

8/12/2020

Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Opposing ATT Tower Frenchtown 2

PC 8.13.20

Hem #2

Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

2 pages



Fwd: Opposing ATT Tower Frenchtown 2

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>
To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 11:10 AM

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

From: **Elaine Starling** <estarring@mindspring.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 10:58 AM
Subject: Opposing ATT Tower Frenchtown 2
To: <Planning@edcgov.us>

From: Elaine Starling [mailto:estarring@mindspring.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 5:57 PM
To: 'Planning@edcgov.us'
Subject: Opposing ATT Tower Frenchtown 2

Dear Planning Commission and Planning Staff,

We have the parcel immediately south and adjacent to the proposed cell tower location on parcel number 091-070-022. We are strongly opposed to having a cell tower in that location for the following reasons:

- We are on a rise overlooking the entire proposed parcel. The proposed cell tower height of 160 feet puts it well above our house's height of 40 feet and very prominently in our northern views. Our home is at roughly the same elevation as the proposed cell tower so we would be exposed to the entire height of the tower and it would stand significantly taller than any of the surrounding trees. We do not want our views hindered or compromised as that was one of the determining factors in buying and building in this location.
- The Photo-Sim images provided by ATT were highly biased toward non-residential locations and do not accurately represent how the tower will be perceived by the homes in closer proximity to the proposed tower site, both in the French Creek / Big Canyon valleys and on the surrounding ridge lines. For example, image #4, on Lone Pine, is taken from the base of a neighbors driveway, well below the ridge where her home is located and from which the proposed tower would be easily seen. Furthermore, image #3 doesn't correspond with the map location, making it difficult to determine any accurate visual impact.
- We moved to this rural location to avoid the noise of subdivisions and suburbs. We enjoy having our windows open as much as possible to savor bird song and wind in the trees (and to manage the heating, ventilation and cooling requirements of the house). After some internet research, it appears that the 41.05 dBA noise level specified for the tower installation equates to a "suburban area at night" or "low level urban ambient sound". This area has rural levels of ambient noise, half those specified. Although the proposed site may fall within the county's noise policies, the surrounding area is presently very quiet with only occasional intrusions. The cell tower generator and constant noise is very unwelcome. In addition, since many of the surrounding homes are on hillside locations, the noise will travel up the slopes to greater impact.
- In researching the potential damage caused by cell towers, it is apparent that our home value will decline 10-20%! We are not being compensated for the loss in value of our property or for the intrusive nature of the cell tower.
- Our neighbors on Saint Garth are desperate for decent, reliable phone and internet service. According to the maps provided, they are in the "Outdoor" or "Transit" zones. It isn't clear that the cell tower will actually benefit them in any way. A location along the ridge to the East or West would provide far better coverage of our valley and serve many more people.

That ATT has only considered 6 locations is simply ridiculous. While it may be convenient to put the tower in that location, it is definitely NOT the most advantageous location to serve our valley.

In addition, please consider the following issues:

- The Project does not meet the required Findings for the CUP process as it is not compatible with, and is in fact detrimental to, the rural nature of the neighborhood due to aesthetic impacts on the surrounding developed (and undeveloped) parcels. It is too high above the surrounding vegetation and will be an ongoing eyesore to the neighbors.
- The need for more comprehensive and meaningful alternative site analysis
- Provide meaningful visual simulation from adjacent residential structures within 1/2 mile (such as our home). Visual Simulations that illustrate how each nearby neighbor's views and vistas will be impacted are required. As of now, we have NO IDEA how the will dominate the aesthetics of the residents nearby.
- As this will be starkly visible (+/- 100 feet above the oak canopy) to numerous neighbors greater than 1000 feet away and the useful service area is one mile, all those potentially benefiting or being impacted by the project should be given a voice. This project has not been thoroughly vetted by nearby residents and does not give people the ability to reasonably participate in the approval, environmental review or hearing process.

- We believe that the project will have substantial and significantly adverse impact on:
 - The scenic vista;
 - Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway;
 - Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings;
 - Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

We are very disappointed not to receive more advance notice of this poorly conceived project. This project has not been thoroughly vetted by nearby neighbors as no accurate information has been provided regarding the aesthetic impact (visual and noise related) nor has adequate information been provided regarding specific service levels for phone and internet for each neighbor provided by the proposed cell tower.

We strongly urge the Planning Commission to deny this cell phone project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elaine and Dane Starling
5320 Big Canyon Road
Shingle Springs, CA 95682



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Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Use Permit 20-0987/AT&T Frenchtown 2

PC 8.13.20

Item #2



Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Use Permit 20-0987/AT&T Frenchtown 2

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 3:22 PM

To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>, Gina Hamilton <gina.hamilton@edcgov.us>

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

From: **Derik Harris** <amdderik@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 3:21 PM

Subject: Use Permit 20-0987/AT&T Frenchtown 2

To: <planning@edcgov.us>

Dear Planning Commissioners,

My family and I live on Big Canyon Rd in Shingle Springs. This cell tower would allow us to have better connectivity and safety.

My major concern is wildfires and long term viability of working from home. As of the last 5 or so years, the landlines in our area are notorious for being unreliable and when the power goes out due to fire my family would not have a method to communicate their status and/or call for help. The cell tower would also allow for more reliable communications since now we have only had to ability to get internet through Rural net and cal net (satellite is not a viable alternative due to the latency).

Having this tower would also put my elderly family members at ease when they come and visit. Currently, some of them won't come to my house because of the fear they won't be able to get medical assistance in a timely manner due to a lack of communication methods with first responders.

Thanks,

Derik Harris

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Edcgov.us Mail - Fwd: Need for Cell Tower at Big Canyon

PC 8.13.20

Item #2

Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>



Fwd: Need for Cell Tower at Big Canyon

1 message

Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 3:37 PM

To: Julie Saylor <julie.saylor@edcgov.us>, Gina Hamilton <gina.hamilton@edcgov.us>

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

From: **Lance Murray** <lancermurray@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 3:36 PM

Subject: Need for Cell Tower at Big Canyon

To: <planning@edcgov.us>

Re: Use Permit 20-0987/AT&T Frenchtown 2

As you know, Big Canyon is a dead-spot and a cell tower is greatly needed. We are writing in support of allowing a cell tower to be installed.

This is a safety issue. This year more than ever, since we are quarantined and home-schooling our children, we need the safety of having cell phone service. Since we often have children at home alone during the day, if there was an issue such as fire or an intruder they have no way of calling for help with their cell phones.

Also, we have teenage drivers. If they should encounter a problem when driving in the area, they need to be able to call 911 or other assistance.

There are times when we are working from home and it would be helpful to have cell phone service and more reliable internet..

Lance Murray Esq
Dr. Angie Vickery
5360 Big Canyon Rd
Shingle Springs

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