

The Oaks Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 29155
Los Angeles, California 90029-0155



Councilmember Tom LaBonge
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Room 480

Los Angeles, CA 90012

September 4, 2012

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2012 SEP 11 AM 9:26
CITY CLERK
BY EGG
P/S DEPUTY

Re.: Proposed amendment of the current AGF-Ordinance (CF 09-2645)

Dear Councilmember:

A proposed revision of the current AGF-Ordinance (Above-Ground Facilities Ordinance) intended to impose restrictions on the placement of cellphone towers in residential neighborhoods is on the City Council's agenda for next Tuesday (September 11, 2012, CF 09-2645).

We strongly urge you to endorse the City Attorney's recommendations and to authorize him to draft a new ordinance aimed at protecting L.A. residents from the uncontrolled proliferation of unsightly cell sites in neighborhoods like ours.

The proposed new ordinance, where it applies to installations in the "public right-of-way" of residential neighborhoods, should

- (1) eliminate the provision in the current AGF Ordinance that exempts utility poles from regulations of the Ordinance,
- (2) expand the requirements for prior notification of residents who live near a proposed site,
- (3) include a clause that allows any "aggrieved person" to file an appeal against the issuance of an AGF Permit,
- (4) require a Permit applicant to provide certification that the proposed installation complies with FCC safety standards for RF emissions,
- (5) establish a minimum standard for the aesthetic appearance of cell towers and related equipment,
- (6) limit the time for which a Permit may be issued and set criteria for its renewal.

We are not opposed to cellphone sites in The Oaks or other residential neighborhoods of the city if phone companies can prove that these sites are truly needed to provide cellphone service to the residents of our neighborhood, and as long as their installations follow a set of reasonable rules and regulations, such as the ones mentioned above, and as long as those rules and regulations are set and enforced by the City and not solely dictated by an obscure Joint Pole Agreement, as is currently the case.

In October 2006 you held a press conference here in our neighborhood, joined by then-Council-member Janice Hahn, to announce your intention to file a City Council motion to regulate the installation of cell sites in residential neighborhoods.

Since then, we have worked very hard to help to reach that goal. We secured the support from our Neighborhood Council (Hollywood United NC), spoke at meetings of the City's PLUM and Public Works Committees and co-founded the Los Angeles WTF Working Group, comprised of delegates from homeowners associations and neighborhood councils from across the city. The group has met with the City Attorney on a number of occasions and provided him with our input on some of the issues while his "cell report" was in the works.

We hope that you now will fulfill the promise of your original City Council motion and vote in favor of directing the City Attorney to draft a new, revised AGF Ordinance.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Caroline', written in black ink.

Caroline Schweich
President

THE OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



Photo taken in THE OAKS Neighborhood in the Hollywood Hills

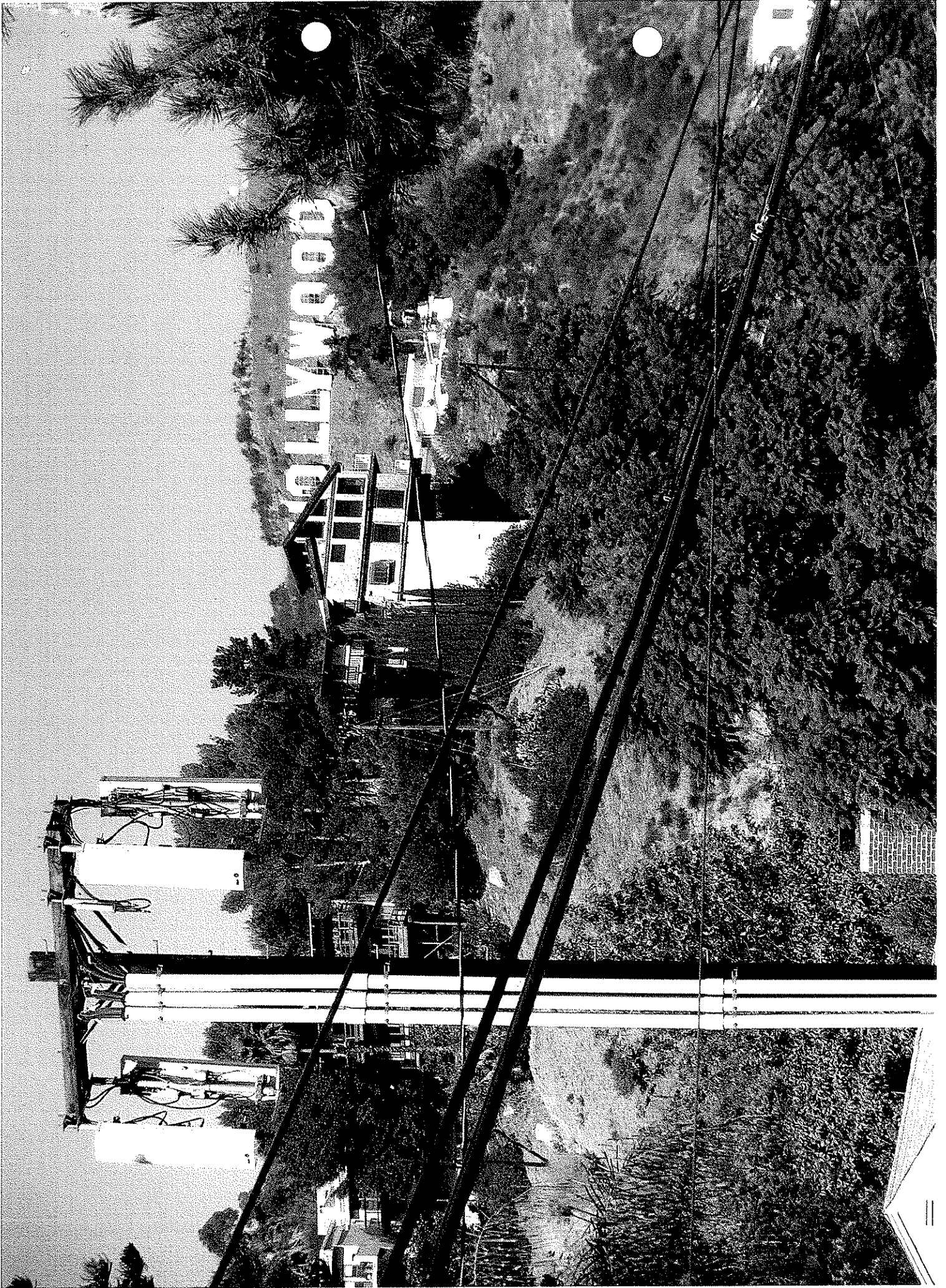


Photo taken in THE OAKS Neighborhood in the Hollywood Hills