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DETAILED SITE PLAN

DSP-03066

Application	General Data
Project Name: Reza Auto Body—Monopole Location: Southwest quadrant of the intersection of Martin Luther King Highway (MD 704) and I-95 Applicant/Address: Sprint/APC Realty and Equipment Company, LLC James Michael and Syeda Naqvi Jackson & Campbell, P.C. 1120 20 th Street, NW, Suite 300S Washington, D.C. 20036	Date Accepted: 12/22/03
	Planning Board Action Limit: Waived
	Plan Acreage: .6120
	Zone: C-M
	Dwelling Units: NA
	Square Footage: 55
	Planning Area: 72
	Council District: 5
	Municipality: NA
	200-Scale Base Map: 205NE08

Purpose of Application	Notice Dates
Installation of a monopole for use as a telecommunications facility.	Adjoining Property Owners Previous Parties of Record Registered Associations: 01/04/05 (CB-1-2004)
	Sign(s) Posted on Site: 12/21/04

Staff Recommendation		Staff Reviewer: Ruth Grover	
APPROVAL	APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS	DISAPPROVAL	DISCUSSION
	X		

January 6, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Prince George's County Planning Board

VIA: Steve Adams, Urban Design Supervisor

FROM: Ruth Grover, Urban Design Section, Development Review Division

SUBJECT: Detailed Site Plan, DSP-03066
Reza Auto Body

The Urban Design staff has reviewed the Detailed Site Plan for the subject property and presents the following evaluation and findings leading to a recommendation of APPROVAL with conditions as described in the recommendation section of this report.

EVALUATION

The Detailed Site Plan was reviewed and evaluated for conformance with the following criteria:

- a. The requirements of Council Resolution CR-57-1993.
- b. The requirements of the Zoning Ordinance in the C-M Zone.
- c. The requirements of the *Landscape Manual*.
- d. The requirements of the Prince George's County Woodland Conservation Ordinance.
- e. Referral comments.

FINDINGS

Based upon the analysis of the subject application, the Urban Design staff recommends the following findings:

1. **Request:** The subject application requests permission to install a monopole on the subject property for use as a telecommunications facility.
2. **Development Data Summary**

	EXISTING	PROPOSED
Zone	C-M	C-M
Use(s)	Auto-body Shop	Telecommunications Facility/ Auto-body Shop
Lots	3	3
Parcels	None	None
Building Square Footage/GFA	3,562	3,617

3. **Location:** The site is in Planning Area 72, Council District 5. More specifically, it is located in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of Martin Luther King Highway (MD 704) and I-95.
4. **Surroundings and Use:** The land use in the immediate vicinity of the subject site includes industrial use to the north, I-95 and portions of Springdale Gardens residential subdivision to the east, a Baptist Church to the south, and gas stations to the west.
5. **Previous Approvals:** CB-57-1933, adopted July 27, 1993, requires for the “Beltway Tract” that “site plan review shall address, among other things, unified access and circulation, views from the Beltway and Maryland 704, signs and building materials and compatibility with residential and institutional uses to the south and east.”
6. **Design Features:** The proposed monopole and its ancillary equipment box are proposed to be located in a 50-foot by 50-foot compound in the extreme southeastern corner of the site. A seven-foot tall, board-on-board fence will surround the compound. The monopole will measure 150 feet tall and will accommodate a minimum of three operators. The pole will not be lit and will be constructed of galvanized steel material so as to best blend in with its surroundings.

The antenna design of monopole telecommunication towers falls into three general categories. The first, platform antennas, are the most visually intrusive as they have antennas that extend out on a platform from the monopole itself. The second general category is flush-mounted antennas, where they are external to the tower, but mounted “flush” to the tower. The third type, recommended by staff in the subject application, is called “stealth design.” The antennas on stealth towers are internal to the monopole, not visible on its exterior and are the least visually intrusive monopole tower design.

COMPLIANCE WITH EVALUATION CRITERIA

7. **Zoning Ordinance:** The proposed project generally complies with the purposes stated in Section 27-459 (p.442) of the Zoning Ordinance for the C-M Zone (Commercial Miscellaneous). The Table of Uses I specifies a “tower, pole or antenna” as a permitted use in the C-M Zone. The subject property also complies with Section 27-462, regulations applicable in the C-M Zone. The subject application is in accordance with Division 5, Section 27-464.03, Wireless Telecommunications Facilities, except the plans need to be certified by a registered engineer that the structure will meet applicable standards for the wind load standards of the Electronic Industries Association for Prince George’s County.
8. **Landscape Manual:** The proposed development meets the requirements of the *Landscape Manual*.
9. **Woodland Conservation Ordinance:** The Environmental Planning Section has stated that the site is exempt from the requirements of the Woodland Conservation Ordinance because the property is less than 40,000 square feet in size, contains less than 10,000 square feet of woodland, and does not have a previously approved tree conservation plan. Furthermore, since the site plan submitted and an examination of air photos confirm that no classifiable forest exists on the property, a tree conservation plan is not required.
10. **Referral Comments:** The subject application was referred to the concerned agencies and divisions. The referral comments are summarized as follows:

- a. **Historic Preservation Planning Section**—In comments made December 24, 2003, the Historic Preservation Planning Section stated that the proposed project would have no effect on historic resources.
- b. **Community Planning Section**—The Community Planning Section stated that though the proposed application is not inconsistent with the 2002 General Plan Development Pattern policies for the Developed Tier and conforms to the land use recommendation of the 1993 approved master plan and sectional map amendment for Landover and vicinity (Planning Area 72), the project is also subject to District Council's approval of the 1993 SMA for the Landover and vicinity master plan. That plan specifically noted that, because of the site's location adjacent to the Capital Beltway and near the entrance to the Town of Glenarden, Detailed Site Plan approval by the District Council would be required for all phases of the development. Furthermore, it was stipulated that site plan review shall address, among other things, unified access and circulation, views from the Beltway and MD 704, signs and building materials, and compatibility with residential and institutional uses to the south and east. Staff is recommending stealth monopole design, the least visually intrusive of all monopole antenna designs, so that visual impacts from the Beltway and MD 704 are minimized and compatibility with residential and institutional uses is maximized.
- c. **Transportation Planning Section**—In comments offered January 26, 2004, the Transportation Planning Section stated that they had no objection to the location of the proposed monopole.
- d. **Subdivision Section**—In their initial comments dated January 14, 2004, the Subdivision Section noted a purported but unsubstantiated abandonment of right-of-way, the apparent lack of access to Lots 1, 2 and part of Lot 3, Block L, and the lack of congruity between the site plan and the record plat. In subsequent comments dated October 11, 2004, however, the Subdivision Section stated that, since recordation of the plat occurred prior to 1908, the roads were not dedicated, they were simply reserved. Therefore, a filing of a consolidation plat for the existing lots and street area would be required rather than a vacation of "platted" rights-of-way, together with a letter of consent from DPW&T. Such a condition has been included in the recommended conditions below.
- e. **Permit Review Section**—In a memorandum dated December 31, 2003, the Permit Review Section made numerous comments and suggestions regarding the proposed project. All concerns have either been addressed through revisions to the plans or in the recommended conditions below.
- f. **Environmental Planning Section**—The Environmental Planning Section, in a memorandum dated January 12, 2003, stated that the site is exempt from the requirements of the Woodland Conservation Ordinance and that a tree conservation plan is not required. They suggested that the applicant request and obtain a standard letter of exemption from the Environmental Planning Section, required prior to the issuance of any permit. Additionally, they noted that the applicant must submit a stormwater management concept approval letter and concept plan before certification of the detailed site plan. Please note that the required letter of exemption granting a standard exemption for the proposed project from the Prince George's County Woodland Conservation Ordinance, dated November 6, 2003, has been received and made part of the case file.

- g. **State Highway Administration**—In a letter dated December 31, 2003, the State Highway Administration stated that the commercial driveway currently on the site would adequately serve existing and future uses. Therefore, the State Highway Administration has no objection to Detailed Site Plan DSP-03066 approval.
 - h. **Department of Environmental Resources**—In comments received January 12, 2004, the Department of Environmental Resources stated that the site plan for Reza Auto Body, DSP-03066, is consistent with approved stormwater concept plan #17291-2003.
 - i. **Department of Public Works and Transportation**—At the time of the writing of this report, staff has not received a referral response from the Department of Public Works and Transportation.
 - j. **The City of Glenarden**—In a letter dated March 3, 2004, the City of Glenarden stated that it is opposed to the proposed tower because of safety considerations and that it and the residents were not fully informed of various aspects of the tower and because the city believes that Reza Auto is in violation regarding land use and access to the subject site.
12. The detailed site plan represents a reasonable alternative for satisfying the site design guidelines of Subtitle 27, Part 3, Division 9, of the Prince George’s County Code without requiring unreasonable cost and without detracting substantially from the utility of the proposed development for its intended use pursuant to Section 27-285(b)(1).

RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the foregoing evaluation and analysis, the Urban Design staff recommends that the Planning Board adopt the findings of this report and APPROVE Detailed Site Plan DSP-03066, Reza Auto Body—Monopole, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Prior to certificate approval of this detailed site plan, the applicant shall:
 - a. Have the plan certified by a registered engineer that the structure will meet applicable standards for wind loads of the Electronic Industries Association for Prince George’s County.
 - b. The applicant shall add a note to the plans that tower design shall be of a “stealth tower.”
- 2. Prior to the issuance of any permits, the applicant shall record a final plat of subdivision, for which no preliminary plan is required, to consolidate Lots 1-3 and Lot 16 and part of Brightseat Road into one parcel.