CHAPTER 14.44
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AND ANTENNA CRITERIA

14.44.020 Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them in this section:

S. “Telecommunication facility” means a facility that transmits and/or receives electromagnetic signals. It includes antennas, microwave dishes, horns, and other types of equipment for the transmission or receipt of such signals, telecommunication towers or similar structures supporting said equipment, equipment buildings, parking area, and other accessory development.

1. “Telecommunications facility - exempt” includes but is not limited to, the following unless located within a recognized Historic District:
   a. A single ground or building mounted receive-only radio or television antenna including any mast, for the sole use of the tenant occupying the residential parcel on which the radio or television antenna is located; with an antenna height not exceeding twenty-five feet;
   b. A ground or building mounted citizens band radio antenna including any mast, if the height (post and antenna) does not exceed thirty-five feet;
   c. A ground, building, or tower mounted antenna operated by a federally licensed amateur radio operator as part of the Amateur Radio Service, if the height (post and antenna) does not exceed thirty-five feet;
   d. A ground or building mounted receive-only radio or television satellite dish antenna, which does not exceed thirty-six inches in diameter, for the sole use of the resident occupying a residential parcel on which the satellite dish is located; provided the height of said dish does not exceed the height of the ridgeline of the primary structure on said parcel.
   e. All citizens band radio antenna or antenna operated by a federally licensed amateur radio operator as part of the Amateur Radio Service which existed at the time of the adoption of this chapter (September, 1996).
   f. Mobile services providing public information coverage of news events of a temporary nature.
   g. Hand-held devices such as cell phones, business-band mobile radios, walkie-talkies, cordless telephones, garage door openers and similar devices as determined by the planning director.
   h. City government owned and operated receive and/or transmit telemetry station antennas for supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems for water, flood alert, traffic control devices and signals, storm water, pump stations and/or irrigation systems, with heights not exceeding thirty-five feet.

2. “Telecommunications facilities - major” are all telecommunication facilities not clearly set forth and included in the definition of exempt, minor or mini facilities.

3. “Telecommunication facility - mini” is an attached wireless communication facility consisting, but not limited to, the following unless located on a structure recognized as a historic landmark:
   a. A single ground or building mounted receive-only radio or television antenna including any mast, for the sole use of the tenant occupying the parcel on which the radio or television antenna is located; with an antenna height not exceeding fifty feet;
b. A ground or building mounted citizens band radio antenna including any mast, if the height (tower, support structure, post and antenna) does not exceed seventy feet;

c. A ground, building, or tower mounted antenna operated by a federally licensed amateur radio operator as part of the Amateur Radio Service, if the height (post and antenna) does not exceed seventy feet.

d. A ground or building mounted receive-only radio or television satellite dish antenna, with diameter exceeding thirty-six inches but less than eight feet in diameter, for the sole use of the resident occupying a residential parcel on which the satellite dish is located; provided the height of said dish does not exceed the height of the ridgeline of the primary structure on said parcel.

e. Exempt telecommunication facility located within a recognized historic district.

f. City owned and operated antennae used for emergency response services, public utilities, operations and maintenance if the height does not exceed seventy feet.

If a facility does not meet these criteria then it is considered either an "exempt", "minor" or "major" telecommunication facility.

4. “Telecommunication facility - minor” means any of the following:

   a. Antenna which meet the definition of "mini" with the exception of the height limit.

   b. Telecommunication facilities less than thirty-five feet in height and that adhere to Section 14.44.090 of Chapter 14.44 of the Petaluma Municipal Code.

   c. A single ground or building mounted whip (omni) antenna without a reflector, less than four inches in diameter whose total height does not exceed thirty-five feet; including any mast to which it is attached, located on commercial and/or industrial zoned property.

   d. A ground or building mounted panel antenna whose height is equal to or less than four feet and whose area is not more than four hundred eighty square inches in the aggregate (e.g., one foot diameter parabola or two feet by one and one-half foot panel) as viewed from any one point, located on commercial or industrial zoned property. The equipment cabinets shall be designed, placed and screened to be unobtrusive and effectively unnoticeable.

   e. More than three antennas, satellite dishes (greater than three feet in diameter), panel antennas, or combination thereof, are proposed to be placed on the commercial or industrial parcel, including existing facilities.

   f. Building mounted antennas which, in the opinion of the planning director, are unobtrusive or undetectable by way of design and/or placement on the building, regardless of number, when located on commercial or industrial zoned property.

   g. Telecommunication facilities less than fifty feet in height, in compliance with the applicable sections of this chapter, located on a parcel owned by the city of Petaluma and utilized for public and/or quasi-public uses where it is found by the planning director to be compatible with the existing city uses of the property.

   h. Telecommunication facilities, including multiple antennas, in compliance with the applicable sections of this chapter, located on an industrial parcel and utilized for the sole use and purpose of a research and development tenant of said parcel, where it is found by the planning director to be aesthetically compatible with the existing and surrounding structures.

   i. Telecommunication facilities located on a structure recognized as a historic landmark.
If a facility does not meet these criteria then it is considered a "major" telecommunication facility.

5. "Telecommunication facility - co-located" means a telecommunication facility comprised of a single telecommunication tower or building supporting one or more antennas, dishes, or similar devices owned or used by more than one public or private entity.

6. "Telecommunication facility - commercial" means a telecommunication facility that is operated primarily for a business purpose or purposes.

7. "Telecommunication facility - multiple user" means a telecommunication facility comprised of multiple telecommunication towers or buildings supporting one or more antennas owned or used by more than one public or private entity, excluding research and development industries with antennas to serve internal uses only.

8. "Telecommunications facility - noncommercial" means a telecommunication facility that is operated solely for a non-business purpose.

9. "Telecommunications facility – small cell" means a telecommunications facility that is pole mounted to existing public utility infrastructure.

### 14.44.095 Small Cell facilities—Basic Requirements

Small Cell facilities as defined in Section 14.44.020 of this chapter may be installed, erected, maintained and/or operated in any commercial or industrial zoning district where such antennas are permitted under this title, upon the issuance of a minor conditional use permit, so long as all the following conditions are met:

- **A.** The Small Cell antenna must connect to an already existing utility pole that can support its weight.

- **B.** All new wires needed to service the Small Cell must be installed within the width of the existing utility pole so as to not exceed the diameter and height of the existing utility pole.

- **C.** All ground-mounted equipment not to be installed inside the pole must be undergrounded, flush to the ground, within three (3) feet of the utility pole.

- **D.** Each pole is to have its own, dedicated power source to be installed and metered separately.

- **E.** Each Small Cell is to be no less than 1,500 feet away from the nearest Small Cell facility.

- **F.** Aside from the transmitter/antenna itself, no additional equipment shall be visible.

- **G.** No Small Cell shall be within 200 feet of any residence.

- **H.** An encroachment permit must be obtained for any work in the right-of-way.