Wireless Subcommittee, Commissioners and City Council

Nora Thompson natalier.montgomery@gmail.com

To: leinen@monterey.org, tyller@monterey.org, roberson@monterey.org, albert@monterey.org, haffe@monterey.org, smith@monterey.org

Thu, May 16, 2019 at 8:29 PM

Please take the subcommittee's recommendations seriously. Permits should be required for any and all cell facilities regardless of size and location. Period. There should be no sneaky loopholes.

Thank you,

Nora Thompson

Sent from my iPhone
Monterey Wireless Ordinance

To our dear city leaders,

I have just been made aware of tomorrow's meeting and the ongoing saga of our wireless committee's ordinance. I contacted you all a over a month ago to urge you to implement the proposed ordinance as drafted and prepared by our Wireless subcommittee of our neighbors and citizens. After a long delay we are told that the "Staff" has made changes to the work of our fine committee.

A Sneaky Exemption to the Ordinance
From reading the complete posted agenda materials it is evident that the staff has their own agenda. There are drastic changes to the Subcommittee's draft including striking out much of the text and adding new language. There are some very concerning changes being pushed for that the Subcommittee never allowed in their original draft. For example, under the current ordinance and the Subcommittee's draft, a use permit process must be fully complied with for all wireless facility applications. This requires public notice, a public hearing before the Planning Commission and a right of appeal along with compliance to many design and location limitations, such as not being allowed in residential districts and a certification of compliance with radio frequency (microwave) exposure limits. But in the staff recommended version, wireless facilities at or below two cubic feet would be exempt from requiring a use permit and therefore from all the requirements intended for all cell facilities. Size makes no difference to the power of RF emissions these smaller facilities will emit, and they would be allowed anywhere in any zoning district so long as they are placed on existing structures or "strand" (e.g. cable/wire).

This means no notice, hearing, appeal, or public comment, even if it happens to be right next to your home operating 24/7. This severely weakens even the existing ordinance and disregards the hard work of the Subcommittee.

The whole purpose of this drawn out procedure was to STRENGTHEN our protection from this dangerous and untested technology.

IT APPEARS TO ME THAT JUST LIKE THE CLOWN SHOW IN WASHINGTON, SPECIAL INTERESTS HAVE INSERTED THEIR AGENDA INTO OUR LIVES AT THE CITY LEVEL.

1) WHY THE SHORT NOTICE ON THIS ACTION?

2) WHO EXACTLY IS THE STAFF THAT HAS TRIED TO NULLIFY THE HARD WORK OF OUR CITIZENS COMMITTEE AND WHY?
THIS IS A CLEAR PARALLEL WITH THE WAY THAT THINGS ARE DONE IN OUR PHONY CONGRESS OF PAID CORPORATE SHILLS, VIRTUE SIGNALING MORONS, AND LOBBYISTS STUFFING THEIR CAMPAIGNS.

REMEMBS ME OF THE WAY THEY CALL FOR A VOTE ON MAJOR LEGISLATION AT TIMES WHEN THE MAJORITY OF VOTING MEMBERS HAVE LEFT TOWN FOR A WEEKEND OR HOLIDAY.

ALSO REMEMBS ME OF THE WAY THAT SEVERAL MAJOR LAWS WERE PASSED WITHOUT ANY REAL REVIEW OF THEIR CONTENTS. THEY THROW YOU A PROPOSED LAW AS THICK AS A PHONE BOOK AND NOT ENOUGH TIME TO REVIEW AND OR JUST BECOME AWARE OF IT'S CONTENTS. MOST CONGRESSMEN DO NOT EVEN READ WHAT THEY SIGNED US UP FOR.

EXAMPLES: THE PATRIOT ACT, THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

GUESS YOU GUYS DOWNTOWN ARE PRACTICING UP TO SOMEDAY ADVANCE TO THE FEDERAL LEVEL.
YOU'LL ALL FIT IN WITH OUR CURRENT CONGRESSMAN WHO CAN'T ANSWER A SIMPLE YES OR NO QUESTION BUT DEFLECTS AND DISTRACTS WITH LENGTHY BABLE.

LET'S HEAR IT....
CROSS YOUR FINGERS...
SAY IT ALL TOGETHER NOW:
"IF YOU LIKE YOUR DOCTOR, YOU CAN KEEP YOUR DOCTOR."

RESPECTFULLY,
THIS SMELLS LIKE A LOAD OF BULL.
JEFF GALFIN
MONTEREY VISTA RESIDENT

THE LARGE PRINT GIVETH....
and the small print taketh away!
Jenny Leinen: Please deliver this in the A.M. of 5/17 to all Planning Commissioners
1 message

Thu, May 16, 2019 at 11:16 PM

Jenny Leinen: Please deliver this in the early morning of 5/17 to all Planning Commissioners:
Michael Dawson, Terry Letasa, Michael Brassfield, Daniel Fletcher, Stephen Millich,
Hansen Reed. Thank you!

To: all Planning Commissioners:

Re: Revised Wireless Ordinance

Looks like the changes to the Revised Wireless Ordinance were made public this week and it appears that the
Subcommittee members are not in agreement and it is far from what the neighborhood had expected in strengthening
the Wireless Ordinance.

Namely, the neighbors do not want permit exemptions based on size of facility and other recommendations that only serve
to weaken the ordinance. Size makes no difference to the power of RF emissions these smaller facilities will emit, and
this means they would be allowed anywhere in any zoning district so long as they are placed on existing structures.

This means no notice, hearing, appeal, or public comment, even if it happens to be right next to our homes operating
24/7. That is appalling! This severely weakens even the existing ordinance and disregards the hard work of the
Subcommittee.

This Revision of the Wireless Ordinance doesn't sound like anything the community of neighbors had in mind for our
protection rights. We strongly request that no decision be made until the public can study the changes and effectively
comment.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Adamo

Skyline Forest Resident
URGENT - Letter Opposing the Inserted Exemptions to the Wireless Subcommittee's Recommendations

1 message
Fri, May 17, 2019 at 7:27 AM

Paula A. White <pwhite@monterey.org>
Reply-To: "Paula A. White" <pwhite@monterey.org>
To: leinen@monterey.org
Cc: Clyde Roberson <roberson@monterey.org>, "smith@monterey.org" <smith@monterey.org>, "albert@monterey.org" <albert@monterey.org>, "haffa@monterey.org" <haffa@monterey.org>, "tyller@monterey.org" <tyller@monterey.org>

Dear Ms Leinen,

Good Morning. Please find attached an urgent letter that needs to reach the City Council members and Planning Commission in time for this morning's (17th May 2019) 0900hr session.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Kind regards,
Paula White

16 May 2019

Dear City Council members and Planning Commission,

I am writing regarding the cell tower ordinance issues that are once again on our agenda. Unfortunately, I cannot attend today's meetings. I sincerely hope that you will consider this letter as if I were there in person voicing my opinion as I have done repeatedly on this matter.

Last year after much input from a concerned community, the Monterey City Council and Planning Commission appointed an independent Wireless Subcommittee to redraft the city's cell tower ordinance in order to protect our community from future threats. After much time and effort, a strong new ordinance was drafted that was supposedly undergoing legal review prior to its adoption.

However, once again we are faced with exemptions being inserted into this ordinance by the city staff who appear to be trying once again to derail the process in the sake of private interests and/or personal agendas. The proposed inserted language – that exempts facilities less than two cubic feet – is entirely unacceptable both to the appointed subcommittee and to the community that the ordinance is meant to protect.

In the strongest possible terms, I urge you to uphold the appointed Wireless Subcommittee's skillfully drafted ordinance and forbid city staffers inserting language that weakens the ordinance and threatens our safety, health, property values, and our future.

This is not a battle that we should have to continue to wage. Community voices were loud and clear in fighting the broad and insidious threat of small cell facilities in our neighborhoods. I personally attended several city council meetings, spoke, and wrote letters urging that our elected representatives protect our community.

Please continue to lead with wisdom and strength, and uphold the Wireless Subcommittee's informed recommendations in their entirety. Please eliminate the proposed exemptions from the ordinance immediately and for good.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paula White – homeowner, resident, voter, taxpayer
26 Cuesta Vista
Monterey, CA 93940

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=5d2e511eb3&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1633798651606922873%7Cmsg-f%3A1633798651606...
Dear City Council Members,

After many public meetings with public input to strengthen Monterey’s wireless ordinance, the subcommittee completed its draft ordinance in early December of 2018. In an email dated April 9, 2019, Council Member Dan Albert gave me the following information:

I requested an update from our planning staff and the following is their response. I know this has taken longer than expected but it is our goal to deliver a comprehensive, internally consistent and defensible ordinance.

"We are planning our next subcommittee meeting for May 17th."

The Wireless Subcommittee completed their work right before the Christmas break. The legal teams started review of the ordinance changes in mid-January. After considerable discussion, review of case law and FCC regulations, it is clear that the ordinance will require substantial work and impacts several sections of code.

I do want to point out that the Subcommittee hosted multiple public meetings to create the draft ordinance. The Subcommittee wanted the opportunity to review the ordinance without the attendance of legal staff so they could have long discussions about the issues. As a result, it is taking some time for the ordinance revisions to be incorporated into the code.

The good news is that the City Council authorized the additional legal services budget in March. Contracts have now been executed and work is underway. We expect the revised ordinances for the May 17th meeting.

Because the ordinance includes undergrounding, all future wireless equipment, the legal staff is also considering all references to undergrounding in the City's ordinances. As a result, these two separate efforts (undergrounding and wireless) have merged.

I know this has taken longer than expected but it is our goal to deliver a comprehensive, internally consistent and defensible ordinance."

Council Member Dan Albert also told me that the May 17th meetings would be at 4pm and 7pm. Last night I found out that the meeting starts at 9am and ends at 4pm. My schedule today is full before 4pm, so I can't make it to the meeting to express my opposition to the drastic changes that have now been made to the Subcommittee's draft including striking out much of the text and adding new language. There are some very concerning changes being pushed for that the Subcommittee never allowed in their original draft. For example, under the current ordinance and the Subcommittee's draft, a use permit process must be fully complied with for all wireless facility applications. This requires public notice, a public hearing before the Planning Commission and a right of appeal along with compliance to many design and location limitations, such as not being allowed in residential districts and a certification of compliance with radio frequency (microwave) exposure limits. But in the staff recommended version, wireless facilities at or below two cubic feet would be exempt from requiring a use permit and therefore from all the requirements intended for all cell facilities. Size makes no difference to the power of RF emissions these smaller facilities will emit, and they would be allowed anywhere in any zoning district so long as they are placed on existing structures or "strand" (e.g. cable/wire). This means no notice, hearing, appeal, or public comment, even if it happens to be right next to my home operating 24/7. This severely weakens even the existing ordinance and disregards the hard work of the Subcommittee. Getting these revisions in place and in force before a flood of applications from telecommunications companies for cell tower facilities are made is of grave importance.

I am very sensitive to EMF. I have to turn off the wireless router in my house at night or I can't sleep. I am certain there are many others with this sensitivity. You don't have to look very hard online to find numerous personal testimonials of citizens and their families whose health has been damaged by EMF exposure. There are thousands. This is a very serious problem that needs to be addressed immediately. Please read the link below as an example:

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=5d2e511ab3&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1633765213307270912%7Cmsg-f%3A1633765213307...
Children with Cancer in Ripon, CA
This is a significant story unfolding at an elementary school in Ripon, California. There is a cell tower on school grounds there and parents are alarmed about the unusual number of cases of faculty and childhood cancers occurring there. For comparison sake, the statistical number of childhood cancers per 100,000 children is sixteen. This is a school with 400 students. The latest update is that Sprint is shutting down the cell tower.

I love my home in Monterey. I worked hard to buy it and I intend to live in it for the rest of my life. I live in the Peter's Gate area where the telecom companies were proposing installing 13 cell tower facilities in a one mile radius. I would have to sell my house and move out of the area if these towers were allowed to be installed. I believe this cell tower issue has brought home prices down in my neighborhood. This is very distressing to me and all of my neighbors. I am a realtor, so I see the statistics on MLS daily.

I respectfully implore you to respond to the will of the homeowners and citizens of Monterey who voted for you in the last election! Along with all the other recommendations of the Subcommittee, we want public notice, public hearings before the Planning Commission and a right of appeal along with compliance to many design and location limitations, such as not being allowed in residential districts and a certification of compliance with radio frequency (microwave) exposure limits.

Thank you for your consideration and immediate action on this matter,

Jeannie Ferrara
25 Via Ventura
Monterey, CA 93940
Changes to Wireless Ordinance

1 message

Kimberly Sims Fri, May 17, 2019 at 11:05 AM
To: leinen@monterey.org, roberson@monterey.org, albert@monterey.org, haffa@monterey.org, smith@monterey.org, tyler@monterey.org

Mayor Roberson, City Council Members Albert, Haffa, Smith, Williamson, Wireless subcommittee and Planning Commission:

I am very distressed to learn that after the densified cell tower ordeal in our neighborhoods, the members of the Wireless Subcommittee, appointed by the City Council to independently redraft the current ordinance to make it stronger, has in fact, undermined the original ordinance.

After a five month review we see drastic changes to the Subcommittee’s draft including striking out much of the text and adding new language. There are some very concerning changes being pushed for that the Subcommittee never allowed in their original draft.

Overall, these changes severely weakens even the existing ordinance rather than the original intention, which was to strengthen local control.

This issue involves arguably the most pressing health concern of our time, and if the Council members and the Mayor usurp the ability of the public to control these incursions it will mark a state of corruption and disgrace. I will not in the future back any candidate who does not support democratic process around this issue.

Regards,
Kimberly Sims

Virus-free. www.avast.com