

February 27, 2025

Project Name: AZL01767 – Duke Golf Company: SmartLink on behalf of AT&T Contact: Michael Hanna Phone: 951-319-1341 Email: michael.hannna@smartlinkgroup.com

# **CUP Application Requirement: Project Narrative**

# Introduction

AT&T is looking to expand coverage in the Maricopa area by locating a proposed wireless communications facility at 42660 Rancho El Dorado Pkwy, Maricopa, AZ 85138, as part of a larger coverage project for the Arizona market. This project serves to provide coverage for the residential developments in Northern Maricopa and the Duke Golf Course. This project is also looking to expand FirstNet coverage to better aid first responders within the surrounding area.

### **Alternative Site Analysis**

As this is a collocation, an alternative site analysis is unnecessary, as AT&T is locating on an existing facility. An inventory of existing sites has been documented and will be provided with the completed application package, detailing in specific detail the existing sites within a 5-mile radius of the area.

### Site Details

The proposed AT&T facility is designed to blend into the existing stealth elements of the existing tower, by disguising both the array and the extension as a faux broadleaf design. The subject property is designated as a SR (Suburban Ranch) zone. The height extension will increase the tower height by 14', as measure from tip of existing structure to the tip of steel of the extension (including branching elements). Said height extension shall not defeat existing stealth elements on the tower, by conforming with the existing branch length of the existing tower (please refer to drawings associated with this application). The ground equipment for the antenna array will be located within the existing walled off compound.

The new antenna array and requisite ground equipment will pull power from the existing meter bank located on the site and will pull new fiber lines. All utilities will be pulled through existing utility easements secured by the Tower Owner for this site. All access to the site will follow existing access easements recorded by the existing tower owner. Time frame for construction is likely to begin mid next year. No other utility providers besides fiber optic and power providers are necessary for this site.

# Conformance to Codes/Ordinances - 6409 Eligibility

The surrounding parcels in the immediate area have the following make-up of zoning designations:

North: CR-3 Single Family Residential South: CR-3 Single Family Residential East: CR-3 Single Family Residential West: CR-3 Single Family Residential

Per City of Maricopa Zoning Ordinance Section 18.130.010, Subsections (C) and (D), collocations are encouraged by the city and this colocation would minimize the total number of towers through the community. Per Section 6409 of the Middle-Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, this height extension does not constitute a "substantial change" as it meets the threshold for eligibility. Per the definition of substantial change of this Section 6409, a substantial change is defined as, "the mounting of the proposed antenna on the tower that would increase the existing height of the tower by more than 10%, or by the height of one additional antenna array with separation from the nearest existing antenna not to exceed twenty feet, whichever is greater."

Once the site is installed, foot traffic to the site will be minimal; only for ongoing monthly maintenance by each carrier save for emergency maintenance. All equipment will be operated within noise standards consistent with the city's guidelines.

Once on-air, the WCF will comply with FCC guidelines for human exposure to RF electromagnetic fields, and cumulative exposure from all the facilities will meet FCC guidelines.

### **Address to Pre-Application Comments**

Pre-application Comments regarding the project inquired as to why the height extension is needed for the array. The height extension of the tower, increasing from the existing height of 69.5' to the new height of 83' (including stealth elements), is needed to propagate the signal far enough to fill the existing gap in coverage in the area. If AT&T were to collocate on the existing tower as is, the signal would be insufficient to cover the gap, which may require another tower to be constructed in the area. AT&T would like to avoid this and believe that increasing the height of the existing tower to the height requested (which falls under Section 6409 guidelines), and integrating the design of the existing tower into said extension, is the least intrusive method available. To provide a clear visualization of the existing gap and the relative coverage that the array would afford at each height, a Propagation Map is provided in the complete application package for reference.