

Stealth Tower Text Amendment

What is the project?

Salt Lake City's Planning Division received a private petition to amend Chapter 21.40.90 Antenna Regulations of the zoning ordinance. Pete Simmons, representing Cellco Partnership (dba Verizon Wireless), is proposing to allow the construction of stealth antennas up to 60 feet in height in all zoning districts located within Salt Lake City without going through the Conditional Use process.

What is a stealth antenna?

Stealth antennas are wireless communication facilities that are completely disguised as another object, or otherwise concealed from view, thereby concealing the intended use and appearance of the facility. Examples of stealth facilities include, but are not limited to, flagpoles, light pole standards, or architectural elements such as dormers, steeples and chimneys.



Applicant-provided example



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Why make these changes?

The applicant has submitted this request because they have found that the City's antenna regulations limit freestanding wireless facilities to certain zoning districts and only as tall as those districts' allowed height limit. Within certain zoning districts, the height limits may be 30 or 35 feet. Currently, there is no mechanism to seek a height exception either through the wireless section or height exceptions of the code.

The applicant has indicated that it is difficult to provide effective wireless services with towers shorter than 60 feet, as shorter towers often have interference from trees or surrounding buildings. The proposed facilities are necessary for providers to deploy both 4G and 5G services.

To accommodate the growing needs of their wireless networks, the applicant has requested this amendment to the City's antenna regulations to allow, by right, stealth antennas up to 60 feet in height in all zoning districts.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, please contact the staff planner via email or leave a voicemail. Your questions will be answered within one week after the comment period has ended.

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