# Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Plymouth West Relo Facility 55 Keegan Road Plymouth, Connecticut

# Site Search Summary

Section 16-50j-74(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires the submission of a statement that describes "the narrowing process by which other possible sites were considered and eliminated." In accordance with this requirement, descriptions of the general site search process, the identification of the applicable search area and the alternative locations considered for development of the proposed Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Cellco") telecommunications facility in Plymouth are provided below.

### Site Search Process

Cellco currently owns and operates a wireless telecommunications facility on property at 42 South Street in Plymouth, Connecticut. The existing Cellco facility consists of a 180-foot monopole tower and associated equipment cabinets and shelters inside a fenced facility compound. The existing tower is being shared by Cellco, with antennas at the 175-foot level and Metro PCS with antennas at the 156-foot level. AT&T has expressed an interest in sharing the existing tower and the proposed replacement tower. Cellco's search for a replacement facility in the area commenced in 2013. (See attached Site Search Map).

Similar to the search for a new tower site, the site search process for a new Plymouth West facility started with the establishment of a site "search ring" or "search area". Cellco initially searched for existing towers and other sufficiently tall structures within and near the site search area and found none.

Excluding its existing cell site at the 42 South Street, Cellco maintains four (4) existing telecommunications facilities within approximately three (3) miles of the proposed cell site that will directly interact with the new Plymouth West Relo Facility. Information regarding these existing facilities is provided below.

## Existing Cellco Telecommunication Facilities

	Owner (Cellco Site Name)	Facility <u>Height and Type</u>	Location	Cellco Antenna Height
1.	SBA (Thomaston South)	160' Monopole	170 Mt. Tobe Road Plymouth, CT	137'
2.	Crown Castle (Thomaston Center)	175' Monopole	580 Chapel Street Thomaston, CT	152'
3.	Crown Castle (Plymouth)	170' Monopole	171 Town Hill Road Plymouth, CT	135'

	Owner (Cellco Site Name)	Facility <u>Height and Type</u>	Location	Cellco <u>Antenna Height</u>
4.	SBA (Plymouth NW)	195' Monopole	297 North Street Plymouth, CT	165'

If existing towers or structures are not available or technically feasible, other locations are investigated where the construction of a new tower is required to satisfy Cellco's wireless service objectives. The list of available locations may be further reduced if, after preliminary negotiations, the property owners withdraw a site from further consideration. From among the remaining locations, the proposed sites are selected by eliminating those that have greater potential for adverse environmental effects and fewer benefits to the public (i.e., those requiring taller towers, possibly with lights; those with substantial adverse environmental impacts, or in densely populated residential areas; and those with limited ability to share space with other public or private telecommunications service providers). It should be noted that in any given site search, the weight afforded to factors considered in the selection process will vary depending upon the availability and nature of sites within the search area.

# Identification of the Plymouth West Relo Search Area

The purpose of the proposed Plymouth West Relo Facility is to provide reliable wireless service to portions of Route 262, local roads, residential and commercial areas in western portions of Plymouth, comparable to that which Cellco currently provides from its 42 South Road cell site.

Cellco's site search effort included public and/or private lands within or near the designated search areas and extended to areas outside the identified search ring when acceptable alternatives could not be identified.

### Sites Investigated

Cellco identified and investigated a total of four (4) sites in or near the designated search area. A listing of the sites investigated is provided below.

- 1. <u>55 Keegan Road, Plymouth, CT</u>: Cellco entered into a lease agreement with Steven A. Westall for a new tower site in the northeasterly portion of this 20.4 acre parcel.
- 2. <u>80 Keegan Road, Plymouth, CT</u>: This parcel is located approximately ½ mile south of the proposed cell site location at 55 Keegan Road. A majority of this parcel is open pasture land and contains two (2) large ponds. A tower at this site would be significantly more visible than the tower on the 55 Keegan Road parcel.
- 3. <u>Keegan Road, Plymouth, CT</u>: This is a 5.1 acre parcel, identified on Town records as Parcel # 00012070, was investigated. Access to this parcel was determined to be too difficult to warrant further consideration.

4. <u>Mattatuck State Park</u>: A significant portion of the identified search area is located within the Mattatuck State Park. The use of State Park land for the siting of telecommunications towers is not permitted.

