

PC 2-26-15
#3



Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Fwd: AT&T #CNU6214/1697 Skyline Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Planning Unknown <planning@edcgov.us>
To: Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Wed, Feb 18, 2015 at 10:34 AM

Hi Char,

Please see email.

Thank you, Debbie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Louise wells-king** <lovelyscones@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Feb 18, 2015 at 9:37 AM

Subject: AT&T #CNU6214/1697 Skyline Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

To: planning@edcgov.us

County of El Dorado Planning Services
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, Ca 95667

February 18, 2015

Re: Project S-14-0009 Cell Phone Tower
AT&T #CNU6214/1697 Skyline Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing once again to protest the placement of a cell phone tower in my neighborhood. It is my understanding that some revisions have been made to the original application for permitting. However, after reviewing the proposed changes, the fact still remains that it is a request to place a cell tower in a residential neighborhood.

There is still no convincing evidence that it is safe to live next to a cell tower. In fact, in Europe there are laws preventing the placement of cell towers in or near residential areas and schools. This is based on accepted scientific information relating close proximity of cell towers and various cancers in humans.

There is already one cell tower in our neighborhood. Doubling the amount of exposure to our residents is not acceptable. I believe there are alternative local locations for a cell tower that are not in residential areas or next to schools.

Thank you for considering my objections.

Sincerely,

Louise Wells-King, resident
1608 Skyline Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA. 96150

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Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Special use permit S14-0009/AT&T Cell Tower Skyline Dr

Planning Unknown <planning@edcgov.us>
To: Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Thu, Feb 19, 2015 at 10:41 AM

Hi Char,

Please see public comment email.

Thanks, Debbie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dennis Brien** <dennis.brien@hds.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 19, 2015 at 10:25 AM

Subject: Special use permit S14-0009/AT&T Cell Tower Skyline Dr

To: "planning@edcgov.us" <planning@edcgov.us>, "tahoebuild@edcgov.us" <tahoebuild@edcgov.us>

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this as resident of 1740 Crystal Air Dr. This is a connecting lot to the proposed site for this tower.

We are extremely concerned as to a number of elements related to this tower. First and foremost are the health concerns. Despite ANY suggestion to the contrary there is zero scientific supporting evidence that this is SAFE! This is a major concern and should be for all. Secondly, is the visual eyesore. There is ZERO positive outcome in terms of having this in the neighborhood and in fact would be quite an eyesore. Thirdly is the fact that this will be a detriment for the overall property values.

It would be very disappointing that this project was able to move forward in light of ZERO support from anyone in the neighborhood aside from the owner of proposed location. That motivation is purely financial and selfish in nature.

Thank you for your consideration in NOT approving this project that has zero benefits for anyone except AT&T and the resident suggesting to have in their yard.

--

Dennis Brien
Vice President

Global Strategic Division, West

Hitachi Data Systems

m: 408-203-8874

Dennis.brien@hds.com



Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Special use permit S14-0009/AT&T Cell Tower Skyline Dr

Planning Unknown <planning@edcgov.us>
To: Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Thu, Feb 19, 2015 at 12:03 PM

Hi Char,

Please see public comment email.

Thanks, Debbie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **sansa brien** <sansabrien@hotmail.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 19, 2015 at 11:16 AM

Subject: RE: Special use permit S14-0009/AT&T Cell Tower Skyline Dr

To: "planning@edcgov.us" <planning@edcgov.us>, "bldgdept@edcgov.us" <bldgdept@edcgov.us>

Dear planning commission,

I am writing for you to please consider the negative implications of the proposed AT&T cell tower on Skyline Drive.

My parents bought the home at 1740 Crystal Air Drive after my dad had a stroke in 2006. They had always wanted a place for the whole family to be able to get together for vacations and realized you can't wait forever because you never know what life will bring. After a long search of both North and South shores we found this home. Immediately we were attracted to the beautiful neighborhood and the large fenced in yard. Our kids have loved it here and we have shared many great memories over the past 8+ years. We knew about the water tower when they bought the property but are extremely concerned and disappointed to hear of the possible cell tower.

My parents have 8 grandchildren between all of their 3 children and they planned to keep this home for us to make memories for a lifetime. We are extremely worried about having this tower so close to our home because of the likely harmful side effects of the tower. There is no evidence that this is at all safe to be exposed to - especially over long periods of time. We spend summers, every other weekend during the winter and vacations throughout the year as well. It is not a rental property but truly a home away from home. We recently invested a large amount of money into the back yard which included all new landscaping, horse shoe pit, fire pit, hot tub, etc.. I am worried about letting my children play out there with a new cell tower.

Further, it will be extremely unattractive and will most definitely reduce the property values in the area. We have spoken to many neighbors who share these concerns and I hope you will please reconsider locating the cell tower here. The selfish financial incentive of one neighbor should not be able to harm the whole neighborhood.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration for NOT approving this project.

Sansa Holmberg Brien
1740 Crystal Air Drive

[Quoted text hidden]

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February 19, 2015

Via Email

County of El Dorado Community Development Agency
Development Services Division Planning Services
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667
Email: planning@edcgov.us
bldgdept@edcgov.us

RE: Special use permit S14-0009/AT&T Cell Tower Skyline Dr

Dear Planning Commission,

We are strongly opposed to the proposed installation of another wireless telecommunication facility on the south side of Skyline Drive, specifically on the property identified by APN# 081-102-01. We own and reside at the property located at 1740 Crystal Air Drive. Our property shares a portion of the rear fence with the applicant's property. This tower will in essence be in our backyard. We have read the Commission's Staff Report and are absolutely disheartened by the staff's apparent recommendation to approve the Special Use Permit.

This Tower Does Not Belong In A Residential Neighborhood

The proposed site is right in the middle of a densely populated residential neighborhood consisting of homes mainly on lots of about 10-15,000 square feet. Children are abundant in this neighborhood, we specifically have eight grandchildren that reside with us on a weekly basis all between the ages of two and eleven. They will be playing in a backyard 35-40 feet from the base of the proposed tower.

We understand that the health risks are uncertain and to some extent unknown, however, cell towers are always prohibited on or around schools due to abundant concern and a "better safe than sorry" view. Why should our neighborhood be any different, especially if there are viable alternatives in non-residential areas?

We know that none of the property owners in this neighborhood support this tower. It has been made evident that the owners of the proposed site intend to move out and lease their property once the tower is installed and they are receiving the financial benefits. They have every right to do so, but it is very clear that they do not have the interests of the neighborhood in mind. Their motivation is purely financial and selfish in nature.

We understand that it is not feasible for the Commission members to visit every site, but we do

request that you treat and view this application as if this proposed 113 foot tower was being installed in your own backyard. Even if the health risks are unknown, the associated stigma and perceived risk is real and along with the physical eyesore will have a direct impact on neighboring property values. How hard would you push the applicant to find an alternative site if this was in your own backyard?

There Are Better Alternatives

The Commission seems to be swayed by the Supplemental Alternative Site Analysis submitted on January 14, 2015. If anything the Analysis establishes that there are in fact reasonable alternatives to the proposed site. AT&T argues that the proposed site location remains the "least intrusive". Least Intrusive to whom? AT&T?

Of course AT&T would prefer to install one tower that that addresses their claimed gaps in coverage. AT&T has not retained a third party to provide an alternative site analysis, but has instead offered up their own subjective list of four alternative sites. The Staff report indicates that two multi-site alternatives involving a combination of those four sites would provide 70 and 80 percent of the coverage compared to the proposed site. These would both involve towers located on public facility properties, NOT residential properties. The commission should give this fact enormous weight regardless of how many towers are needed to match the coverage provided by the proposed site.

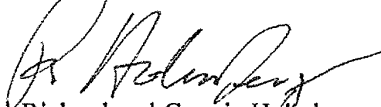
The Staff report cites the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as stating: "The regulation of the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities by any State or local government shall not unreasonably discriminate among providers of functionally equivalent services **and shall not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of personal wireless services.**" And goes on to state that courts have determined that a locality violates this Section of the Act if it prevents a wireless provider from closing a "significant gap in service coverage." (American Tower Corp. v. City of San Diego (9th Cir. 2014) 763 F.3d 1035, 1056.) This analysis requires (1) a showing of a significant gap in service coverage and (2) some inquiry into the feasibility of alternative facilities or site locations.

The Staff then draws the conclusion that the Commission cannot deny the proposed facility without having the effect of prohibiting the provision of personal wireless services in an area. This is absolutely not the case. AT&T's own suggested alternatives suggest that AT&T can achieve 80% of the coverage offered by the proposed site. By requiring the applicant to utilize the alternative sites the Commission would not be "prohibiting the provision of personal wireless services." In fact the non-residential alternatives close the existing gap in service by 80 percent. Nothing in the Act requires a local government to approve a location just because it is the "best" location for the wireless provider.

If AT&T feels that it needs a 100% match on the coverage offered by the proposed site the Commission should require that they find the alternative site that makes up that remaining 20%. An alternative site exists, AT&T would simply rather not incur the burden of having to find it when they have the current property owner under their thumb.

We are not suggesting that the Commission prohibit AT&T from closing their existing gap in coverage. We are however requesting that the Commission require AT&T to either utilize one of the non-residential proposed alternatives or invest in further analysis to locate a better alternative altogether. We sincerely hope that the Commission does not approve the Special Use Permit.

Thank your consideration,



Richard and Connie Hofmberg
1740 Crystal Air Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150