

May 8, 2012

RE: CF # 09-2645  
Regulation of Cell Towers  
Attention: Michael Espinosa

Public Works Committee:  
Honorable Councilmembers  
Joe Buscaino, Chair;  
Paul Krekorian, Member;  
Eric Garcetti, Member:

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 recognized this problem and directed the City Attorney to report on mechanisms available to regulate the placement of these WTFs. In June, 2010, the City Attorney provided the requested report and made specific recommendations. The City Attorney was subsequently directed to craft revisions to the LAMC to implement the aforementioned recommendations. Nearly two years later, the revisions have yet to be provided.

There have been over 80 comments directed to the City Council by Neighborhood Councils, individuals, and community organizations who are concerned with the unregulated placement of WTFs within the PROW. Despite the high level of public interest, the City has not acted to remedy the situation. We respectfully urge you to act to prevent further blighting of residential areas and damage to our valuable scenic routes and vistas. Specifically, we ask that your committee consider the following:

- A. Instruct the City Attorney's office to expedite their revisions and provide an ordinance that includes:
  - Removal of the exemption for utility pole and street light mounted WTFs from the AGF Ordinance.
  - Expanded notification requirements for WTFs in the public right of way.
  - Enhanced aesthetic criteria for WTFs in the public right of way.
- B. An ICO containing a temporary moratorium on new PROW WTFs, pending a revised ordinance that properly regulates these installations.

Thank You for Your Consideration,

**Jerry Askew**  
For Information Purposes:  
Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, Director (Business)  
GHSNC, PLUM Committee, Chair  
Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, Board member

**Maria Fisk**  
For Information Purposes:  
Old Granada Hills Residents' Group, Board Member  
GHSNC, Land Use Committee, Stakeholder/Member  
Granada Hills Specific Plan Design Review Board, Member

Cc: Carmen Trutanich, City Attorney; Ted Jordan, Assist City Attorney; Mitchell Englander, Councilmember