

Re CF [09-2645](#) -- Agenda Item #4, PWC and PLUM meeting 7/26/11

Nahtahna Cabanes <cabanes2@gmail.com> Sun, Jul 24, 2011 at 9:30 AM

To: councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org,
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Michael.Espinosa@lacity.org
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To the Honorable Councilmembers Jose Huizar, Richard Alarcon, Ed P. Reyes, Paul Krekorian, and Mitchell Englander a
Members, Los Angeles City Council Public Works Committee, Los Angeles Planning and Land Use
Committee,
and Mr. Michael Espinosa – Legislative Assistant

Re CF [09-2645](#) -- Agenda Item #4, PWC and PLUM meeting 7/26/11

Dear Committee Members Huizar, Reyes, Alarcon, Krekorian, Englander, Mr. Espinosa:

Get the CELL Out is a group of Sherman Oaks community stakeholders who have been adversely affected by the current ordinance of cell tower installations in the PROW. In October 2010, our neighborhood was affected, with no foreknowledge, by the sudden excavation and construction of a 52-foot cell tower in a Public Right of Way (PROW) at 14830 Albers Street, Sherman Oaks, CA 91411. We quickly discovered that, in researching the notification, approval and construction process for this tower, not only did numerous violations of procedure occur, but the extent to which notification and regulation is required was alarmingly minimal.

Since then we have been actively involved in meeting with public officials, reaching out to the Board of Public Works to request an investigation, and urging the City Attorney to complete their report.

We are pleased that the report has been completed and Get the CELL Out commends the findings of the City Attorney for Report No. R11-0213, dated June 7, 2011, "Developments in the Law Regarding Regulation of the Placement of Cell Towers and Related Equipment" (the C.A. Report). We strongly support the City Attorney's recommendation to 1) remove the utility pole/light pole exemption; 2) expand the notification requirements; and 3) enhance existing aesthetic criteria.

We also request the following additional changes or new provisions (to the extent not encompassed by the general recommendations in the C.A. Report)

Impose permit duration limits
Require that renewed permits fall under the requirements of the new ordinance.
Enact that any pending application for a permit that is not final on the effective date of the ordinance shall be subject to the requirements of this ordinance.

We believe these requests are reasonable as they comply with recent rulings of the San Francisco Ordinance and they fairly protect the rights of stakeholders who have been adversely affected by minimal installation and notification requirements.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Get the CELL Out