April 28, 2022

Ms. Anne Brockett
State Historic Preservation Office
District of Columbia
1100 4th Street, SW    Suite 650-E
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Antenna Upgrades by Verizon at the Department of Transportation

Dear Ms. Brockett:

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is working with Verizon to upgrade their antenna installation at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) building located at 1201 4th Street, SE. The DOT building is within proximity of the following historic resources, which comprise the Area of Potential Effect: the Washington Navy Yard Annex historic district, the Washington Navy Yard National Register and National Historic Landmark Historic Districts and the NR listed Main Sewerage Pumping Station. GSA has determined that the undertaking has the potential to have an indirect effect on the historic resources within the APE and is initiating Section 106 consultations in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.

The existing antenna configuration at the building consists of four antenna sectors located on the penthouse and lower roof for a total of (23) antennas.

**Existing Sector Configurations:**

- The Alpha sector consists of (5) antennas flush mounted to the north side of the penthouse wall and (1) antenna located on the northwest corner of the building
- The Beta sector consists of (5) antennas flush mounted to the east side of the penthouse wall and (1) antenna located at the northeast corner of the building and (2) dummy antennas located on the NE corner of the penthouse.
- The Gamma sector consists of (5) antennas flush mounted to the southeast corner of the penthouse wall and (1) remote antenna at the southeast corner of the building.
- The fourth sector consist of (1) temporary antenna located on the lower rooftop and (2) dummy antennas located on the southwest corner of the penthouse.

The proposed changes call for (16) antennas be removed and (9) antennas to be installed, retaining (7) of the existing antennas. There will be a reduction of (7) antennas overall with this proposed modification.
addition, (15) remote radio heads will be removed and (9) new remote radio heads will be installed for a reduction of (4) remote radio heads. The remote radio heads at the first and second sectors will be relocated closer to the antennas and placed within a new screened equipment frame to reduce visibility. With this proposal a reconfigured of the fourth sector known as Delta will be added to the building.

Propose Sector Configurations:

**Alpha Sector**

The alpha sector will have (3) antennas flush mounted to the north side of the penthouse wall. Remote radio heads and ancillary equipment will be mounted below the antennas in a new screened equipment frame. The (1) temporary outlier antenna on the northwest corner will be removed and replaced with (1) permanent antenna.

**Beta Sector**

The beta sector will have (3) flush mounted antennas mounted to the northeast corner of the penthouse wall. This sector is being relocated from the middle of the east side of the penthouse to the northeast corner of the penthouse. There are currently (2) dummy antennas to remain and be made operational on the northeast corner of the penthouse. The third antenna is being retained and relocated next to the existing dummy antennas. Remote radio heads and ancillary equipment will be mounted below the antennas in a new screened equipment frame. The (1) temporary outlier antenna on the northeast corner will be removed and replaced with (1) permanent antenna.

**Gamma Sector**

The gamma sector will have (3) antennas flush mounted to the southeast side of the penthouse wall. The (1) temporary outlier antenna on the southeast corner will be removed and replaced with (1) permanent antenna.

**Delta Sector**

The delta sector will have (1) new antennas that are flush mounted to the southwest side of the penthouse wall next to the (2) existing dummy antennas to remain. Remote radio heads and ancillary equipment will be mounted on the existing Verizon Wireless platform located within the penthouse. The (1) temporary outlier antenna on the southwest corner will be removed and replaced with (1) permanent antenna.

To minimize visibility the follow steps will be taken:

- The penthouse and lower roof antennas will be painted to match the building to minimizing visibility.
- The wall mounted antennas will not project above the top of the penthouse wall.
- The (4) lower roof antennas are a relatively small dimension to reduce visibility from the surrounding streetscape.
- Where mechanical attachments are required for the wall mounted antennas, care will be taken to locate anchors to minimize damage.
The enclosed project report includes the following: project narrative, roof plans, building elevations and photo-simulations. For the reasons stated above GSA has determined that the proposed upgrades will have no adverse effect on the resources within the APE. If you need clarification on any aspects of the proposal, please contact me at 202-841-3621 or at gary.porter@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Gary Porter

Gary Porter
Historic Preservation Specialist
National Capital Region

Enclosure

I hereby concur with the General Services Administration’s finding that the proposed antenna upgrades at the Department of Transportation building will have no adverse effect on the Washington Navy Yard Annex historic district, the Washington Navy Yard National Register and National Historic Landmark Historic Districts and the NR listed Main Sewerage Pumping Station.

_____________________________ Date 4/28/22 _____________________
Ms. Anne Brockett
Historic Preservation Office for the District of Columbia

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