

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2010, MEETING - 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. AUDIO OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Cono Rizzo at 7:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT

Chairperson Cono “Bud” Rizzo, Vice-chair J. Cuellar, Commissioners, A. Lopez, and M. Rodriguez

ABSENT

A. Lopez

ALSO PRESENT

Community Development Director Paul Deibel, City Planner Fred Ramirez, and Assistant Planner Edgar Arroyo

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson B. Rizzo moved to approve the agenda of August 17, 2010. Seconded by Commissioner M. Rodriguez, the motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	B. Rizzo, M. Rodriguez, J. Cuellar, and R. Montañez
NOES:	A. Lopez
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

CONSENT CALENDAR

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC HEARING 7A:

Conditional Use Permit 2010-03, Variance 2010-04, and Site Plan Review 2009-17; subject to Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration – 828 Harding Avenue, “Pioneer Park”, San Fernando, CA – T-Mobile West Corporation (c/o Suresite Consulting Group), 6303 Owensmouth Avenue, 10th Floor, Woodland Hills, CA – The proposed project is the construction of a wireless telecommunications tower facility within a city-owned public park (Pioneer Park) in the R-1 (Single-Family Residential) zone, subject to approval by the Planning and Preservation Commission of applications for a conditional use permit (pursuant to City Code Section 106-1346 and 106-1353(5)), and variance (pursuant to City Code Section 106-295), to permit the installation, use and maintenance of a 60 foot tall wireless telecommunication facility with less than 250 feet from residentially zoned property. The proposed facility includes the construction of a tower structure (“monopole”) that is camouflaged to look like a pine tree, with 12 antennas on three sectors, and a ground mounted equipment shelter to house the facility’s associated equipment.

Staff Presentation

Assistant Planner Edgar Arroyo gave the staff presentation recommending that the Planning and Preservation Commission approve the Mitigate Negative Declaration and Initial Study, Conditional Use Permit 2010-03, Variance 2010-04, and Site Plan Review 2010-07, pursuant to Planning and Preservation Commission Resolution 2010-11 and conditions of approval attached as Exhibit "A".

Public Testimony

None

Commission Discussion

R. Montañez asked for clarification on the location of the applicant's antennae and if they were to be at the top essentially leaving the lower portion for collocation.

F. Ramirez confirmed that was the case.

R. Montañez asked what type of antennae will be used.

E. Arroyo indicated that as part of the conditions of approval the antennae will be covered with fabric "socks" that will help to hide them from view.

F. Ramirez stated that as part of the plan check review and final construction inspection and approval staff will review the proposed branch density and antennae array design in order to verify that the antennae do not project beyond the branch canopy.

R. Montañez asked about future potential collocation.

F. Ramirez indicated that the conditions of approval reads "...to accommodate telecommunication equipment for no more than two service providers." He explained that the structure as it is being proposed will only accommodate two service providers but if in the future an additional service provider is interested in collocating then the new proposed service provider would have to get approval from the Commission.

R. Montañez asked about the noise level coming from the equipment cabinets.

F. Ramirez stated that the applicant would be able to provide the best answer.

The applicant stated that the cabinets are self-contained with minimal noise and that they are surrounded by a block wall.

F. Ramirez reminded the Commission that the noise allowed from the equipment cabinet is much less than the permitted maximum noise levels allowed within the city's residential zones.

R. Montañez asked how the distance requirement from residential properties was determined.

F. Ramirez indicated that when the Wireless Telecommunication Ordinance was prepared staff wanted to determine the optimal distance from a property that is zoned residential that might possibly reduce the potential visual impact. Since this location does not meet the distance requirements, that is the reason for requiring greater branch density to stealth the pole.

J. Cuellar asked for clarification on the height of the wireless telecommunication facility.

F. Ramirez explained that the maximum height in residential area is 35 feet, but the maximum height for a wireless telecommunication facility is 50 feet and the applicant is asking for an additional 10 feet to allow for a collocation.

J. Cuellar likes the idea of having the ivy around the perimeter walls that enclose the ground mounted equipment to deter graffiti. She asked if there were any comments submitted by the public at the workshop.

E. Arroyo stated that no one from the general public attended the workshop.

F. Ramirez indicated that there were two publications in the newspaper indicating the time and place of the workshop.

M. Rodriguez asked what the anticipated time table was for the construction of the project so as to not conflict with baseball season or any activities associated with the park use.

F. Ramirez stated that the construction management will be coordinated with the Public Works Department so that it doesn't conflict with the ongoing park activities.

M. Rodriguez asked if there would be any type of protective netting because of the possibility of the pole being hit with a baseball.

F. Ramirez stated that the branch density would create a canopy similar to netting that would help to deflect baseballs.

B. Rizzo asked about the utilities for the wireless telecommunications facility and if they would be underground.

F. Ramirez indicated that the undergrounding of utilities is part of the conditions of approval.

Subsequent to discussion Commissioner R. Montañez moved to approve Conditional Use Permit 2010-03, Variance 2010-04, and Site Plan Review 2009-17 and recommend approval of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Seconded by Vice-chair J. Cuellar, the motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	R. Montañez, J. Cuellar, B. Rizzo, and M. Rodriguez
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	A. Lopez
ABSTAIN:	None

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

P. Deibel distributed a copy of the report written by vice-chair J. Cuellar that was submitted to the City Council on August 16, 2010.

F. Ramirez stated that they may be a second meeting in September to discuss a Wireless Telecommunication Facility at 120 N. Macneil and a modification of CUP at Tres Hermanos restaurant located at 1045 San Fernando Road.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson B. Rizzo moved to adjourn to September 8, 2010. Second by Commissioner M. Rodriguez, the motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	B. Rizzo, M. Rodriguez, J. Cuellar, and R. Montañez
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	A. Lopez
ABSTAIN:	None

8:22 P.M.
PAUL DEIBEL
Planning Commission Secretary