

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT  
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

A notice, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code 21,000, et seq.), that the following project: AT&T cell facility, when adopted and implemented, will not have a significant impact on the environment.

FILE NO.: PLN2022-00032

OWNER: Montara Water and Sanitary District

APPLICANT: AT&T Mobility/Pam Nobel

NAME OF PERSON UNDERTAKING THE PROJECT OR RECEIVING THE PROJECT APPROVAL (IF DIFFERENT FROM APPLICANT): Same

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO.: 036-180-030

LOCATION: Alta Vista Road (adjacent to an existing Montara Water and Sanitary District water tank) north of 775 Alta Vista Road) unincorporated Montara area of San Mateo County

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The applicant is seeking a Coastal Development Permit, Resource Management-Coastal Zone Permit, Use Permit, Design Review, and Grading Permit to construct a new 75-foot tall monopole with nine (9) antennas at the top of the pole, on a parcel developed with a water tank that is owned by Montara Water and Sanitary District. The subject parcel is accessed from Alta Vista Road. The facility will consist of one 75-foot tall monopole to be erected on a new 441 sq. ft. concrete pad. The equipment area will include a diesel generator, battery back-up unit, plant rack, hvac and global positioning system (gps), and will be enclosed by an 8-ft. tall chain link fence with privacy slats. The proposed facility will be accessed by an existing 12-foot wide gravel road which will require grading to locate telco underground within the road. The cellular facility electrical power will come from a nearby existing electrical vault. The facility will require minor trenching to install and connect to underground telco power within the Alta Vista Road right-of-way. The grading work proposed is 646 cubic yards (c.y.), 343 c.y. of cut and 303 c.y. of fill). The cellular facility equipment area will be located approximately 13 feet north of the existing Montara Water and Sanitary District water tank. The proposed facility is located off of Alta Vista Road in the unincorporated Montara area of San Mateo County. The Coastal Development Permit is appealable to the California Coastal Commission.

**FINDINGS AND BASIS FOR A NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

The Current Planning Section has reviewed the initial study for the project and, based upon substantial evidence in the record, finds that:

1. The project will not adversely affect water or air quality or increase noise levels substantially.
2. The project will not have adverse impacts on the flora or fauna of the area.
3. The project will not degrade the aesthetic quality of the area.
4. The project will not have adverse impacts on traffic or land use.
5. In addition, the project will not:
  - a. Create impacts which have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment.
  - b. Create impacts which achieve short-term to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
  - c. Create impacts for a project which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
  - d. Create environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The County of San Mateo has, therefore, determined that the environmental impact of the project is insignificant.

MITIGATION MEASURES included in the project to avoid potentially significant effects:

**Mitigation Measure 1:** The monopole and antennas are conditioned to be painted a light gray color to blend with the sky. No materials used for installation shall be reflective or painted a reflective color.

**Mitigation Measure 2:** The applicant shall require construction contractors to implement all the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Basic Construction Mitigation Measures, listed below:

- a. All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.
- b. All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
- c. All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- d. All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.

- e. All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- f. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturers' specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
- g. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California Airborne Toxics Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR)). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
- h. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

**Mitigation Measure 3:** In the event that cultural, paleontological, or archaeological resources are encountered during site grading or other site work, such work shall immediately be halted in the area of discovery and the project sponsor shall immediately notify the Community Development Director of the discovery. The applicant shall be required to retain the services of a qualified archaeologist for the purpose of recording, protecting, or curating the discovery as appropriate. The cost of the qualified archaeologist and of any recording, protecting, or curating shall be borne solely by the project sponsor. The archaeologist shall be required to submit to the Community Development Director for review and approval a report of the findings and methods of curation or protection of the resources. In addition, an archaeological report meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards detailing the findings of the monitoring will be submitted to the Northwest Information Center after monitoring has ceased. No further grading or site work within the area of discovery shall be allowed until the preceding has occurred.

**Mitigation Measure 4:** If a newly discovered resource is, or is suspected to be, Native American in origin, the resource shall be treated as a significant Tribal Cultural Resource, pursuant to Public Resources Code 21074, until the County has determined otherwise with the consultation of a qualified archaeologist and local tribal representative.

**Mitigation Measure 5:** In the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains during project construction, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains. The applicant shall then immediately notify the County Coroner's Office and possibly the State Native American Heritage Commission to seek recommendations from a Most Likely Descendant (Tribal Contact) before any further action at the location of the find can proceed. All contractors and sub-contractors shall be made aware of these requirements and shall adhere to all applicable laws including State Cultural Preservation laws. Disposition of Native American remains shall comply with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e).

**Mitigation Measure 6:** Prior to commencement of the project, the application shall submit to the Planning Department for review and approval, an erosion and drainage control plan that shows how the transport and discharge of soil and pollutant from and within the project site shall

be minimized. The plan shall be designed to minimize potential sources of sediment, control the amount of runoff and its ability to carry sediment by diverting incoming flows and impeding internally generated flows, and retain sediment that is picked up on the project site through the use of sediment capturing devices. The plan shall limit application, generation, and migration of toxic substances, ensure the proper storage and disposal of toxic materials, and apply nutrients at rates necessary to establish and maintain vegetation without causing significant nutrient runoff to surface waters. Said plans shall adhere to the San Mateo County Wide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program "General Construction and Site Guidelines," including:

- a. Delineation with field markers of clearing limits, easements, setbacks, sensitive or critical areas, buffer zones, trees, and drainage courses within the vicinity of areas to be disturbed by construction and/or grading.
- b. Protection of adjacent properties and undisturbed areas from construction impacts using vegetative buffer strips, sediment barriers or filters, dikes, mulching, or other measures as appropriate.
- c. Performing clearing and earthmoving activities only during dry weather.
- d. Stabilization of all denuded areas and maintenance of erosion control measures continuously between October 1 and April 30.
- e. Storage, handling, and disposal of construction materials and wastes properly, so as to prevent their contact with stormwater.
- f. Control and prevention of the discharge of all potential pollutants, including pavement cutting wastes, paints, concrete, petroleum products, chemicals, wash water or sediments, and non-stormwater discharges to storm drains and watercourses.
- g. Use of sediment controls or filtration to remove sediment when dewatering site and obtain all necessary permits.
- h. Avoiding cleaning, fueling, or maintaining vehicles on-site, except in a designated area where wash water is contained and treated.
- i. Limiting and timing application of pesticides and fertilizers to prevent polluted runoff.
- j. Limiting construction access routes and stabilization of designated access points.
- k. Avoiding tracking dirt or other materials off-site; cleaning off-site paved areas and sidewalks using dry sweeping methods.
- l. Training and providing instruction to all employees and subcontractors regarding the Watershed Protection Maintenance Standards and construction Best Management Practices
- m. Additional Best Management Practices in addition to those shown on the plans may be required by the Building Inspector to maintain effective stormwater management during construction activities. Any water leaving the site shall be clear and running slowly at all times.
- n. Failure to install or maintain these measures will result in stoppage of construction until the corrections have been made and fees paid for staff enforcement time.

**Mitigation Measure 7:** In the event that tribal cultural resources are inadvertently discovered during project implementation, all work shall cease until a qualified professional can evaluate the find and recommend appropriate measures to avoid and preserve the resources in place or minimize adverse impacts to the resource. Those measures shall be approved by the County Planning Department prior to implementation and prior to continuing any work associated with the project.

**Mitigation Measure 8:** Any inadvertently discovered tribal cultural resources shall be treated with culturally appropriate dignity taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource, protecting the traditional use of the resource, and protecting the confidentiality of the resource.

### RESPONSIBLE AGENCY CONSULTATION

San Mateo County.

### INITIAL STUDY

The San Mateo County Current Planning Section has reviewed the Environmental Evaluation of this project and has found that the probable environmental impacts are insignificant. A copy of the initial study is attached.

**REVIEW PERIOD:** January 25, 2023 to February 13, 2023.

All comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of this Negative Declaration must be received by the County Planning and Building Department, 455 County Center, Second Floor, Redwood City, no later than **5:00 p.m., February 13, 2023.**

### CONTACT PERSON

Olivia Boo, Project Planner,  
PLN2022-00032, oboo@smcgov.org

*Olivia Boo*

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Olivia Boo, Project Planner

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