

Community Association, Inc.

Firethorne Cell Tower Exploratory Committee:

Update & Recommendations

HOA Board Special Meeting

May 15, 2024

Firethorne Cell Tower Exploratory Committee:

Mission:

The <u>Cell Tower Exploratory Committee</u> (herein referred to as Committee) is hereby established by the Board of Directors of the Firethorne Community Association, Inc.

The purpose of the ad hoc Cell Tower Exploratory Committee is to assist the Association in determining how to improve cell service for all residents of Firethorne, either/both through the installation of additional facilities within the Firethorne community or in adjacent areas. If any facilities are proposed for construction, the Committee would assist the Association in negotiating with the provider(s) regarding proposed terms and would work with all local agencies with jurisdiction regarding land, access, and utilities for the facilities.

Goal:

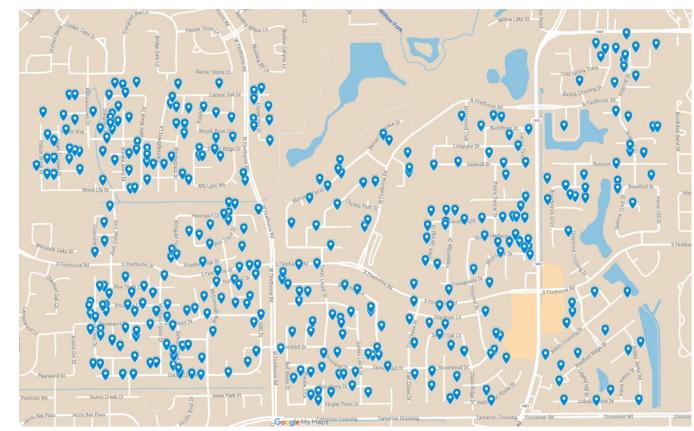
- Assess and quantify problem with cellular signal within Firethorne neighborhood
- Evaluate Pros/Cons of viable options.
- Provide recommendation to HOA board to improve cell service for making and receiving calls for all residents of Firethone.

Agenda:

- Current state and results of survey
- Summary Analysis
- Committee Recommendations

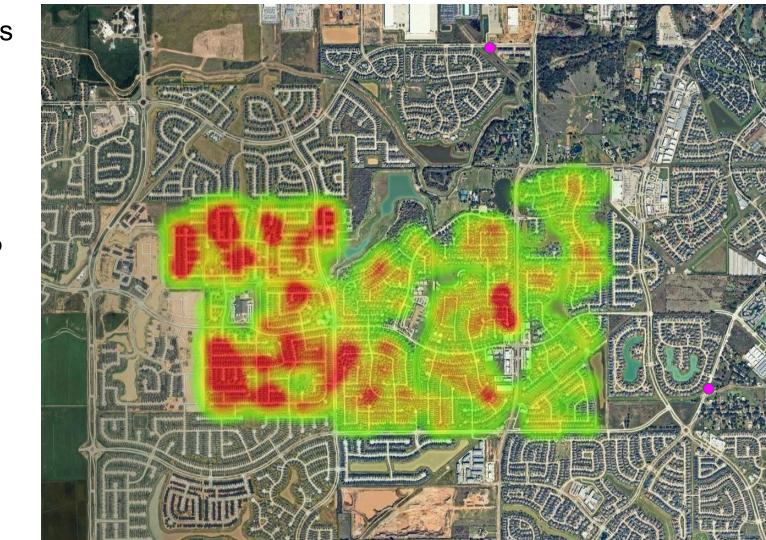
Firethorne Cell Survey - response locations (754 responses with good geographic coverage)

Verizon 48% ATT 36% T-mo 15%



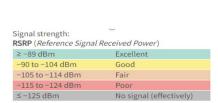
Survey Results Unable to Make calls:

Primarily
West-Firethorne
Reports no ability to
make calls (red).



RF Drive Testing

Confirms West-Firethorne significant issues





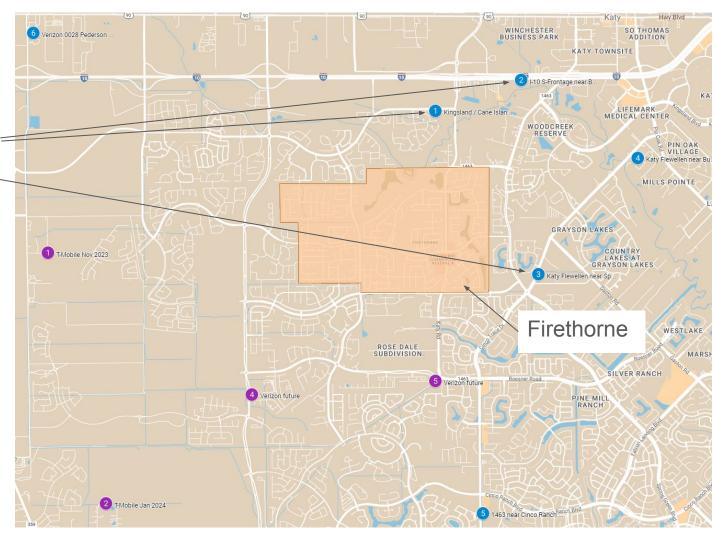
Current State

Primarily **TWO** towers servicing Firethorne (effectively)

- Tower 1(V+T) and 2 (Att)
- Tower 3 (V+T+Att) .

V=Verizon T=T-Mobile

Blue = existing towers Purple = proposed towers



Analysis of the Firethorne Cell Service Problem:

- The Committee considered:
 - consultations with RF engineering experts,
 - 2. carriers experts including at Verizon, ATT, and T-mobile,
 - Committee RF testing, and
 - Firethorne geolocation-associated survey
- The Committee Concluded:
 - Parts of Firethorne (West) Lack sufficient "coverage" (i.e., RF signal).
 - The rest of Firethorne has sufficient "coverage", but the two covering towers lack sufficient "capacity" to service the area resulting in apparent poor service.

This conclusion is supported by technical RF maps and committee GPS-associated spot checks.

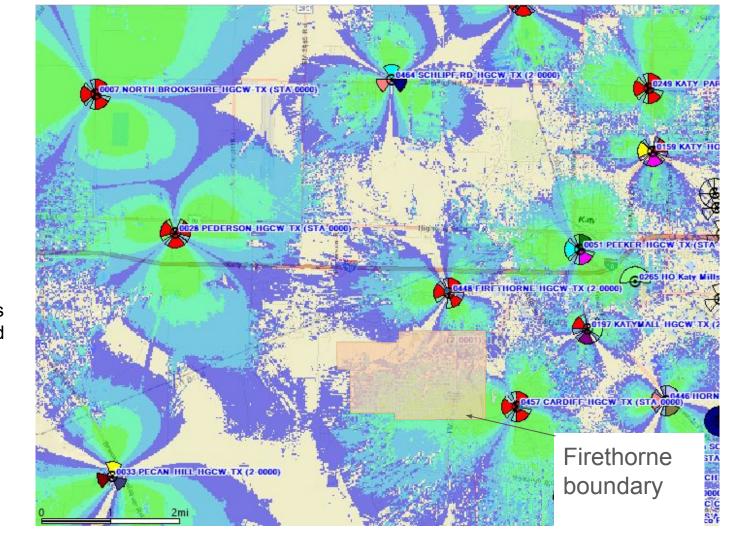
Firethorne Cell Tower Exploratory Committee Recommendations:

- Proposed solution from cellular vendor
- Macro-Cell / Tower Pros/Cons
- Small Cell Solution
- Timeline
- Recommendation

RF Engineer Maps:

East Firethorne is primarily within 1 mile of a macro-tower and has sufficient RF.

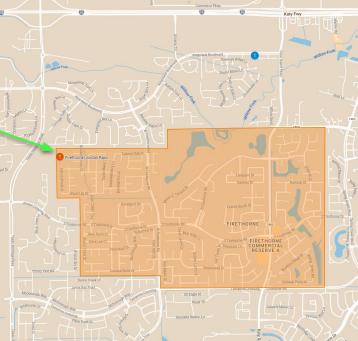
Parts of West Firethorne are > 2 miles from a macro-tower and lack sufficient RF.



Formal Proposal with Lease Agreement for Firethorne

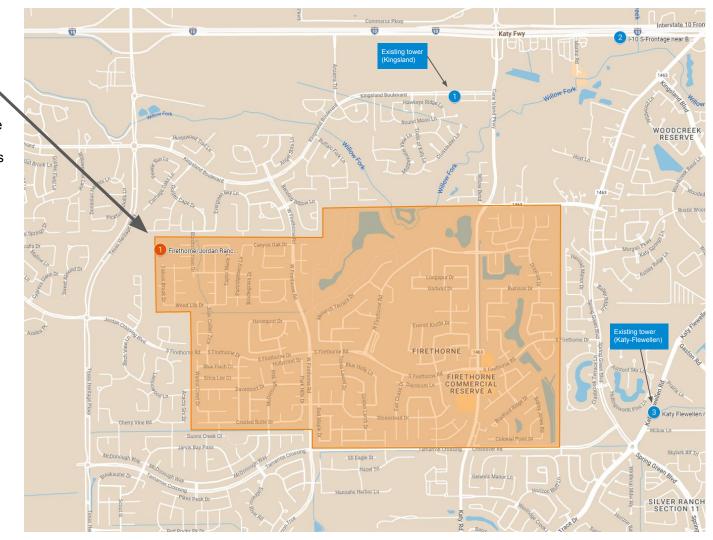


Site Name = "Jordan Ranch" macro tower

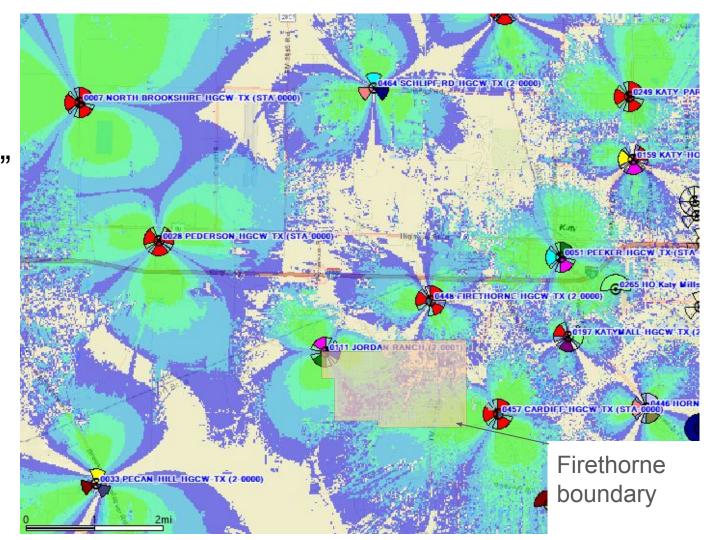


Proposed Site in NW part of Firethorne

- Calculated to fully cover Firethorne by Verizon RF engineers
- Highly attractive location to carriers
 - o All 3 interested
 - Best Equipment
- Minimal overlap / penalty-score due to position relative to existing towers.



Area RF Maps
With proposed
Firethorne
"Jordan Ranch"
Macro-Tower:



Area RF Maps
With proposed
Firethorne
"Jordan Ranch"
Macro-Tower:

SCHLIPF RD HGCW TX (2 0000 NORTH BROOKSHIRE HGCW-TX (STA 0000 PEDERSON HGCW TX (STA 000 PEEKER HGCW TX (ST/ CLAST IRETHORNE HECW THEMARKED Firethorne 3 PECAN HILL HGCW-TX (2 0000) boundary

Green ring = 1.5 miles = optimal RF range

Existing towers with new Firethorne site provide sufficient coverage and capacity for all of Firethorne.

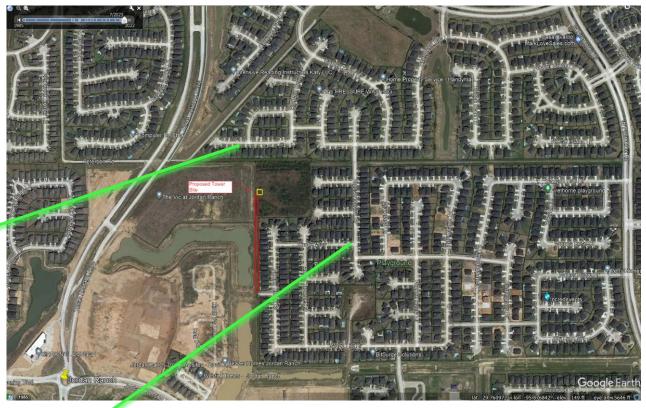
The proposed additional tower reduces usage of existing towers Kingsland and Katy-Flewellen such that capacity is increased due to shared load.

Existing -Kingsland LIFEMARK Kingsland / Cane Islan WOODCREEK RESERVE New MILLS POI 6 Proposed VH Firethorne GRAYSON LAKES FIRETHORNE RETHORNE Katy Flewellen near Sp. Existing -SILVER Katy-Flewellen ROSE DALE SUBDIVISION 5 Verizon future 4 Verizon future PINE MILI RANCH

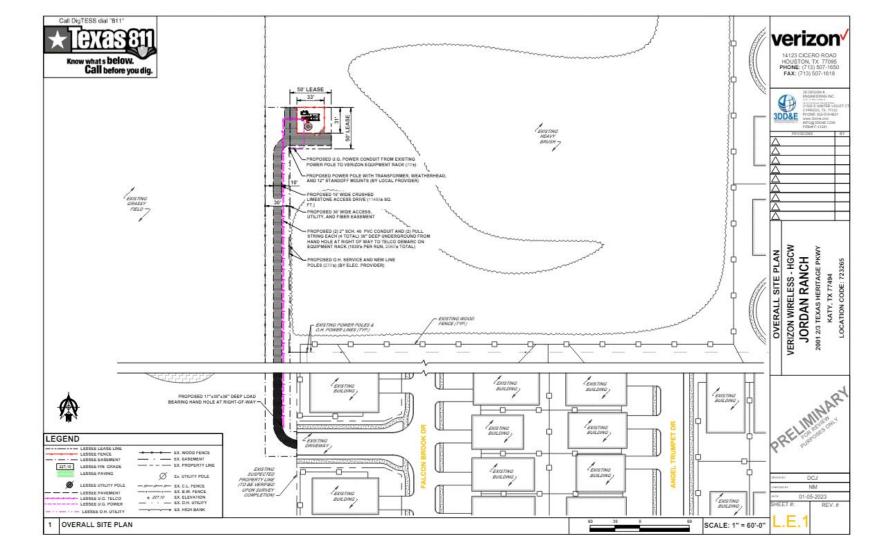
Green ring = 1.5 miles = optimal RF range

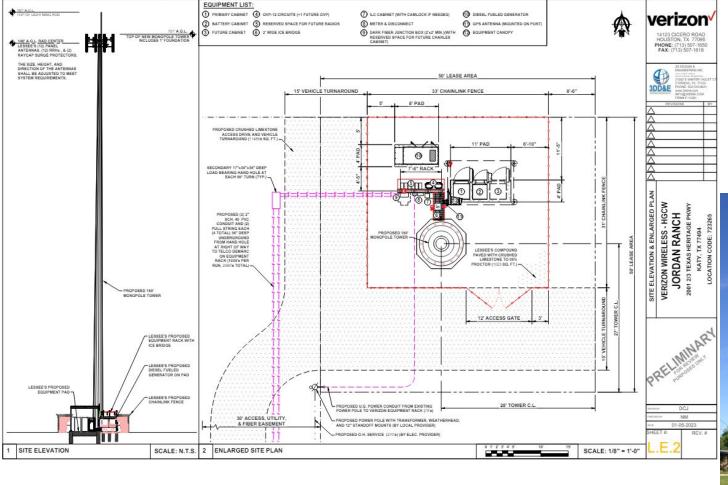
Closest
Firethorne
homes are
~ 300 ft. from
tower.





Orange = 300 ft







Macro-Cell / Tower - Pros/Cons

Pros

- Accommodates all of Verizon, ATT, and T-Mobile.
- Solves current Capacity and Coverage issues identified.
- Potentially generates nominal revenue \$1000/month.

Cons

- Requires lease agreement (5 year plus 5x5-year extensions).
- Requires replatting potential protests.
- Potential negative impact to Firethorne residents adjacent to site.







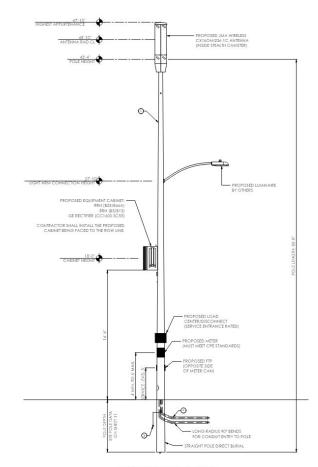
Small Cells

- Already permitted in Firethorne
- Readily installable in Right-of-ways
- No replatting required



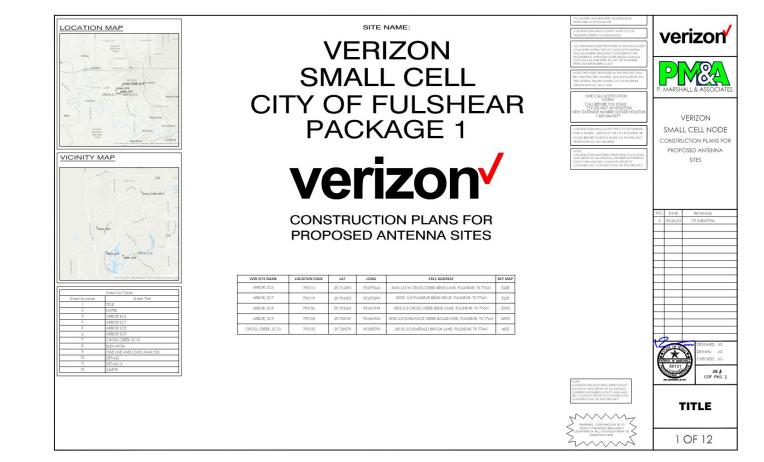






ELEVATION VIEW CPE LIGHT POLE

Small Cell - multiple packages submitted to FBC for approval.

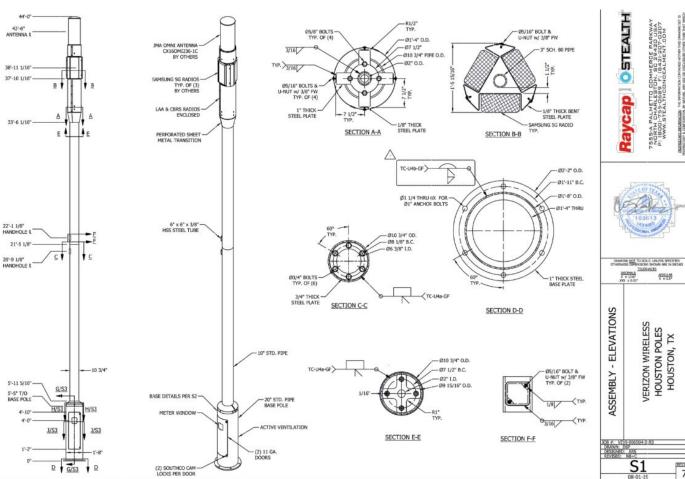


Permitted and FBC approved packages in Firethorne:



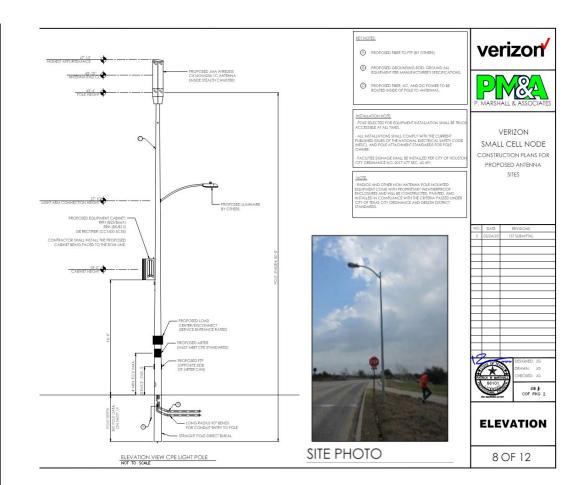
Self Contained Small Cell (Raycap Stealth - 4G+5G+CBRS/LAA)



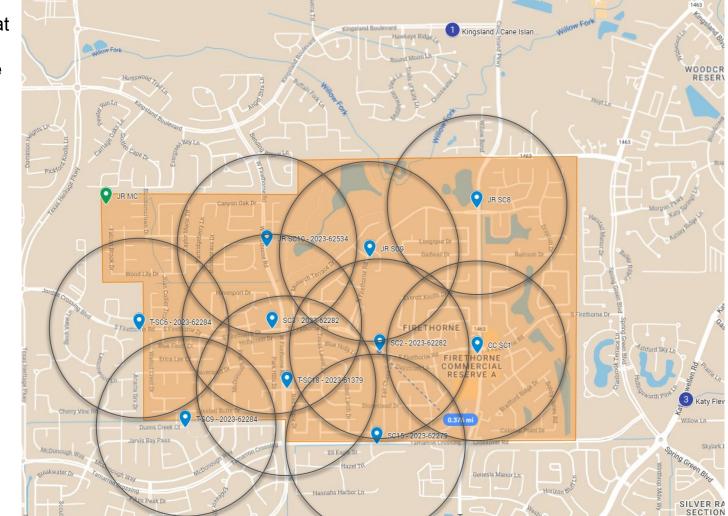


Firethorne Light Pole installations





Verizon Small Cell towers at proposed sites provides nearly **complete coverage** of Firethorne without an additional macro tower:



Black ring = 2000 ft (SC min range)

Combination Solution:

- Small Cells
- Macro Towers

Optimal Coverage + guaranteed multi-carrier

Kingsland Boulevard 1 Kingsland / Cane Islan WOODCR New Macro Tower JR SC8 0-2023-62534 T-SC6 - 2023-62284 0 T-SC9 - 2023-62284 0.37 i m Willow Ln Jarvis Bay Pass ArcDonough Wa scakwater Dr Genesis Manor Ln ans Harbor Ln

Green ring = 1.5 miles
Black ring = 2000 ft (SC min range)

Timeline

Small Cells can begin install as early as end of June 2024 - already permitted with FBC.

 <u>Macro tower</u> at "Jordan Ranch" tentative construction end of 2024 and online beginning of 2025.

Committee Recommendation based on current information:

1) Allow Committee to complete negotiations with Verizon to install Firethorne small cells in right-of-way without delay to provide partial *immediate* solution.

2) **HOA Board Consider** approving Verizon proposed macro-tower lease at identified "Jordan Ranch" site *while facilitating small cell negotiations*.

3) Allow Committee to continue developing alternative backup locations/solutions to ensure efficient negotiations.