

San Diego County Resident Comments
on Proposed Wireless Ordinance Changes
as will appear in BOS Meeting Agenda for August 7, 2019

Your Name: _____
Your Street Address: _____
City, state, zip: _____
Your phone # _____
Your email address: _____

_____ 2019
(Date)

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
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Dear County Supervisors,

I am writing to express my concern about the installment of 5G/small-cell antennas throughout San Diego County. The threats to public health, safety, privacy, security, property values, landscapes, and more must be addressed in the wireless ordinance. The citizens of San Diego County require your protection. I am grateful that The County is taking measures to incorporate such protections into an updated wireless ordinance, since the version approved in February makes no such provisions.

Based on review of the latest ordinance draft, there are still a number of ways this ordinance could be improved to ensure the best for SD County citizens, which I trust is your primary goal.

I ENCOURAGE YOU NOT TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE CURRENT DRAFT ORDINANCE UNTIL IT CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

- **Restrict small cells in residential areas, and sensitive zones where children, elderly and those with special/medical needs will be.** No small cell should be allowed within (a minimum) of 1000 feet from a residential property line, in any direction. Or within 1500 – 3,000 ft of civic areas, including schools, hospitals, libraries, churches, daycares, community centers, senior facilities, police and fire stations, parks, and sports fields - to the property lines. Verizon has a commercial on YouTube where they measured the distance of a 5G signal (through hills and obstacles) at a distance of greater than 3,000 feet, so there should be zero issue with these setbacks, they are a necessity.
- **Restrict proximity of small cells in business areas**
- **Stronger language.** Use words which are definitive, instead of suggestions which can be ignored.
- **Permit approvals must be made to be discretionary rather than ministerial,** with the entire shot clock used, so the public can provide input *that can be acted on*, with a new streamlined system to accommodate objections and ADA Accommodations Requests.
- **ADA language and provisions.** The ordinance lacks language that protects Americans with disabilities, and their use of these rights-of-way and travel paths, where the small cells structures will be deployed. Small cells may make it impossible to occupy one's home or yard, as well, if sensitive to rf radiation. ADA

protection must not be discriminatory toward those who have physical mobility disabilities only. What about citizens with EHS, pacemakers, ADD/ADHD, autoimmune, etc? Also, provide a set of directions for these requests with a timeline for granting them and incorporate into the shot clocks and beyond (which can then hold up the shot clock). These rights-of-way and public streets belong to us too, and this liability belongs to San Diego County.

- **Require a Master Plan.** The master plan needs to be coordinated across all carriers, and provide information for each antenna project like RF exposure levels, power levels, frequencies, and location address. The master plan should also be published online with ample notice, such that citizens can provide input BEFORE the antenna is installed. REQUIRE that these companies have a plan and strategy for where they place the antennas, and enforce their compliance. This will minimize excessive, haphazard installments. If there is no plan, require it as part of permit application.
- **No Colocation!** Co-location means multiple antennas to a single pole. And despite the thinking, it does not reduce clutter. Actually, it produces a huge eyesore of a pole with multiple projections hanging off of it. It DRAWS more attention because of the extra hardware. Colocation allows poles to become scarily top-heavy, and also exposes citizens to higher doses of radiation since multiple antennas will emit from a single location. One antenna per pole, and no antennas within 1000 feet of ANY other antenna, even from other providers.
- **No cutting or disturbance of trees and landscaping – at all.** This must be forbidden! There are other towns and cities with gorgeous, old trees being chopped down or excessively trimmed to allow for small cell deployment. Not going to happen in San Diego!
- **Provide clear-easy-to-reach County support for citizens.** We need to have a dedicated hotline/service to contact The County when issues with the small cells arise, such as noise, safety, health problems, or other complaints need to be reported. This service can be funded by the wireless providers as a part of their application/bond/yearly renewal fees.
- **Insurance for rf radiation and other injuries, and Bonds.** Require proof that the companies, annually, have adequate insurance (\$2 million dollars each small cell) and bonds of \$500,000 per small cell to protect against malfunction, accidents, damages, and injuries, including from exposure to nonionizing radiation. These provide protection for the County too.
- **Random third-party testing.** Random, independent third party inspections, by companies contracting with the County, must be required at least 3-4 times annually, at the expense of the telecom company owning the small cells, to ensure compliance with FCC guidelines for each pole (in total) and for each small cell on the pole.
- **Require notice for any residence within a mile** of a proposed small cell site, to provide ample time for residents to come forward and provide input, particularly those with medical reasons to avoid rf radiation. During noticing, large signage noticing must also be placed on prospective poles with full details of application plans in large print, including frequencies and power, size of small cell.
- **Approvals for permits may only be reissued yearly with new re-application,** with proof of having met all criteria including noticing, liability insurance as above, and bonds. *Small cells may not be upgraded without a full new application process.*
- **Require safety signage on all poles.** All poles must have necessary warning signs and RF safety information as well as company and County contact names and phone numbers. *Include total rf emission levels near bottom ten feet of poles or general area if more than one pole.*
- **Keep small cells away from parks and ball fields – at least 3000 ft away.** The County Parks Dept. income desires do not come ahead of public safety and aesthetics. Cell towers and small cells are a safety hazard and produce clutter in our parks and ballfields.

Thank you for taking the time to consider and apply these suggestions. I look forward to seeing these changes in the ordinance draft before it is voted on.

Sincerely,

Signature

Printed name