



240 Stockton Street, 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108
www.modusllc.com

**Verizon Community Outreach
Meeting for Proposed Wireless Facility at
124 De Anza Blvd**

**Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 7-8pm.
San Mateo City Hall**

Community Outreach Meeting Summary

Attendees:

Modus Representatives: Agatha Kehayas, Christina Vu, JoAnna Wang

Verizon Representative: Maureen Cruzen

Radio Frequency (“RF”) Compliance Representative: Daniel Ro, Hammett & Edison Engineering (“H&E”)

City Representatives: Tracy Scramaglia, Matthew Trieu

Community Members: 6 Residents (Attendee list attached)

Summary

6:30-7pm While the Modus team was setting up the meeting room, a resident entered, took a look around and engaged in informal conversation about the proposed facility with a Modus representative.

7-7:45pm Residents came in periodically throughout the meeting time. Representatives were present to address any questions and concerns the residents had.

Major Issues/ Q&A

- While setting up, a resident entered and engaged in conversation about the facility. The resident questioned who was responsible for paying for the pole replacement.
 - The Modus team informed the resident that Verizon pays for the pole replacement.
- That same resident expressed that they were happy the City gets a new pole for free in the installation process and wishes more poles in the area were updated as well – especially the ones in his neighborhood.
- Several residents expressed concern regarding potential 4G/5G health issues.
 - H&E informed the residents that there is an FCC emissions standard that every site needs to comply with. The representative also informed residents that the type of facility Verizon installs emits a small fraction of the allowable limit the FCC has set in their recommended guidelines for federal safety standards on health and regulations.
- Several residents questioned if it is safe to live so close to a facility.
 - H&E explained to the residents where radio frequency falls on the EME spectrum of non-ionizing and ionizing radiation. The representative informed residents that



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RF is non-ionizing, ranked lower than a microwave, unlike UV rays from the sun which are ionizing radiation and can be harmful.

- Several residents were concerned that living within 170 ft. of the facility would harm them.
 - H&E informed the residents that the proposed facility is a low power site and that at the base of the pole, it is still a very small fraction of the FCC limits. H&E referred to an image illustrating how the RF energy projects from the center of the antenna into the horizon, and explaining that because of the inverse square law, a principle theory of physics, RF levels decrease by the square of the distance as it moves away from the antenna.
- A resident came in to voice her support of the facility, stating that the community needs more facilities to ensure that service would be available for them in times of emergency.
- Several residents wanted to know where other poles would be placed and why this specific location was selected for the project.
 - Modus informed the residents that site locations are dependent on how much service is needed.
 - Verizon explained that Verizon is constantly assessing usage on the network and have engineers who analyze and determine what areas need improvements. Sites are then identified and selected based on a number of factors including network needs, the city ordinance, visual impact, power and fiber runs and overall constructability, all of which are taken into consideration to pick the best and least intrusive sites.
 - Modus added that when once given a RF target, field due diligence is completed to determine the best viable site to propose.
- Several residents who were non-Verizon customer wanted to know who Verizon was servicing and if it the need was coming from nearby apartments or the commercial area.
 - Verizon informed residents that Verizon can only determine areas with need and cannot pinpoint exactly who or which phone lines needs service.
- A resident wanted to know if the facility will make phone service faster.
 - Verizon informed the resident that the purpose of the facility is not to make service faster, but rather to relieve surrounding facilities from being overloaded.
- A resident voiced their concern that Verizon is paying the City of San Mateo to build facilities there.
 - The City informed the residents that the amount the City receives is based on federal rules and it is a nominal amount.
- A resident wanted to know the number of facilities currently in the City of San Mateo.
 - Modus informed the residents that there are currently nine Verizon small cell facilities in the City of San Mateo, but that other carriers had others.
- A resident mentioned they read in the City's ordinance that residential areas are lowest priority on the list of locations to build facilities.
 - The City informed the residents that though residential areas are lowest priority, if there is a gap, the city cannot stop facilities from being installed if it is in the public right of way.
- Several residents who were not Verizon customers wanted to know if their service providers were able to benefit from the facility as well.



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- Verizon responded that only Verizon customers will be able to rely on the service provided by the facility. However, any emergency 911 calls are carrier agnostic and can be served by any wireless facility in the area.
- Several residents wanted to know if applications submitted to the city were accessible to the public.
 - Modus informed the residents that all submitted applications are part of the public record and are thus accessible. The residents were also directed to the City's small cell website for more information.
- Several residents wanted to know the locations of all the poles built in the City of San Mateo.
 - The City informed the residents there is a map available on the City's website with all the locations of the other poles within the city.
- A resident questioned the number of poles permitted in the city and wanted to know if the city has set a maximum limit on poles allowed within the city.
 - The City informed the residents that the telecommunications industry is highly regulated by the federal government and they are not allowed to put a limit on the number of pole installations. Facilities are determined by service needs.
- Several residents wanted to get a high-level understanding of the city guidelines for the wireless permitting process.
 - The City informed the residents that along with the community outreach meeting as requested, that applicants also need to comply with design and location.
- A resident questioned whether the city examined health concerns related to wireless facilities.
 - The City informed the residents that the city is not allowed to regulate FCC standards and that they can only make sure Verizon is following those standards set by FCC. They do this by requiring applicants to submit a RF Compliance report illustrating the site will be the FCC standards.
- A resident raised a question on whether applications for poles in the city have ever been rejected.
 - The City informed the residents that yes, there have been multiple denials based on design.
- A resident asked if a community outreach meeting is mandatory.
 - Modus informed the residents that as part of the application process, Modus is required to notify all properties within 300 ft. of a facility and provide an opportunity to request a community outreach meeting for more information.
- A resident questioned if the City sets requirements for distance from facility to facility for all service providers.
 - The City informed the residents that they cannot control how close facilities are from the others. However, they do require all service providers to conduct an analysis for all poles in the selected areas.
- A resident questioned whether this site is intended to meet a current or future need.
 - Verizon responded that there is a need now. Verizon strives to make their service better and that they have a team regularly analyzes network performance based on the number of users on the system, number of dropped calls, how long it takes for the call to go through, and measuring the speed to upload and download.



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Based off the analytics, the network engineers will identify areas of service and issue projects.

- A resident wanted to know when the decision about the facility will be made.
 - The City explained the next steps and opportunity to appeal, but that an appeal would require the Sustainability and Infrastructure Committee to identify specific findings for approval are not being met. They informed the residents that the timeline for a decision is about 2-3 months.
- A resident asked if approved facilities can be upgraded without resistance.
 - The City informed the residents that carriers are allowed to upgrade their facilities under Section 6409. The process requires an application, but no community outreach is required because it is a modification to an existing site.
- Several residents all expressed their interest in seeing the alternative site analysis for this application.
 - The City informed the residents that they can request to obtain the document through the City's website.
- The meeting closed with the City providing the residents with contact information for any further questions.



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COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INFORMATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Project: Wireless Communication Small Cell Node Facility

Cell Location: **124 De Anza Boulevard**

NO.	NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
1	Matthew Trien	- SM -		mtrien@cityofsanmateo.ca.gov
2	Jennifer Freitas			jenniferfreitas@hotmail.com
3	Corrie Phillips			turno57@comcast.net
4	Tracy Saramaglia	- SM -		
5	Maureen Green	Verizon		Maureen.Green@verizonwireless.com
6	Karen Lee	SM		Karen@jwul.com
7	Tiffany Lee			tp Lee@vetflit.com
8	Dennis Lee	SM		DENLEE01@YAHOO.COM
9	Drew			ocean1618@zoho.com
10	Agatha Kenayas			
11	Christina Yu			
12	Joanna Wang			
13	Daniel Roj			
14				
15				

ORGANIZATION: Modus
 TIME: 7:00pm - 8:00pm
 EVENT DATE: 1/29/2020
 LOCATION: City Hall, Conference Room C
 330 W. 20th Ave, San Mateo, CA