designed the pole to accommodate antennas for two (2) additional cellular companies (i.e. AT&T, Sprint or T-Mobile). These antennas will also be concealed in stealth canisters and nothing will be visible on the tower. We have space inside compound for two additional cabinets to accommodate an additional tenant (like AT&T, Sprint or T-Mobile). If we need to expand compound to accommodate a collocation, we will prepare a plan with the minimum amount of expansion and submit to the Village for review.

Verizon Wireless engineers prepared and submitted a Radio Frequency Propagation Map and Justification Letter describing the need for this site to serve this area.

Construction time period dependent on final FAA/FCC and other approvals, but we are forecasting a August 2019 installation date.