DESIGN STANDARDS
FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES
Effective April 26, 2024

Section 1 Authority and Definitions.

These *Design Standards for Small Wireless Facilities* (**Standards**) are authorized pursuant to the provisions of General Ordinance No. 23-1403, adopted by the City Council of the City of The Dalles on December 11, 2023, to establish The Dalles Municipal Code (**TDMC**) Chapter 3.30 (*Small Wireless Facilities*). Nothing in these Standards supersedes the provisions of the City's municipal code, TDMC Chapter 3.30, or any other City ordinance or resolution. All provisions of these Standards are in addition to any other requirement imposed by the City's municipal code and applicable law.

Sections 1 through 8 of these Standards are administered by the Public Works Director and Section 9 is administered by the Community Development Director.

All definitions listed in TDMC 3.30.02 (*Definitions*), as amended, are incorporated herein. *Technically feasible* is a term used by the Federal Communications Commission (**FCC**) to describe when aesthetic standards may be found reasonable and do not materially inhibit the wireless service provider's ability to provide service.

Section 2 General Requirements.

A. Pole-Mounting Preferred. Ground-mounted equipment in the public right-of-way is discouraged unless the applicant reasonably demonstrates to the City pole-mounted equipment is not technically feasible or the Northern Wasco County People's Utility District requires placement of equipment on the ground (such as an electric meter). If ground-mounted equipment is necessary, then the applicant shall conceal the equipment in a cabinet, in street furniture, or with landscaping.

B. Safety.

1. *Clearance*. Replacement poles, new poles, and all antenna equipment shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, City construction and sidewalk clearance standards, and City, Oregon, and federal laws and regulations to provide a clear and safe passage within, through, and across the public rights-of-way.

2. *Traffic*. The location of any replacement pole, new pole, and antenna equipment must comply with applicable traffic requirements, not interfere with utility or safety fixtures (e.g., fire hydrants, traffic control devices), and not adversely impact

traffic safety or the public health, safety, or welfare. The vision clearance standards listed in TDMC 10.6.100 must be complied with.

C. Signs. No advertising, branding, or other signage is allowed unless approved by the Community Development Director as a concealment technique; provided, however, applicants may implement:

1. safety signage, as required by applicable law, regulations, and standards; and

2. identifying information and 24-hour emergency contact information (e.g., telephone number for the operator's network operations center) on wireless equipment. Identifying signage must be placed on the pole and readable from the ground.

D. Replacement Poles.

1. *Generally*. Replacement poles shall be located as near as feasible to the existing pole. The abandoned pole must be removed consistent with the provisions of TDMC 3.30.05.

2. *Material and Design*. Replacement poles shall substantially conform to the material and design of the existing pole or adjacent poles located within the contiguous public right-of-way unless a different design is requested and approved pursuant to **Section 9.**

E. Volume. The total volume of multiple antennas on one structure shall not exceed 15 cubic feet unless an applicant requests and the City approves additional antenna volume pursuant to **Section 9**.

F. Illumination. Antennas and antenna equipment shall not be illuminated except as required by City, Oregon, or federal authority; provided, however, this restriction does not preclude deployment on a new or replacement street light.

G. Trees and Landscaping. Small wireless facilities may not displace any existing street tree or landscape features..

Section 3 Small Wireless Facilities Attached to Wooden Poles and Non-Wooden Poles with Overhead Lines.

A. Standards. Small wireless facilities located on wooden utility poles and non-wooden utility poles with overhead lines shall conform to the following design criteria unless the applicant requests and the City approves a deviation pursuant to **Section 9**:

1. *Antenna and Related Equipment*. Proposed antenna and related equipment shall meet:

(a) the City's design standards for small wireless facilities;

(b) the pole owner's requirements; and

(c) National Electric Safety Code and National Electric Code standards.

2. *Replacement Poles*. The pole at the proposed location may be replaced with a taller pole or extended for the purpose of accommodating a small wireless facility; provided, however, the replacement or extended pole (together with any small wireless facility) shall not exceed 50 feet in height or 10 percent taller than adjacent poles, whichever is greater. The replacement or extended pole height may be increased if required by the pole owner and such height increase is the minimum necessary to provide sufficient separation and/or clearance from electrical and wireline facilities. Such replacement poles may either match the approximate color and materials of the replaced pole or shall be the standard new pole used by the pole owner in the City.

3. *Matching*. To the extent technically feasible, antennas, equipment enclosures, and all ancillary equipment, boxes, and conduit shall match the approximate material and design of the surface of the pole or existing equipment on which they are attached, or adjacent poles located within the contiguous public right-of-way. The City may approve near-matches when options are limited by technical feasibility considerations (e.g., when high-frequency antennas cannot be placed within an opaque shroud but could be wrapped with a tinted film).

4. *Antenna Pole-Mounting*.

   (a) Antennas and antenna equipment (including, without limitation, radios, cables, associated shrouding, disconnect boxes, meters, microwaves, and conduit) mounted on poles shall be mounted as close to the pole as technically feasible and allowed by the pole owner.

   (b) No antenna shall extend horizontally more than 20 inches past the outermost mounting point (where the mounting hardware connects to the antenna).

   (c) Antenna equipment for small wireless facilities must be attached to the pole unless otherwise required by the pole owner or the City allows ground-mounting consistent with **Section 2(A)**. Equipment enclosures must be placed behind decorations, banners, or signs on the pole.

5. *Wiring*. All cables and wires shall be covered by conduits and cabinets to the extent technically feasible and if allowed by the pole owner. The number of conduits shall be minimized to the extent technically feasible.

Section 4 Small Wireless Facilities Attached to Non-Wooden Light Poles and Non-Wooden Utility Poles without Overhead Utility Lines.

A. Standards. Small wireless facilities attached to existing or replacement non-wooden light poles and non-wooden utility poles without overhead lines shall conform to the

following design criteria unless the applicant requests and the City approves a deviation pursuant to **Section 9**:

1. *Concealed Equipment*. All equipment (excluding disconnect switches), conduit, and fiber must be fully concealed within the pole. The antennas must be camouflaged to appear as an integral part of the pole or be mounted as close to the pole as feasible.

2. *Matching*. Any replacement pole shall substantially conform to the material and design of the existing pole or adjacent poles located within the contiguous public right-of-way unless the applicant requests and the City approves a different design pursuant to **Section 9**.

3. *Height*. The height of any replacement pole may not extend more than 10 feet above the height of the existing pole unless such further height increase is required in writing by the pole owner.

Section 5 New Poles.

A. Standards. Small wireless facilities may be attached to new poles that are not replacement poles under **Sections 3 or 4**, installed by the wireless provider, and subject to the following criteria:

1. *Concealment*. Antennas, antenna equipment and associated equipment enclosures (excluding disconnect switches), conduit, and fiber shall be fully concealed within the structure. If such concealment is not technically feasible, or is incompatible with the pole design, then the antennas and associated equipment enclosures must be camouflaged to appear as an integral part of the structure or mounted as close to the pole as feasible, and must be reasonably related in size to the intended purpose of the facility without exceeding the volumetric requirements in **Section 2(E)**.

2. *Matching*. To the extent technically feasible, all new poles and pole-mounted antennas and equipment shall substantially conform to the material and design of adjacent poles located within the contiguous right-of-way unless the applicant requests and the City approves a different design pursuant to **Section 9**.

3. *Height*. New poles shall be no more than 40 feet in height unless the applicant requests and the City approves additional height pursuant to **Section 9**.

4. *No New Pole Preference*. The City prefers wireless providers install small wireless facilities on existing or replacement poles instead of installing new poles, unless the wireless provider submits documentation installation on an existing or replacement pole is not technically feasible or otherwise not possible (due to a lack of owner authorization, safety considerations, or other reasons acceptable to the Public Works Director).

5. *Spacing*. The Public Works Director may determine the authorized distance spacing between new poles by individual providers to the extent such determinations are technically feasible and do not prevent a provider from replacing preexisting facilities or collocating new equipment on a structure already in use.

Section 6 Undergrounding.

[*RESERVED*]

Section 7 Historic District Requirements.

A. Standards. Small wireless facilities or poles to support collocation of small wireless facilities located in the City's Historic Districts shall be designed to have a similar appearance, including material and design elements (if technically feasible) of other poles in the public right-of-way within 500 feet of the proposed installation. Any such design or concealment measures shall not be considered part of the small wireless facility for purpose of the size restrictions in the definition of *small wireless facility*.

Section 8 Strand Mounted Equipment.

A. Standards. Strand mounted small wireless facilities may be deployed subject to the following criteria:

1. *Volume*. Each strand mounted antenna shall not exceed 3 cubic feet in volume, unless the applicant requests and the City approves a different volume pursuant to **Section 9**.

2. *Numerosity*. Only 2 strand mounted antennas are permitted between any 2 existing poles.

3. *Mounting*. Strand mounted devices shall be placed as close as possible to the nearest pole and in no event more than 5 feet from the pole unless a greater distance is required by the pole owner.

4. *Location Restriction*. No strand mounted device will be located in or above the portion of the roadway open to vehicular traffic.

5. *Minimum Wiring*. Strand mounted devices must be installed with the minimum excess exterior cabling or wires (other than original strand) to meet the technological needs of the facility.

Section 9 Deviation from Design Standards.

A. Deviation Standard. The Community Development Director shall approve an applicant's request for a deviation from these design standards consistent with the provisions of this **Section 9**. The Community Development Director shall document the reasons for any approved deviation in a writing provided to the requesting

applicant. An applicant may obtain a deviation from these design standards upon its demonstration to the Community Development Director compliance with the standard:

1. is not technically feasible;

2. impedes the effective operation of the small wireless facility;

3. impairs a desired network performance objective;

4. conflicts with pole owner requirements; or

5. otherwise materially inhibits or limits the provision of wireless service.

B. Narrow Deviation. All requests for deviation sought pursuant to **Section 9(A)(1)-(5)** must be narrowly tailored to minimize deviation from the requirements of these design standards and the Community Development Director must find the applicant's proposed design provides similar, equivalent, or superior aesthetic value when compared to strict compliance with these design standards.

C. Federal Preemption. All deviations for small wireless facility designs approved under this **Section 9** must always meet the conditions listed in 47 C.F.R. § 1.6002(*l*):

1. The facilities:

   (a) are mounted on structures 50 feet or less in height, including the antennas;

   (b) are mounted on structures no more than 10 percent taller than other adjacent structures; or

   (c) do not extend existing structures on which they are located to a height of more than 50 feet or by more than 10 percent, whichever is greater;

2. Each antenna associated with the deployment (excluding associated antenna equipment) is no more than 3 cubic feet in volume.

3. All other wireless equipment associated with the structure (including wireless equipment associated with the antenna and any pre-existing associated equipment on the structure) is no more than 28 cubic feet in volume.

4. The facilities do not require antenna structure registration under 47 C.F.R. Part 17.

5. The facilities are not located on Tribal lands, as defined under 36 C.F.R. § 800.16(x).

6. The facilities do not result in human exposure to radio frequency in excess of the applicable safety standards specified in 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307(b).

D. Review. The Community Development Director shall review and may approve an applicant's request for deviation to the minimum extent required to address the applicant's needs or facilitate a superior design.