ARTICLE 6. USE STANDARDS

6.1 PRINCIPAL USE STANDARDS

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JJ. Wireless Telecommunications

1. Application Requirements

All applications to erect, construct, or modify any part of a wireless telecommunication antenna, facility, or tower require site plan review and must include the following items, unless waived by the Executive Director:

a. A site plan showing:

- i. The location, size, screening, and design of all structures, including fences.
- ii. The location and size of all outdoor equipment.
- iii. Elevations showing antenna height.
- iv. If the site plan is for a new wireless telecommunication tower, a landscape plan showing all screening.
- v. If the site plan is for a new wireless telecommunication tower, indication of the fall zone as a shaded circle.
- b. A maintenance plan and any applicable maintenance agreement designed to ensure long-term, continuous maintenance, such as maintenance of landscape, keeping the area free from debris and litter, and immediate removal of any graffiti.
- **c.** A disclosure of what is proposed, demonstrating the need for the wireless telecommunication antenna, facility, or tower in the proposed location. This is not required if co-location is proposed.
- d. The reason or purpose for the placement, construction, or modification in the proposed location with specific reference to the provider's coverage, capacity, and/or quality needs, goals, and objectives. This is not required if collocation is proposed.
- e. The service area of the proposed wireless telecommunication antenna, facility, or tower.
- f. If the proposal is for a new telecommunication tower, then a map showing collocation opportunities within the Parish and within areas surrounding the borders of the City of Shreveport must be provided and justification for why co-location is not feasible in order to demonstrate the need for a new tower.
- g. If the proposal is for a new telecommunication tower, certification by a licensed and registered professional engineer regarding the manner in which the proposed structure will fall. The certification may be utilized, along with other criteria such as applicable regulations for the district in question, in determining if additional setback should be required for the structure and other facilities.

2. Setbacks

All wireless telecommunication towers and facilities must be set back from all property lines in accordance with the minimum setback requirements in the zoning district.

3. Height

The maximum height of a wireless telecommunication tower is the minimum needed to function satisfactorily. The application for approval of a wireless telecommunication tower must demonstrate the minimum height needed for the tower to function, which will be reviewed and approved as part of site plan review. The Metropolitan Planning Commission has the ability to hire an independent consultant, whose fee will be charged to the applicant, to assist in review of the proposed height.

4. Lighting and Marking

Wireless telecommunication antennas, towers, and facilities must not be lit or marked unless required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

5. Specific Standards for Wireless Telecommunication Antennas

Wireless telecommunication antennas are a special use in all districts, unless they are stealth design, in which case they are considered a permitted use. Stealth design for wireless antennas is encouraged and is considered a permitted use in all districts, subject to site plan review and approval. All applications for wireless telecommunication antennas must include all information required by this section. In addition to the standards of this section for wireless telecommunication antennas, stealth design must comply with the following regulations:

- a. To qualify as a stealth design, wireless telecommunication antennas must be enclosed, camouflaged, screened, obscured, or otherwise not readily apparent to a casual observer.
- b. Wireless telecommunication antennas must be mounted at least 40 feet above grade, as measured from grade to the base of the antenna, to qualify as stealth design, in addition to meeting the other requirements of this section. Wireless telecommunication antennas mounted lower than 40 feet are considered a special use.
- c. Antennas must be located on or in structures already permitted within zoning districts, such as water towers, clock towers, streetlights, penthouses, parapet walls, and steeples, and must be designed to blend in with the structure.
- **d.** Antennas that co-locate on existing wireless telecommunication towers are also considered stealth design.
- e. No antenna may increase the overall height of any structure on which it is mounted by more than 10 feet.

6. Specific Standards for Wireless Telecommunication Facilities

- a. Any buildings, cabinets, or shelters may house only equipment and supplies for operation of the wireless telecommunication tower. Any equipment not used in direct support of such operation must not be stored on the site.
- b. Commercial advertising is prohibited.

7. Specific Standards for Wireless Telecommunication Towers

- a. Wireless telecommunication towers must be designed to accommodate other telecommunication providers. The area surrounding a tower must be of a sufficient size to accommodate accompanying wireless telecommunication facilities for other telecommunication providers.
- b. Unless otherwise required by the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Aviation Administration or the Parish, towers must have a galvanized silver or gray finish.

8. Abandonment

Any wireless telecommunication tower or facility that is not operated for a period of 180 consecutive days is considered abandoned. The owner must immediately remove the tower or facility, and all aboveground equipment and related debris. Caddo Parish may ensure and enforce removal by means of its existing regulatory authority.