



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 8E

Commissioner Deborah Wells (8E01), Commissioner LaQueda Tate (8E02), Commissioner Kelly Mikel Williams (8E03), Commissioner Anita Burrows (8E04), Commissioner Duane A. Moody (8E05), Commissioner Dolores 'Miracle' Bryant (8E06), Th-Juan McLeese-Lewis (8E07), Saudia Jenkins (8E08), Commissioner Rhonda Holmes (8E09)

District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 200-S
Washington, DC 20001

July 20, 2024

RE: BZA CASE NO. Temp 4094 – VERIZON ANTENNA TOWER

Dear Chairman Hill:

Please accept this missive on behalf of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 8E in response to your February 14, 2024, BZA hearing regarding the above-referenced case. The applicant for BZATmp4094, Shea Beltran, representing Verizon Wireless, presented before Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 8E at a properly notified and held meeting on May 6, 2024. It was explained that Verizon will need an extension to Order 20571, which approves a temporary monopole located at 3999 8th Street SE (Square 6124, Lot 0047, zoned RA-1) a.k.a. 700 Yuma Street SE.

Verizon had antennas installed on the Ferebee Hope Recreation Center on the subject parcel. When that building was scheduled to be demolished, Verizon needed a temporary solution to continue to serve the community with cellular service. Verizon had previously approached KIPP Schools with a proposal to install their antennas on their rooftop. Kipp initially rejected all colocation proposals from Verizon, as they did not want antennas on their rooftop.

After quite a bit of lengthy back and forth with the school, it appeared that Verizon had a breakthrough and that KIPP Schools would allow the antennas to be installed on the roof, provided they are hidden behind a stealth screen wall. This delay in the leasing negotiations with KIPP meant that Verizon needed to request an extension to the original BZA order, which was granted in August of 2023.

Recently though, KIPP approached Verizon and unexpectedly halted all negotiations, stating that they would not allow for Verizon's antennas to be installed on their roof. Because of this abrupt reversal, Verizon needed to scramble to find another rooftop for colocation.

Verizon does now have a confirmed candidate for this project, The Overlook Apartment complex, and has begun the leasing negotiations and the zoning and permitting process. They are forecasting to have a building permit for the colocation by the end of summer, and expect to have a lease signed and in place by September. The installation on the new rooftop as well as the deconstruction of the temporary asset will require approximately 3-4 months of work. ANC 8E has met and voted to support Verizon Wireless's proposal to extend the previous approval so that the new antennas can be installed on the KIPP rooftop with minimal disruption to cellular service in the community.

On Monday, July 1, ANC 8E voted unanimously to support the BZA application for an extension to Order 20571A. This extension will allow Verizon Wireless enough time to finalize a lease with the owner of the new building, install the antennas on that rooftop, and deconstruct the existing temporary monopole.

Respectfully,

K. Mikel Williams

Kelly Mikel Williams, Chairman
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8E