



September 3, 2012

RE: CF # 09-2645
Support Legislation Regulating Cell Towers,
Above Ground Facilities

Honorable Councilmember Englander:

For several years, wireless telecommunications providers have been taking advantage of deficiencies in the LAMC in order to place unsightly cell towers (AKA Wireless Telecommunication Facilities or WTFs) in close proximity to residences and along scenic routes. These companies have utilized exemptions granted to public utilities in order to place facilities within the public right of way (PROW) in areas where they would otherwise not be allowed. In 2009, the City Council directed the City Attorney to report on mechanisms available to regulate the placement of these WTFs. Subsequently, the City Attorney provided the requested report along with the following recommendations:

- **Elimination of the utility pole exemption**
- **Expansion of the notice provisions**
- **Enhancement of the aesthetic provisions**
- **Imposition of permit duration limits**

Numerous California municipalities have included several of the below listed provisions regulating PROW installations:

- **Provision for public comment and/or a hearing prior to permit issuance, for all proposed installations in residential zones.**
- **Requirement for the applicant to provide an RF emissions analysis and/or a certification of compliance with FCC requirements.**
- **Requirement for the applicant to map all existing wireless facilities and to project anticipated future needs in the community served by the proposed facility.**

Old Granada Hills residents and community leaders have been anxiously awaiting legislation that would effectively regulate the increasing number of WTF's attempting to locate in the PROW. There is no reason why LA cannot enact comprehensive legislation that includes reasonable requirements as many other California cities have done. Therefore, the Old Granada Hills Residents' Group **strongly urges** you to include all the above City Attorney's recommendations and additional listed provisions within the revised draft of the Cell Tower Ordinance. Furthermore, we urge you to **impose an immediate moratorium (Interim Control Ordinance)** on all Wireless Telecommunications Facility installations in the public right of way and/or applications for approval of such installations, until such time as the City enacts this Ordinance.

Thank You for Your Consideration,

Dave Beauvais, President
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

Maria Fisk, Board Member
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group

Cc: All Councilmembers; Ted Jordan, Assistant City Attorney; June Lagmay, City Clerk.