

April 21, 2021

Planning Commission
City of Rapid City
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Re: Verizon Wireless Major Amendment to a Planned Development Overlay
Loftus Dental Property at 5615 Nugget Gulch Road
(Verizon Ref. RCY SW Rapid City)

To the Members of the Rapid City Planning Commission:

The Verizon Wireless coverage in the area of the proposed SW Rapid site is currently inadequate to provide the quality service wireless users expect and demand. When the wireless signal is inadequate users will experience low data throughput, resulting in device applications not working properly, poor audio quality, dropped calls, and the inability to place or receive calls. This is especially troublesome as the majority of Emergency 911 calls are placed on wireless devices. The addition of the SW Rapid proposed site will help to close these service gaps in the area.

In addition to the challenges mentioned, in the area surrounding the proposed SW Rapid City site near Catron Blvd. and Sheridan Lake Road, the current coverage is from existing sites several miles away. This creates coverage and capacity challenges to these adjacent sites requiring them to provide service to a much larger area and many more users than the sites are designed for, resulting in the exhaust of radio resources at these sites. The maximum number of active users that can be supported by a single site is limited and over-extending a sites service area results in inadequate service to all users, even those within close range of the existing sites.

Figure 1 below depicts the existing RF coverage in southwestern Rapid City. Red shading on the plot shows areas in which coverage challenges can be present in buildings and in vehicles. Gray shading on the plot shows areas in which coverage challenges can be present outdoor and coverage will be very limited indoor or in vehicle.

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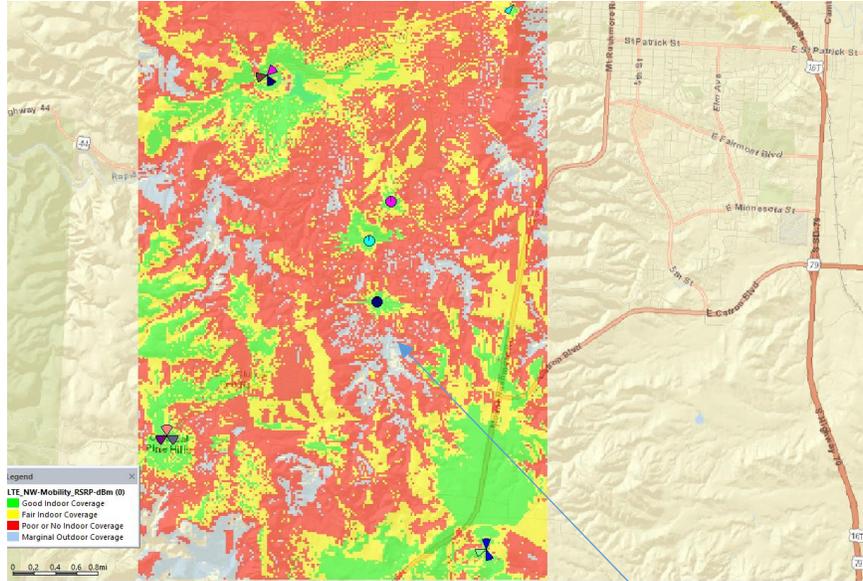


Figure 1

Location of Proposed site

The addition of the proposed SW Rapid site to the Verizon Network results in improved coverage for both indoor and outdoor users in the vicinity of the proposed Verizon site, depicted in Figure 2.

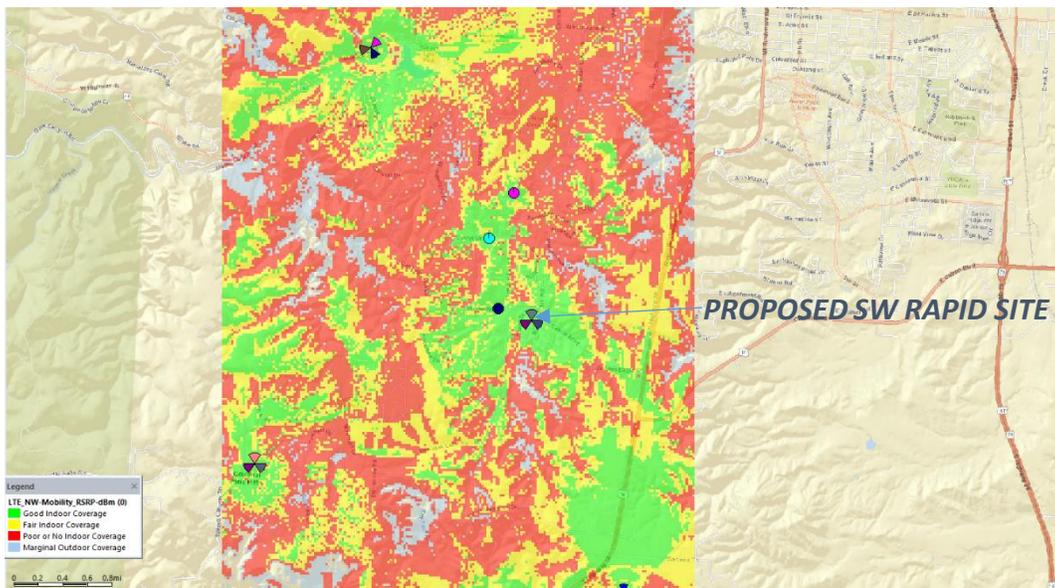


Figure 2

Yours sincerely,
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