



### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Can the City of Rancho Palos Verdes simply refuse to allow any of these facilities within the public right-of-way?

No. The City cannot prohibit the placement of personal wireless telecommunications facilities in the public right-of-way (ROW). As regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission, companies have the right to place their facilities in the Public ROW, subject to the City's reasonable time, place and manner rules. The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 also prohibits the City from discriminating against service providers or prohibiting such providers from providing wireless services within the City. A City cannot prevent a service provider from closing a significant gap in its service coverage using least intrusive means.

#### Can Local and State Governmental Bodies Establish Limits For Radio Frequency (RF) Exposure?

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 contained provisions relating to federal jurisdiction to regulate human exposure to RF emissions from certain transmitting devices. Section 704 of the Act states that, "No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions."

#### Are cellular and other radio towers near homes or schools safe for residents and students?

RF emissions from antennas used for cellular and PCS transmissions result in exposure levels on the ground that are typically thousands of times below safety limits. These safety limits were adopted by the FCC and endorsed by agencies of the Federal government responsible for health and safety. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that such towers could constitute a potential health hazard to nearby residents or students.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone  
310.544.5252

Fax  
310.544.5292

E-mail  
publicworks@rpvca.gov

Address:  
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Hours:  
Monday to Thursday – 7:30am to 5:30pm  
Friday – 7:30am to 4:30pm  
Saturday & Sunday – Closed



## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

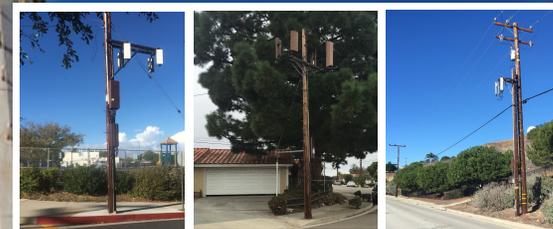
[www.rpvca.gov/916/Cell-Sites](http://www.rpvca.gov/916/Cell-Sites)



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# WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES



## Standard Definitions

### Antenna

A device used for radiating or receiving radio waves.

### Co-Location

The location of two or more wireless communication facilities on a single support structure or otherwise sharing a common location. Co-location shall also include the location of wireless communication facilities with other types of facilities including, but not limited to, light standards, outbuildings and other utility facilities and structures.

### FCC

Federal Communications Commission, the government agency that regulates interstate communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable.

### Mock-Up

A model or replica of a structure, used for public display purposes.

### Public Right-of-Way

Property that is owned and controlled by the City (typically streets and sidewalks where utility poles may be placed).

### Service Provider

Any authorized provider of wireless communications services.

### Wireless Telecommunications Facility

**(WTF)** An installation that sends and/or receives radio frequency signals, including, but not limited to, directional, omni-directional and parabolic antennas, structures or towers to support receiving and/or transmitting devices, cabinets, equipment accessory equipment and other structures, and the land or structure on which they are all situated. The term does not include mobile transmitting devices, such as vehicle or hand held radios/ telephones and their associated transmitting antennas.



## Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996

Purpose "to provide for a pro-competitive, deregulatory national policy framework designed to accelerate rapidly private sector deployment of advanced information technologies and services to all Americans by opening all telecommunications markets to competition..."

### Sample Mock-Up Sign

#### THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES

# NOTICE

OF MOCK-UP



Existing Site



Vicinity Map



Proposed Site

**Applicant's Contact Info**

**Public Works Inspector's Contact Info**

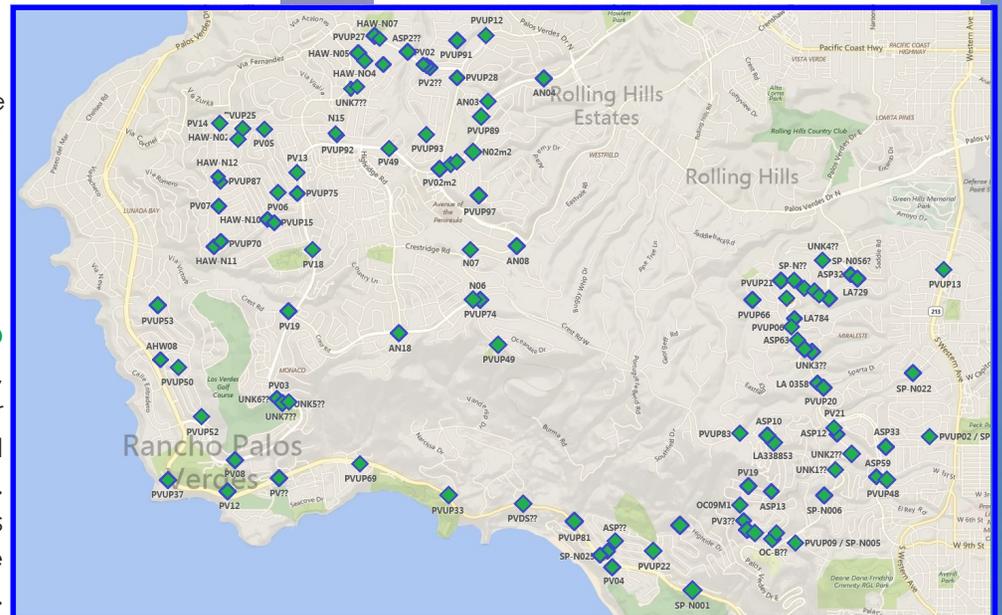
**FOR INFORMATION CALL PUBLIC WORKS AT (310) 544-5252**

### Public Notice Requirements:

- A) Mailed Notice is to be sent to property owners within 500 feet of the proposed installation, 5 business days prior to any installation of the mock-up.
- B) If applicable, a public hearing and applicable notice requirements will commence per Rancho Palos Verdes Municipal Code.

### City Map

As depicted in this map, there are currently over 140 WTF's installed throughout the City. Many more installations are proposed by the various service providers.



## Procedural Time Limits

A City must act "within a reasonable period of time" when reviewing an application for a wireless telecommunications facility. The "Shot Clock" is:

- 60 days for Co-location or modifications that do not result in substantial change
- 90 days for Co-location or modifications that do result in substantial change
- 150 days for all other applications



## Permissible Regulations

Zoning and Building Regulations CAN:

- Impose a detailed application requirement reasonably related to the City's review of the project.
- Require public hearings on the application.
- Require review by Planning Commission that exercises discretionary decision-making (with certain exceptions).
- Impose requirements to meet aesthetic concerns, such as camouflage, setbacks.
- Impose Facility maintenance standards.