



TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH

Wireless Communications Advisory Committee
1600 Floribunda Avenue
Hillsborough, CA 94010-6418

December 5, 2017

Kathy Leroux, City Manager
1600 Floribunda Ave.
Hillsborough, CA 94010

Re: Wireless Communications Advisory Committee Comments on Crown Castle's 16 Applications to Place Wireless Communication Facilities in the Town's Public Rights-of-Way

Dear Ms. Leroux,

The Town's Wireless Communication Advisory Committee (WCAC or the Committee) met on November 30, 2017 to discuss Crown Castle's (Crown) 16 applications (Applications) to place wireless communication facilities in the Town's public-rights-of-way. The Committee understands that you will take action on or about December 21, 2017 regarding these Applications and you have sought the Committee's input on your response. During our meeting the Committee reviewed, and discussed, a variety of materials, including:

- The Town's Code Provisions for Wireless Communication Facilities (WCFs), particularly its Chapter 15.32, which includes the overarching intent of "preserving the essential rural character of the Town."¹
- The proposed Applications by Crown Castle, including individual placements,
- Overview comments by Tripp May, outside counsel for the Town, including discussions of legal decisions such as T-Mobile West LLC et al., v. City and County of San Francisco et al, and Sprint PCS Assets v. City of Palos Verdes Estates,
- Comments from Committee members and the public, including the aesthetics, nature and character of the Town which has attracted and retained its residents.

After reviewing these materials and comments, the WCAC unanimously agreed to advise you to consider each of the materials discussed above prior to reaching your decision. In addition, we encourage your consideration of the following specific factors in forming your decision to take action as to each one of the 16 Crown Applications:

- We understand that Crown's "Significant Gap" report is many years old. Before Crown undertakes the significant impact and effort associated with these Applications, its Significant Gap report should be based upon a current study for each individual Application, and for the 16 Applications as a whole. Such a current study should also consider coverage currently provided, and those planned to be provided, to Hillsborough residents by WCFs located in neighboring communities.

¹ Chapter 15.32.010 B.


- The Town's Ordinance No. 713, at its Chapter 15.32 states that the "overarching intent of this Chapter is to make wireless communications reasonably available **while preserving the essential rural character of the Town.**"² (Emphasis added)
- WCF's should be placed on public property, including open space, and water tank sites, as far away from homes as feasible.
- The placements should utilize existing microcell/WCF locations before installing new WCFs.
- The facilities should be placed underground (including the use of sealed underground vaults) and adhere to the Town's long-term plan of placing all utilities underground, such as those in place for new developments in the Town.
- Adhere to height restrictions (less than 35 feet).
- Take advantage of screening and camouflage, including hedges, to better blend in with the environment.
- Employ designs that minimize the impact on the affected neighborhoods, for example, concealed, small devices that match the aesthetics and character of the Town to protect the property values of its residents' homes and shields those values from decline.

Thank you for your consideration of the Committee's comments and thank you to the Town's staff for their input and support of the Committee's study of these Applications.

Respectfully,



Paul Regan, Chair



Eric Nyhus, Vice Chair



Maryellie Johnson, Member



Catherine Lee, Member



Kelly Miller-Bailey, Member



Kelly Scandalios, Member

² Ibid.