

Site Search Summary
(Bloomfield Blue Hills)

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 telecommunications facility in Bloomfield are provided below.

Site Search Process

To initiate its site selection process in an area where a coverage or capacity problem has been identified, Cellco first establishes a “site search ring” or “site search area.” In any search ring or area, Cellco seeks to avoid the unnecessary proliferation of towers and to reduce the potential adverse environmental effects of the cell site, while at the same time maximizing the quality of service provided from a particular facility. These objectives are achieved by initially locating existing towers and other sufficiently tall structures within and near the site search area. If any are found, they are evaluated to determine whether they are capable of supporting Cellco's telecommunications equipment at a location and elevation that satisfies its technical requirements.

Cellco maintains five (5) existing communications facilities all located within approximately four (4) miles of the Bloomfield Blue Hills search area. These existing facilities, however, cannot provide the coverage or capacity relief needed in the identified problem areas, along Blue Hills Avenue (Route 187), Cottage Grove Road (Route 218) and local roads in the area. (See Attachment 6).

	<u>OWNER/OPERATOR</u>	<u>FACILITY TYPE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ANTENNA HEIGHT</u>
1.	Crown Atlantic Company	Monopole (140')	439-455 Homestead Avenue Hartford, CT	138'
2.	University of Hartford	Roof-top	200 Bloomfield Avenue Hartford, CT	57.5'
3.	Town of Bloomfield	Monopole (140')	785 Park Avenue Bloomfield, CT	109'
4.	SpectraSite	Monopole (150')	305 West Service Road Hartford, CT	115'
5.	Crown Atlantic Company	Monopole (100')	599 Mattianuck Avenue Windsor, CT	100'

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 provide adequate elevation to satisfy Cellco's requirements. 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 impacts on densely populated residential areas; and those with limited ability to share space with other public or private telecommunications entities). 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 Bloomfield Blue Hills Search Area

The purpose of the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills facility is to provide quality coverage for cellular and PCS coverage gaps or holes that have been identified in certain southeasterly portions of Bloomfield and northwesterly portions of the City of Hartford, particularly and primarily along the heavily-traveled Routes 187 and 218. The proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility will also provide additional traffic handling capacity in the Bloomfield-Hartford areas by off-loading traffic from Cellco's existing University of Hartford, Bloomfield 3, Windsor South, Hartford NW and Hartford North facilities. The coverage gaps were identified using best server propagation modeling.

The descriptions of the individual sites investigated, which are set forth below, include sites both inside and outside the Bloomfield Blue Hills search area that were analyzed and found to be technically unworkable. This is due either to the topography in the area or the overall distance from the investigated site to the search area.

Sites Investigated in the Bloomfield Area

In addition to the existing communications facilities listed above, Cellco identified and investigated sites in the southeasterly portion of Bloomfield and northwesterly portion of Hartford. These sites are described below.

Sites Investigated

1. 811 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield – Cellco investigated and ultimately signed a lease for the use of a portion of the property at the above address.
2. St. Francis Hospital - Alcohol and Drug Recovery Centers, Inc. – This is the former Mt. Sinai Hospital, a six (6) story medical building located at 500 Blue Hills Avenue in Hartford. This facility currently provides substance abuse treatment and supportive services. Cellco explored the installation of a roof-top facility at this location. After a thorough

investigation of options, this site owner decided that it was not interested in leasing space to Cellco for a telecommunications facility.

3. Oak Hill School – This is the site of the Oak Hill School and Connecticut School for the Blind at 120 Holcomb Avenue in Hartford. This site is approximately 1.2 miles south of the proposed site at 811 Blue Hills Avenue and could not provide the same coverage and capacity relief achieved at the proposed site location. In addition, the site owner was not interested in leasing space to Cellco for a telecommunications facility.
4. Blue Hills Fire Department – The Blue Hills Fire Department is located at 1021 Blue Hills Avenue approximately 0.65 miles north of the proposed cell site at 811 Blue Hills Avenue, and maintains an existing 125-foot lattice tower at its property. This site was rejected because there is currently no space available on the tower or on the ground around the tower for Cellco’s antennas and equipment.