

From: Linda Devers [mailto:lsdevers@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2019 11:24 AM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: AT&T TOWER at Peace Methodist Church

Mr. Ross,

I strongly object to the approval of this special use request for an AT&T tower in a residential neighborhood. It certainly will hurt the value of my properties in the view of **this unsightly structure**. The fact that they are trying to hide the thing says a lot about the reason to deny it. Also, the Federal Government should not be involved in our local Spotsylvania decisions.

Sincerely,

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Linda Devers

5011 Blake Drive

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Achive Manager Export

From: Alethia Dunn
To: David Ross
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]: Stop the AT&T Tower at Peace United Methodist Church
Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help.
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Sent: Sat, 24 Aug 2019 21:15:10 GMT

On Fri, Aug 23, 2019 at 7:20 PM, David Ross
<David.Ross@Spotsylvania.va.us> wrote:

Alethia,

My pleasure - hope we can put this to rest on 10 September.

Sincerely,

Dave

David Ross

Courtland Representative

Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors

Cell - 571.594.0814

Updates on County Business - www.facebook.com/Dave4Spotsy

From: Alethia Dunn [mailto:alethia_dunn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2019 1:06 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]: Stop the AT&T Tower at Peace United Methodist Church

I appreciate your hard work on this issue. Thank you

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Fri, Aug 16, 2019 at 12:34 PM, David Ross

<David.Ross@Spotsylvania.va.us> wrote:

Hi,

Thanks for your email. I'm working this issue for you - hopefully we will have resolution to deny this at second Tuesday in September board meeting.

Best,

Dave

David Ross

Courtland Representative

Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors

Cell - 571.594.0814

Updates on County Business - www.facebook.com/Dave4Spotsy

From: Alethia Dunn [mailto:alethia_dunn@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 5:34 PM

To: David Ross

Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Stop the AT&T Tower at Peace United Methodist Churh

It will cause home values to drop and cause cancer!

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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Archive Manager

Export

From: Roy Salinas
To: David Ross
CC: Melissa Salinas
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Cell Tower on Maple Grove

Sent: Wed, 07 Aug 2019 17:10:18 GMT

Hello David,
I hope you are doing well.

I am reaching out to you to let you know that the residences of the three communities in this neighborhood object to the tower being put in because of the health impact of the waves. Thus we would ask you to object to the rezoning; and to push/convince your fellow Council members to also vote against it.

There is a Day-Care right across the street from the intended location; children are the most at risk. Plus it would be in the middle of a residential neighborhood which has many children.

The microwaves from cell phone towers can interfere with your body's own EMFs, causing a variety of potential health problems, including: Headaches, Memory Loss, Cardiovascular Stress, Low Sperm Counts, Birth Defects, and Cancer!!!

David, we would appreciate your support in doing the right thing.

Thank you.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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From: Melissa Salinas <mellr7127@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 2:54 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Cell Tower on Maple Grove Road

Hello David,

I am also writing on behalf of neighbors in the area of the proposed cell tower.

Numerous studies have been conducted on the radiation that cell towers emit. The most harmful is to children, this tower will be placed within 400 feet of a church that has a preschool, and within 600 feet of a daycare. Not including the numerous children that live in the surrounding homes. There are roughly over 500 homes within 3000 feet of this tower, with an additional 100 homes being built attached to this neighborhood. Every single person will be driving by this tower on a daily basis receiving the radiation. Those living in the homes within 400 meters are the most at risk based on studies, side effects which include

- headaches
- insomnia
- dizziness
- irritability
- fatigue
- heart palpitations
- nausea
- loss of appetite
- feeling of discomfort
- loss of libido
- poor concentration
- memory loss
- neuropsychiatric problems

The World Health Organization has listed this RF radiation as a possible carcinogen, meaning possible cancer cause.

I highly recommend reading these studies.

<https://www.radiationhealthrisks.com/cell-phone-tower-radiation-harmful/>

https://www.eastcountymagazine.org/cell_phone_towers_238

<https://www.safespaceprotection.com/emf-health-risks/emf-health-effects/cell-towers/>

Here is an entire series of studies and reports about Cell Towers.

<https://www.safespaceprotection.com/resources/news-info/>

Just in April a school in California had numerous children get cancer, after a cell tower was installed at their school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psDrvMwbq48>

I am aware that the church will receive a monthly royalty from AT&T for the tower being on their property, does the county get a royalty as well? Are our government officials putting money above safety? The US has more relaxed regulations than any other country in regards to cell tower radiation. And Cell companies are using that to their advantage. I understand that it is the age of technology, but it's affecting us all. We should not allow known radiation to be put in our backyards. I don't believe you would choose to put known carcinogens in your home and expose your own family.

In addition to the radiation concerns, how will this affect house prices? I don't want to be stuck not able to sell my house because of a large cell tower in the beginning of our neighborhood or the worries people have about the health issues.

The safety of the children and members of the community is not worth the risk!

We expect our government officials to represent us and care about our safety!

Please hear us and stand up against this tower being installed.

Thank you,

Melissa Salinas

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From: Rebecca Bogan <n3thx@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 3:17 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: The proposed cell tower

Good afternoon!

I am one of the leads for the Nextdoor neighborhood app. I receive alerts on various posts.

I just wanted to make sure you were aware that the surrounding neighborhoods of Peace United Methodist Church are very concerned about the proposed cell tower.

We are concerned about health risks and property values. We are concerned about the children in the preschool being repeatedly exposed to the radiation. We do not believe this kind of tower should be in a residential area.

We would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping us with this matter.

Thank you!
Rebecca Bogan
Governors Green

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From: Elaine Morgan <elesu@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 8:44 AM
To: jbeals@freelancestar.com; David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Peace Methodist Church in Maple Grove and Cell Tower

Jonas Beals 540/368-5036 jbeals@freelancestar.com

Local News Editor

Dear Sir

I am unable to attend the public meeting being held at the Board of Supervisors, Meeting Room, 1st Floor, Holbert Building, 9104 Courthouse Road, Spotsylvania, Tuesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m.

However, we need for the Free Lance Star and WFLS to cover this event. And maybe a few television stations so other people will be aware of what is happening in Spotsylvania.

Peace United Methodist Church and AT&T once again wants to hold a public hearing for the construction of an AT&T 109 foot tall cell tower on the church property. Yes, this is a second time. The last was at the church with a lot of very volatile, unhappy neighbors and the move to the county building makes it a real inconvenience for the seniors and those that commute. Actually, the mood set by the representing county officials was that it was a done deal.

How is this possible?

Churches are not taxpayers.

They may receive a possibility of \$45,000 annually. How will that benefit those around this hideous eyesore?

There are children in their day care and the public day care on the edge of their property, not to mention the commercial property and homeowners that will be in range of unknown carcinogens.

This pine tree concept will look like the one at Zoan Church which everyone thinks is a joke.

What protection is there for the loss of property value for the local homeowners and many are retired because of the one level and two level smaller homes!

I live in Maple Grove; have for 47 years. My common directions are "pass Peace Methodist Church and make the next left". I suppose I will change that to "pass the phallic cell tower and make the next left."

I count cell towers at Chancellor, Harrison, Levells, Central Park, Cowan and Hudgins. Just how many do we need? Last time, the concern was for signals in the mall. Why do we residents care? And we weren't happy about proposals for one between the nursing home and Gander Mountain. Exposing elderly and day care children to unknown health concerns!

Maple Grove already suffers from cut through traffic, additional homes on the back in Avalon Woods, speeding and large trucks driving through. We need some publicity on this!

I made prior commitments which I cannot cancel in Richmond. What's to stop all churches from doing this? Does every other church get a cell phone tower?

If this is so safe and profitable; why don't we put them on school property and gain the profits for our children? We have a beautiful corner at Salem Elementary at the intersection of Salem Church and the road to the commuter lot. And look what the school could do with that unharmed suggestion!

Elaine Morgan

Maple Grove

540-786-2235

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This email was Malware checked by UTM 9. <http://www.sophos.com>

From: Paula Smith <ddmme8374@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 7:12 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Cell phone tower on Maple Grove Drive

David:

I have lived in my home on Maple Grove Drive for 21 years. I've been through the building of Governors Green and all that came with that. I signed the petition to have an additional \$250 added for those who use Maple Grove Drive a raceway. They are now building another subdivision behind Governors Green and I pray they never make a cut through to Salem Church Road or no child will have a chance to play outside.

Now as if that wasn't enough someone has decided to put a ugly fake 30 foot tower for all those people to drive distracted. We need to stop this. This neighborhood puts up with enough. Please please stop this from happening.

Paula Smith

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From: Mary Carr <tp_carr@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 10:54 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Proposed AT&T Cell Tower in Maple Grove Subdivision

David Ross
Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 99
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Dear Mr. Ross,

I am writing to protest the proposed 109 foot tall AT&T cell tower to be built on Peace United Methodist Church property. As a resident of Maple Grove subdivision who lives about 5 houses away from the church, I am very upset that the proposed site is in my residential neighborhood.

I understand the AT&T tower can hold up to 3 carriers on the pole and can make money by adding them. Peace United Methodist Church, which is tax-exempt, will receive monthly revenue from the carriers, possibly thousands of dollars a month. Unfortunately, the tax paying residents who live in the neighborhoods surrounding the church, are not seeing any benefit, but are worried about decreased property values, health concerns, and aesthetics.

Is there anything that the Board of Supervisors can do to stop this? Is this just between the Church and AT&T with no possibility to stop it from the Board or the residents of Maple Grove?

Please consider the impact of the proposed cell tower on your tax paying constituents in Maple Grove subdivision and deny AT&T the permit to build this tower.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Carr
3906 Norris Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
tp_carr@msn.com

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This email was Malware checked by UTM 9. <http://www.sophos.com>

From: Arthur Riles <neverriles@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2019 5:31 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]: Re: AT&T Telecom at Peace United Methodist

David,

I honestly appreciate your time and candid reply. This is an issue of course some AT&T users want due to poor reception, we all understand that. Its no doubt more antenna spaces on the tower will be leased out in the future to offset costs and justify the fears we have for looks and possible health risks. I don't feel a tower being placed in a residential area is the best place. There has to be better site and make this a win-win for all.

When it comes to children and the elderly, the placement of this tower tells me 'never take any unnecessary risks' and commercializing my neighborhood for AT&T's deep pockets, does not set well. They can put a tower anywhere...we all know that.

These are our homes and the well being we have are just as sacred as Peace Methodist Church.

Yesterday it seems it was a fight over Avalon Woods, now its a tower, what's next?

Its only common sense if past tower projects were moved due to aesthetics, why was Richard Thompson of Courtland the first to vote yes on this?

David you seem like a real leader and family man, we don't need a tower there and we need you to support us. I believe you will.

Virginia is supposed to administer tax laws with integrity and efficiency to fund government services for citizens. AT&T is a "for-profit" company and it seems the church engaging here possibly would cause the church to lose its "real estate tax exemption."

High Regards,

Art Riles

On Aug 13, 2019, at 15:46, David Ross <David.Ross@spotsylvania.va.us> wrote:

Art,

I called you back and left a message – I think Saturday morning. I'll see what I can do tonight.

I know that you have very important feelings about health and cell towers. I'm not discounting them but we have strict direction that legally, we can't use that as a reason for denying the project.

The County collects property taxes – and other than BPOL (which I'm trying to get rid of) which starts to tax a business at 1 million in revenue – the county does not have a revenue tax so this simply would not apply to the church.

I know the County makes every effort to first select property that the county owns for cell towers. During my time on the board I've successfully kept the cell tower on the water tower on Cherry Lane that was going to go to a church on 5 mile road – bringing direct rent to the county of 3.5K a month or so. I was also involved in getting Verizon to build a tower in our Harrison Road landfill area and I was a strong advocate for the latest proposal in your area about a year to two years ago to not have a cell tower in the back lot of where Texas Roadhouse is.

I do commute – daily. What I'm being told is that this is not a growth issue but a bandwidth issue. Spotsy has seen a healthy .9 of 1 percent growth after the recession. What is the main driver is that people are using their cells for more data than they have in the past. I have 6 children – I speak from experience – they stream movies – are on Instagram, Facebook – way more every year.

Hope this helps and I'll see what I can do tonight.

David Ross
Courtland Representative
Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors
Cell – 571.594.0814
Updates on County Business – www.facebook.com/Dave4Spotsy

From: Arthur Riles [<mailto:neverriles@comcast.net>]
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 7:50 PM
To: Debbie Williams
Cc: Chris Yakabouski; Travis Bullock; Jennifer Maddox; Gregg Newhouse; Howard Smith; Paulette Mann; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; David Ross; Gary Skinner; Thomas G. Benton; Paul D. Trampe
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Re: AT&T Telecom at Peace United Methodist

My apologies if this offended you or anyone, but it appears to me this church should lose its tax exempt status if its merging with a commercial enterprise. I want an explanation on that and if there would be any loss in revenue to the county by having it on a church status. By promoting this tower in a residential neighborhood has offended me by all of your actions in not caring about local citizens especially children's health. Your lack of planning in allowing more homes to be built and apartment complexes knowing there is not adequate transportation infrastructure to commute to the NCR jobs as it is, offends all of us and describes your abilities to plan area needs properly. Oh let me guess, none of you commute or live under a tower I assume. We need government officials that can make right decisions. I have no issues with a tower but put it outside of the neighborhood in a commercial district.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 12, 2019, at 14:22, Debbie Williams <DEBBIEW@spotsylvania.va.us> wrote:

Mr Riles,

I have forwarded your email to the Planning Commission Members and Board of Supervisors regarding the proposed Peace Methodist Church Cell Tower. Unfortunately, I do not have Richard Thompson email address. I would like to respond to several of your comments which are incorrect. Please see my responds in bold print below.

Regards,
Debbie

Deborah F Williams
Commissioner of the Revenue
Spotsylvania County

-----Original Message-----

From: Arthur Riles [mailto:neverriles@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, August 9, 2019 9:17 PM

To: Janet Lloyd <JLloyd@spotsylvania.va.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Courtland District Proposed Peace Baptist Church Cell Tower

Dear Madam Commissioner of Revenue:

Could you add some relevance why the zoning committee you have appointed (Courtland District) and in fact all others at the hearings unanimously agreed to support the approval to provide a cell tower construction at the Peace Methodist Church in our neighborhood. The Commissioner of the Revenue does not appoint the Planning Members, they are selected by the Board of Supervisors for each of their districts. Albeit the government notes it's within the emission standards who the heck with any logical conscience can trust anything the government agencies rule on? Though Cell Phone towers honestly are relatively new, I see a mixed bag of opinions across the world on this subject.

The FTC and FCC have done little to protect our privacy from intrusion data breaches and I highly suspect anything they rule on lack the full scope studies to prove their findings. It's pretty obvious of the real truth is paved over by big money lobbyists. The promotion of this tower in a residential area is highly suspect

Why would the county support a tower at a non-profit organization where the county would receive less revenues due to its non-tax status? Why would you not be fighting for top dollar to support the Spotsy coffers by making all towers be placed on fully taxable commercial properties that would bring all revenues to the county? And not be able to skirt the non-profit, tax exempt status of a church. Since they are entering into a commercial enterprise, it seems then would violate their non-exempt tax status and all revenue of the church must be considered taxable. It can't be both ways, this tells me the Spotsylvania Commissioner expects some campaign contributions by allowing this to happen by the big money conglomerate - ATT.

This comment offends me and if you check my campaign contributions I have never receive a contribution "*by a big money conglomerate*". Or otherwise why would you promote anything that is harmful to residents, threaten the health of senior and children (daycare almost across the street) which brings in a diminished tax base? There must be a silver lining here. This borders on malfeasance and your judgement in allowing the committee there to represent you shows very poor judgement in favoring this. .

Of second note, we the citizens and residents affected did not appreciate the last hearing held where the committee members took a suspicious '70 minute' recess before the residents had a chance to voice their opposition. This appeared to have a planned ulterior motive and many parents with children at home were forced to leave. This tactic is not acceptable. As stated earlier, I am forwarding your comments and concerns to the Planning Committee Members. I am not in a position to provide an explanation for their recess.

There is a petition underway and contact to the Governor's office to investigate the appearance of foul play already underway. If we don't have laws to protect us state wide then they must be introduced. Look at the horrible mess the Governor created with the off shore investment of non-auditable nightmare where he receive huge campaign dollars where the Federal Government could have funded at half the cost to the consumers. Is it nothing gets done unless there is some palm greasing? The pay for play scheme? We need fortitude, honesty and integrity. I would like a breakout of the county funds being lost if this is approved to go further with the tower at the church.. What laws are in place for you to take sides with big conglomerated to side with them for campaign contributions? Again, I am not on either the Board of Supervisors or Planning Committee who will be making the decision on Application SUP18-0011.

We won't this to be foremost identified with the State Officials and an referendum brought forth. But then again how can they possibly care about us when they kill the most vulnerable precious life form that our Lord has given us? The

sacrifice of a new born creature of God at it's most vulnerable time alive. I'm so ashamed to be in this state, we need a change to protect the helpless, the old, the sick, and the poor babies form killers who line their pockets with big money supporters.

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATON OUTSIDE THE OPPOSITON PARTY OF THIS ISSUE AND YOUR COUNTY OFFICIALS.

I WANT A CALL FORM Mr. Thompson *Courtland Rep" to explain this and a full explanation at the hearing. I can't see now any explanation in your favor, I hope with respect for your position you consider this issue as we , the resident see it.

High Regards,

Art Riles

540 785=1948
11806 Sawgrass Lane
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

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From: rick rick <gtrick99@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2019 12:48 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Fw: Cell tower at Peace United Methodist Church

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: rick rick <gtrick99@yahoo.com>
To: "David.Ross@spotsylvaia.va.us" <David.Ross@spotsylvaia.va.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 12:44:44 PM EDT
Subject: Cell tower at Peace United Methodist Church

Dear Mr. Ross

I would ask NOT to approve this tower.

My first reading I was thinking it was for Spotsylvania Emergency use ONLY.

Thank you for your time, to read my Email.

Rickey Thornton

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From: DOUG CRAIG <dcraig3529@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2019 5:47 PM
To: David Ross
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: POINTS For DENIAL/INFO
Attachments: AT&T TOWER Paper.docx

Dave,

We were very pleased with your support for denial of the special use permit for Peace Methodist Church. Somehow approving a communal offensive commercial enterprise for a non-profit organization seems disingenuous.

The vote of the "gang" of six is always unpredictable, so no one here has much confidence in the final outcome. Too many disappointments breedswell, disappointment.

Some information:

- Jean Devoter has received a disclaimer letter and will receive a check for damage to her driveway.
- The on-line petition is now at 94 and no more individual solicitations are ongoing.
- The attached was given to the clerk at the meeting.
- The statement by FCC Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel contains ample grounds for denial based on local states rights, aesthetics and economics. It's a good read. Smart impressive Democrat.
- Watched the BoS discussion on the grants to neighborhoods to fix stormwater problems. Some crew there. Mark Cole needs to work on a special tax METHOD to fund the program. We already have 300K appropriated to fix the County MESS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. We don't have to wait for a program. Just "show me da money!"
BTW, can you make sure we get our fix into the 6 year VDOT plan? Just in case?

Deus vobiscum

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ATT&T Tower at Peace Methodist Church

After reviewing on-line documentation, the following is a brief summary of concerns and questions addressed to me and by me.

The first question is about the request itself. The church is situated on a special use land parcel for a church and preschool. Since this request is for a special use permit for the church, why are they not the applicant? If they were, the County could perhaps request maybe a favor, perhaps a donated acre for a small park. Just sayin...

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) strongly suggested strict conformity to environmental codes and rules to protect the streams and water flow in the area, We would like that spelled out if approved. Ongoing sediment from prior unrelated construction has already caused a lessening in the size of the pond nearby.

Although the location may have minimal visual effect on Historical sites, Salem Church is visible. Monuments on Route 3 are part of the historical appeal of the area and communication towers take away from this drastically. This tower is very near old Plank Road and many artifacts have been found in the area of Maple Grove.

It has been our observation, that Special use permits are usually requested for improvements related to needs of the land owner. It is the opinion of some that this request is for a commercial use of residential property. AT&T pays for a lease to build a facility to rent space to others and charges users for data handling. This is little different than U-Haul/Ryder/Penske sharing a facility for storage rental. Both are commercial projects.

Comments by neighbors on the process followed by the County Planning Staff have been very favorable from a professional viewpoint. However, some questions were raised and the approval was disappointing.

There seems to be little data as to the current and planned number of towers in the County and towers in residential developments. Also, data regarding coverage problems would be useful in determining need. There are surely

County or Regional plans somewhere to address the growing communication needs in our area, especially with the 5G issue looming.

The process of reviewing projects one at a time wastes valuable County Planning talent, especially with the restrictions voiced in the review cycle. It's like approving one telephone pole at a time.

Although there is a restriction on questions based on RF effects of humans, news articles about theories and studies are on peoples' minds. It is not an issue to be openly discuss but it may affect businesses located close to this tower. Parents may decide not to send the kids to daycare or preschools and negatively affect enrollment.

There have also been discussions about property values declining as well. The only information available is conjecture but a tower won't help the home values. The number of home sales and rentals have recently risen, but there are several factors unique to the area that may also be factors. The cut through situation in Maple Grove, the drainage problems in Waverly Village and Governors Green, the expansion of traffic resultant from the buildout of Avalon Woods, etc. are significant. Much like the effect of cell towers on antenna based TV and AM/FM radio, we won't know until we know.

Just a word about the Comprehensive Plan. The Communication towers don't seem to be specifically, directly addressed. The Plan does suggest 30% of land should be open space. We are losing 8+ acres to this project. The phrase "places to work, live, shop and play" is found in the Plan and elsewhere. This tower doesn't fit any of these.

I just have to repeat statements made about the proposed tower by several residents, if only to have them haunt you also. " Everyday I have to see that thing that looks like a fancy toilet brush." "NO", said another, " it's more like a goofy bottle cleaner."

In summary, there is a lot of discussion about the location of this Communication tower and the precedent it will set for future placement in Residential areas.

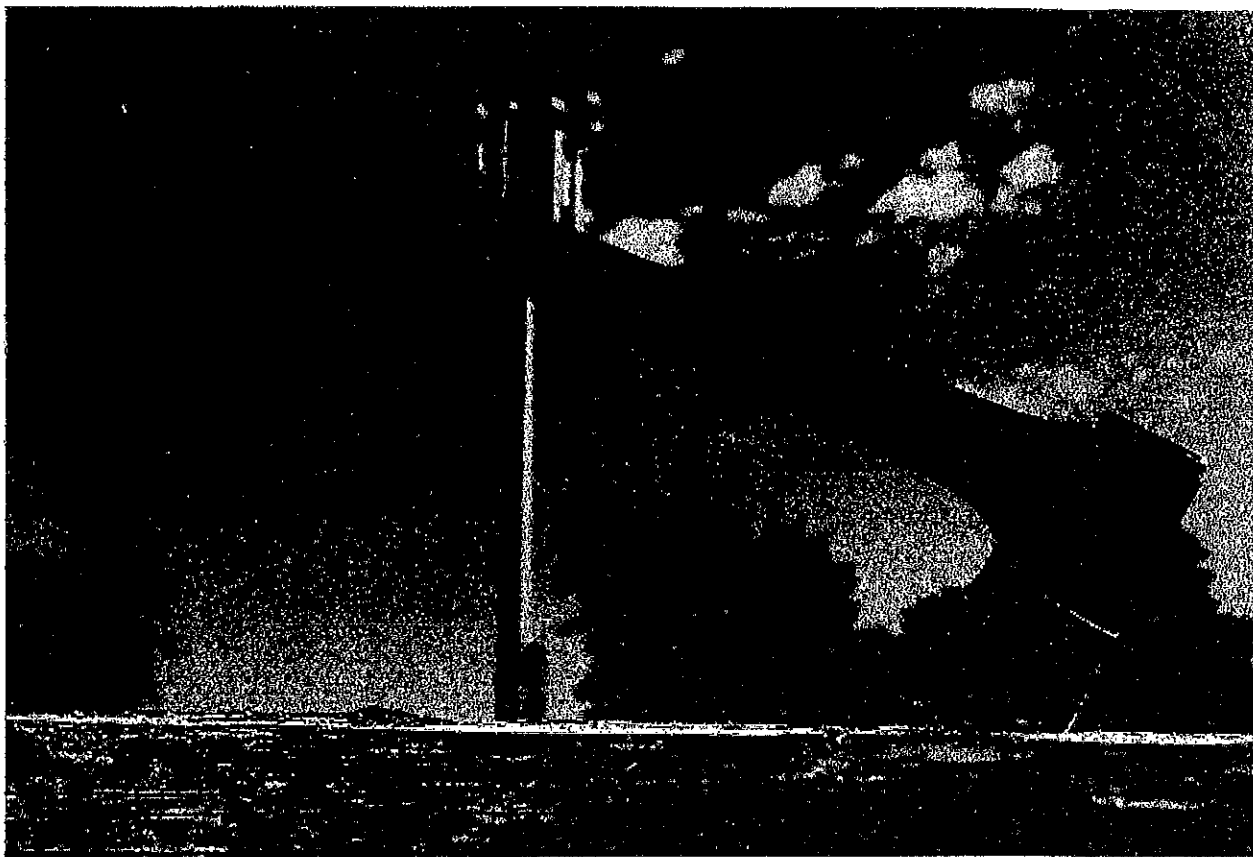
References:

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-18-133A1.pdf>

<https://statescoop.com/seattle-says-its-preparing-to-sue-fcc-over-5g-order/>

STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL
APPROVING IN PART, DISSENTING IN PART Re: Accelerating
Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to
Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79;
Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing
Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WC Docket No. 17-84
A few years ago, in a speech at a University of Colorado
event, I called on the Federal Communications Commission
to start a proceeding on wireless infrastructure reform. I
suggested that if we want broad economic growth and
widespread mobile opportunity, we need to avoid
unnecessary delays in the state and local approval
process. That's because they can slow deployment. I
believed that then. I still believe it now. So when the
FCC kicked off a rulemaking on wireless infrastructure
last year, I had hopes. I hoped we could provide a way to
encourage streamlined service deployment nationwide. I
hoped we could acknowledge that we have a long tradition
of local control in this country but also recognize more
uniform policies across the country will help us in the
global race to build the next generation of wireless
service, known as 5G. Above all, I hoped we could speed
infrastructure deployment by recognizing the best way to
do so is to treat cities and states as our partners. In
one respect, today's order is consistent with that vision.
We shorten the time frames permitted under the law for
state and local review of the deployment of small cells--an
essential part of 5G networks. I think this is the right
thing to do because the shot clocks we have now were
designed in an earlier era for much bigger wireless
facilities. At the same time, we retain the right of state
and local authorities to pursue court remedies under
Section 332 of the Communications Act. This strikes an
appropriate balance. I appreciate that my colleagues were
willing to work with me to ensure that localities have

time to update their processes to accommodate these new deadlines and that they are not unfairly prejudiced by incomplete applications. I support this aspect of today's order. But in the remainder of this decision, my hopes did not pan out. Instead of working with our state and local partners to speed the way to 5G deployment, we cut them out. We tell them that going forward Washington will make choices for them--about which fees are permissible and which are not, about what aesthetic choices are viable and which are not, with complete disregard for the fact that these infrastructure decisions do not work the same in New York, New York and New York, Iowa. So it comes down to this: three unelected officials on this dais are telling state and local leaders all across the country what they can and cannot do in their own backyards. This is extraordinary federal overreach. I do not believe the law permits Washington to run roughshod over state and local authority like this and I worry the litigation that follows will only slow our 5G future. For starters, the Tenth Amendment reserves powers to the states that are not expressly granted to the federal government. In other words, the constitution sets up a system of dual sovereignty that informs all of our laws. To this end, Section 253 balances the interests of state and local authorities with this agency's responsibility to expand the reach of communications service. While Section 253(a) is concerned with state and local requirements that may prohibit or effectively prohibit service, Section 253(d) permits preemption only on a case-by-case basis after notice and comment. We do not do that here. Moreover, the assertion that fees above cost or local aesthetic requirements in a single city are tantamount to a service prohibition elsewhere stretches the statute beyond what Congress intended and legal precedent affords.



In its second quarter earnings conference call today, AT&T Chief Financial Officer John Stephens confirmed that the carrier is looking to sell its remaining cell towers in the U.S as well as those in Mexico.

In discussing asset sales, Stephens said, "I think that it's public knowledge that we're out there selling our collections of about 1,300 U.S. cell towers that we still have, we still own. We have a whole collection of approximately 1,000 cell towers in Mexico."

In 2013, AT&T sold 9,100 of its towers to Crown Castle for \$4.85 billion.

It is likely that AT&T will be considering the leaseback rates being offered by suitors.

In 2017, AT&T signed an agreement with Tillman Infrastructure to build hundreds of towers for lease.

At that time, AT&T said the company was focused on creating a diverse community of suppliers and tower companies that embrace a sustainable business model.

To that end, they also announced an agreement with CitySwitch to continue to execute new lease agreements for new cell sites as they grow their network footprint across the nation.

Stevens also said during the call that the company had cut \$6.8 billion from its debt load in Q2, primarily via the sale of its stake in Hulu and a property in New York City.

It ended the quarter with \$157.9 billion in debt remaining and is now looking to eliminate another \$12 billion by the end of the year.

-Wireless ESTIMATOR
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