From:	Architectural Review Board
To:	Lew, Alex; Osma Thompson (osma.thompson@gmail.com); Baltay, Peter; Gooyer, Robert; Furth, Wynne
Cc:	Atkinson, Rebecca; French, Amy
Subject:	FW: Don"t change the existing Wireless ordinance
Date:	Tuesday, March 13, 2018 7:19:27 AM

From: Miriam Sedman [mailto:msedman@pacbell.net]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:45 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: Clerk, City; Architectural Review Board
Subject: Don't change the existing Wireless ordinance

Dear City Council Members,

I urge you, on behalf of Palo Alto residents, to vote against changing the Wireless ordinance. As the City Attorney wrote to City Council in her 4/29/15 report regarding what is now the existing ordinance, this ordinance requires—and "require" is her word—that no new or collocated cell towers may be installed in Palo Alto without both an architectural review and conditional use permit findings. Yet now Senior Staff are recommending you allow the Director of Planning, if she so chooses, to bypass ARB and PTC review of these cell towers.

The fact is, now more than ever, both an architectural review and conditional use permit findings are necessary to protect residents. On a case-by-case basis it is absolutely necessary for the city to review requests to place cell phone towers in residential neighborhoods.

For example, a sign proposing a Verizon cell phone tower has appeared in the Triple El neighborhood and it makes no sense to install a cell phone tower in this neighborhood for the following reasons.

· The proposed location is central to homes where children, elderly and retirees are at home 24 hours a day and will be exposed to high levels of radiation (lots of data on this!)

· Verizon is optimizing their plan for ease of access and NOT to minimize exposure of radiation to citizens (This is just wrong).

· Our neighborhood has good Verizon coverage right now. Even the Verizon maps show that we are in good shape.

· The houses in the triple El neighborhood that have poles and wires already bear the burden of additional radiation and maintenance for the neighborhood; let alone that the poles and wires are unsightly. Why penalize the same homeowners for phones?

· There are just a whole lot better places to put these poles e.g. NOT in the middle of densely populated neighborhoods.

It is essential that you continue to protect the safety of Palo Alto residents and push back on utility companies who's primary concern is profit and who are not concerned with public safety or neighborhood well being.

Regards,
Miriam Sedman
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Palo Alto, CA 94303