Updated Citizen Communication about the Proposed Facility

(After the June 26th PC meeting)

Staff received the following communication:

A) 68 emails and other communication received from citizens

- A1) 26 % of citizens in favor of the facility for reasons of increased service, finances to the school, and property values increased due to increased cell phone coverage.
- A2) 65% opposed to the facility because of visual impacts to the community and that the facility does not comply with the County ordinances for concealment.
- A3) The other 9% of citizens who contacted staff in opposition of the facility mentioned health effects and were disqualified from being considered. Localities are not permitted to consider health effects when reviewing wireless facilities. Staff did not consider these emails. [Emails Attached]
- B) The CCAC passed a resolution on March 28, 2018 in opposition of the application (see attached).

Crozet Community Advisory Committee ("CCAC") Resolution on Proposed Milestone Communications SP2017-26-WAHS-Tier III March 28, 2018

WHEREAS, Milestone Communications has submitted an application referenced above for a special use permit ("SP") to construct a communications tower at the Western Albemarle High School;

WHEREAS, the Crozet Community Advisory Council ("CCAC") has reviewed this application and related documents, heard presentations from Milestone Communications representatives, reviewed the county staff report, and received input from Crozet and County residents, and wishes to provide input to the Albemarle County Planning Commission ("PC") and the Board of Supervisors ("BOS");

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Crozet Community Advisory Committee does not support the issuance of this special use permit, as currently proposed. Reasons discussed by CCAC members and/or the public for concern include:

- Concern that approval of a Tier III tower which does not comply the height and
 other limitations for a Tier I tower in the zoning ordinance could provide
 precedence for other such towers and approvals in the County which has properly
 fought to limit such visual impact on the valued visual landscape of Albemarle
 County;
- Visual impact of the tower;
- Desire for further exploration of alternatives, including alternate location and lower height/fewer & arrays;
- Concern over potential lack of benefit to the schools and school students by not being able to point to a reliable number of students who would in fact have internet access who do not currently have such access; are there <u>real</u> benefits to emergency responders;
- Potential health effects (cited by citizens);

I, David Stoner, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Crozet Community Advisory Committee at a regular meeting held March 28, 201 by a motion made by Shawn Bird and seconded by Phil Best. CCAC Members present and voting yes: Allie Pesch, Mike Kunkel, Kim Guenther, Phil Best, Jon McKeon, David Stoner, Shawn Bird. Members Voting NO: Sandra Mears, Doug Bates. Members absent or abstaining: Kostas Alibertis, Leslie Burns, James King, Tom Loach.

David A. Stoner CCAC Chairman

From:

David Benish

Sent:

Thursday, July 05, 2018 10:40 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Dear Planning Commission, please explain

From: ELS Jr <edwardnvirginia@hotmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, July 04, 2018 11:39 AM

To: Karen Firehock <kfirehock@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Cc: solidaritycville@gmail.com; Together Cville <togethercville@gmail.com>; Indivisible Charlottesville <contact@indivisiblecharlottesville.org>; naacp1947@gmail.com; bjohns@virginia-organizing.org

Subject: Re: Dear Planning Commission, please explain

Thank you.

We see that a host of ordinances - everyone you site regarding aesthetic considerations ['opportunities to screening', 'minimize its visibility', highly visible tower', etc] - confound the assurance of the PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, and GENERAL WELFARE benefits of reliable mobile and Internet service.

What now will Planning Commission propose to Supervisors - to revise ordinances and Comprehensive Plan, undertake a study, enter discussions, etc - to help ensure the PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, and GENERAL WELFARE benefits of reliable mobile and Internet service are prioritized against aesthetic considerations? For example, when considering PUBLIC SAFETY, is reliable mobile and Internet access more essential than not seeing a tower? For example, when considering improving the lives and educational attainment of children, is reliable mobile and Internet access more essential than not seeing a tower?

We do live in a moral universe - as Dr King said - with an arc of justice than bends (however visibly - like a mobile technology tower - or however invisibly - like a tower denied by the Planned Commission) toward justice. What are the justice considerations of the Planning Commission in this matter?

Respectfully,

Edward Strickler

copied to various groups concerned with justice and equity in our community

From: Karen Firehock <kfirehock@albemarle.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 4, 2018 11:07 AM

To: ELS Jr; Planning Commission **Cc:** Board of Supervisors members

Subject: Re: Dear Planning Commission, please explain

Dear Mr. Strickler, I don't have cell coverage where I live either. However we do not simply look at whether or not there is cell service. When evaluating such a proposal, the Planning Commission is required to evaluate compliance with the comprehensive plan and existing ordinances. The following are the reasons with which I concur that were outlined in the staff report that show this proposal was not in compliance. The full text of the report is available on line at:

http://www.albemarle.org/upload/images/forms center/departments/community development/forms/PC Reports/2018/S P201700026 June 26 Staff Report.pdf

Factors unfavorable to this request include:

- 1. The proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(6) of the ordinance because the location and height of the monopole does not provide adequate opportunities for screening and the facility is not sufficiently sited to minimize its visibility from adjacent parcels.
- 2. The proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(2)(b) of the ordinance because the size of the Shentel antenna is larger than 1,400 square inches. This increases the bulk atop the tower, which increases visibility of a highly visible tower.

3. ARB does not support or recommend approval of the facility.

4. Under FCC regulations if approved the monopole would be permitted to increase in height by 20 feet and install antenna extending up to 20 feet from the monopole which would further increase the visibility of the facility.

5. The facility is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends denial of SP201700026 and the SE to Section 5.1.40(b)(2)(b) (size) based on the unfavorable factors noted above. Staff has no objections to the approval of the special exceptions for Sections 5.1.40(b)(2)(c) (antenna projection), and Section 4.2.5 (disturbance of critical slopes)

Karen Firehock, Planning Commissioner Samuel Miller District Albemarle County, VA mobile: 434-249-2492

From: ELS Jr < edwardnvirginia@hotmail.com Sent: Wednesday, July 4, 2018 7:51:16 AM

To: Planning Commission

Cc: Board of Supervisors members

Subject: Dear Planning Commission, please explain

To Albemarle County Planning Commission (copied to Board of Supervisors):

Regarding this story

http://www.nbc29.com/story/38569735/western-albemarle-high-school-staff-working-to-increase-internet-accessibility

Western Albemarle High School Staff Working to Increase Internet Accessibility

www.nbc29.com

School may be out for the summer, but Albemarle County is still working to help every student access the internet.

that reports:

QUOTE

The Albemarle County Planning Commission denied plans for a cell tower that could go up at Western Albemarle High School in Crozet, but staff remain hopeful for the future and they want to see broadband accessible by all students. UQUOTE

Please explain:

1.is the report accurate? if so, please detail the rationale for your decision?
2.further, please explain your rationale in light of your legislative mandate, and with regard to the directly stated purposes listed in the mandate (highlighted), in particular please announce how you decision contrives to 'improve the public health, safety, convenience and welfare':

§ 15.2-2200. Declaration of legislative intent.

This chapter is intended to encourage localities to improve the public health, safety, convenience, and welfare of their citizens and to plan for the future development of communities to the end that transportation systems be carefully planned; that new community centers be developed with adequate highway, utility, health, educational, and recreational facilities; that the need for mineral resources and the needs of agriculture, industry, and business be recognized in future growth; that the concerns of military installations be recognized and taken into account in consideration of future development of areas immediately surrounding installations and that where practical, installation commanders shall be consulted on such matters by local officials; that residential areas be provided with healthy surroundings for family life; that agricultural and forestal land be preserved; and that the growth of the community be consonant with the efficient and economical use of public funds.

Code 1950, §§ 15-891.1, 15-900, 15-916, 15-961; 1950, pp. 487, 889; 1956, c. 497; 1962, c. 407, § 15.1-427; 1975, c. 641; 1981, c. 418; 1996, cc. 585, 600; 1997, c. 587; 2013, cc. 149, 213.

That's enough for now. We'll wait to see what you say.

Respectfully,

Edward Strickler

in the Scottsville District (where many poor and working class families face the same problems of no mobile or Internet access, to the detriment of their PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, CONVENIENCE and WELFARE!)

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:41 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Cell Tower

From: Stephen Rutherford <rutherfordsm@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Cell Tower

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Stephen Rutherford 5454 Park Rd (540)421-6793 Sent from my iPhone

Opposed -Usual impacts

From: T Adajian <adajiatrv@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2018 8:46 PM

To: Planning Commission

Subject: please uphold county ordinances & the Master Plan: in opposition to proposed WAHS

cell tower

Dear Planning Commission,

I live on Hill Top Street in Crozet. I write to express my strong opposition to proposed construction of a cell tower at WAHS, where my daughter is a student.

Such a tower is inconsistent with the Master Plan, as county planning staff have pointed out in their report. It is also inconsistent with Crozet's beautiful rural character.

As county planning staff point out in their report, ARB does not support, and does not recommend, approval of this facility.

As county planning staff point out in their report, the proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(6) of the ordinance because the location and height of the monopole does not provide adequate opportunities for screening and the facility is not sufficiently sited to minimize its visibility from adjacent parcels.

As county planning staff in their report, the proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(2)(b) of the ordinance because the size of the Shentel antenna is larger than 1,400 square inches. This increases the bulk atop the tower, which increases visibility of a highly visible tower.

A proposal that conflicts with ordinances, the Master Plan, and the ARB should be approved only if there are very, very significant benefits.

No such benefits exist in the present case.

I urge you to act in accordance with the county ordinances, the Master Plan, and the ARB: please not approve this proposal.

Thomas Adajian

5643 Hill Top Street Crozet

From:

David And Joanna Euans <djeuans@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 11:53 PM

To:

Planning Commission; Board of Supervisors members

Subject:

Oppose Cell phone tower

I do not want a cell phone tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed for WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you in advance! Joanna Euans

Sent from my iPhone Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: loveuxox <loveuxox@earthlink.net> Saturday, June 23, 2018 8:22 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Oppose cell tower at WAHS

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Sincerely, Beverly Harner 644 Baywick Circle Crozet

Opposed - Ordine

From:

Nicole Kelleher <nck9c@virginia.edu>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 11:21 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

cell phone tower

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Nicole Kelleher Crozet

From:

Mary Gallo Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2018 7:14 PM To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission Subject: Proposed Cell Phone Tower at WAHS - Please Vote NO Dear members of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, My name is Mary Gallo, and I am a resident of Crozet and former CCAC member. I am writing to express my opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. I urge you to consider the arguments against the tower, including the fact that the height is contrary to county ordinance and that it could be raised even higher in the future. As well, the tower would have a negative impact on the view shed, especially concerning since this is along a scenic byway. For these reasons, I ask you to vote No. Respectfully, Mary Gallo On Jun 24, 2018, at 4:45 PM, Sarah Kasen < sarah.kasen@gmail.com > wrote: Dear Board of Supervisors, My name is Sarah Kasen. I am a resident of Crozet and am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. I urge the Board of Supervisors to consider the many arguments against the tower, including the height which is contrary to the county ordinance, the possibility of having it further raised in the future, how the small-town feel of Crozet would be negatively impacted, and the negative impact the tower would have on the property value of numerous homes in the vicinity. I ask that you vote NO accordingly. Sincerely, Sarah Kasen

From:

Sarah Kasen < sarah.kasen@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 4:46 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; crozetcac@googlegroups.com

Subject:

Proposed Cell Phone Tower at WAHS

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sarah Kasen. I am a resident of Crozet and am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to consider the many arguments against the tower, including the height which is contrary to the county ordinance, the possibility of having it further raised in the future, how the small-town feel of Crozet would be negatively impacted, and the negative impact the tower would have on the property value of numerous homes in the vicinity. I ask that you vote NO accordingly.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kasen

From:

Martin <crovet@aol.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 12:50 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell tower

I request our representatives on the commission to protect our children's health, and our view shed. Please deny this WAHS as an inappropriate site for a transmission tower.

Martin Schulman VMD
Crozet Veterinary Care Center
Bio info:

Http://about.me/crovet

From:

Blair Anderson blair1207@gmail.com

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 1:42 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell towers

I oppose the proposal of a cell tower next to the schools which my children attend. I am concerned about potential health hazards.

Thank you, Blair Anderson

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Cathy Ziemba <cathyziemba@me.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 12:44 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

support for cell tower

I support the cell tower next to Western High school. I am a resident of Albemarle County and know cell towers are necessary for connectivity.

Thank you,

Mary Ziemba

From:

melissa Moore preskamelissa@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 12:00 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell tower

Dear Albemarle County Planning Commission,

I understand that there is a proposal to build a cell tower in Crozet at WAHS. I strongly oppose this tower as it will be visible throughout our community and will negatively affect the appearance of this area, which may have many negative consequences. The application does not meet proposed county ordinances and I sincerely hope the application will be denied.

Thank you, Melissa Moore Crozet Resident

From:

carol fairborn < carolfairborn@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 11:32 AM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

Re: WAHS Cell Tower - NO!!!

all Ordline now

Just a quick follow up to my earlier email asking you to please DENY the cell tower application at WAHS. It is my understanding that perhaps the health risks associated with proximity to cell towers can not be used as a reason to deny the application because of the FCC. However, you can most certainly use the fact that the proposed cell tower does NOT meet established County ordinances. I urge you and expect you to vote to DENY this cell tower application, based on the fact alone that it does NOT meet established County ordinances.

Thank you, Carol Fairborn 5961 Westhall Drive Crozet, VA 22932 (414) 241-4086

On Sun, Jun 24, 2018 at 11:27 AM, carol fairborn < carolfairborn@gmail.com> wrote: Hello,

As a resident of Crozet with a rising 9th grader at WAHS and a rising 7th grader at Henley (who will eventually attend WAHS), I strongly urge you to DENY the application to place a cell tower next to WAHS. Extensive studies have shown a direct correlation between proximity to a cell tower and increased rates of cancer. We do NOT want a cell tower at any of our County Schools, including WAHS.

Please vote to DENY the cell tower application for the safety and health of our students and the residents of Crozet, and to protect the beauty of Crozet.

Thank you, Carol Fairborn 5961 Westhall Drive Crozet, VA 22932

(414) 241-4086

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, July 23, 2018 9:10 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Please no cell tower

----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Fowler < saddlehollow@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 22, 2018 3:33 PM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Please no cell tower

I hate the idea of a cell tower at WAHS. Please block it!

Thanks

Elizabeth Fowler

Crozet, VA

From: Kathleen Burkholder < bkburkholder 5@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 5:54 AM

To: Planning Commission < PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: No tower, please

Planning Commission,

"We do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you for your consideration."

Sincerely,

Burt and Kathleen Burkholder

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Robertann D <rtajd1@gmail.com> Saturday, June 23, 2018 7:26 PM

Sent: To:

Planning Commission

We do not want a cell tower at WAHS or any other school area in Crozet.

Thank you, Robert and Ann Deames

From: Sue Ann Conquest <sagconquest1@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2018 5:36 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Cc: Dai

Subject: Proposed Cell Tower

My name is Dan Conquest and I am resident of Albemarle County expressing strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

The height of the proposed tower, 145 feet, is more than 80 feet above the trees around it. It will be fully visible for more than it is screened. This is completely contrary to our county ordinance for tree top towers which specifies that towers should be 7-10 feet higher than the reference tree. Higher towers would only be approved by special permit, be that there was found to be no significant detriment to the surrounding area or residents' quality of life. Taller towers have been approved in places where there is mountain and forest behind them, making them much less visible. At this height, the tower will be visible from White Hall to Batesville, Afton to FoxChase. Moreover, If approved, the applicant could also raise the tower twenty feet without further permission, making it 165 feet tall and about 100 feet in full view.

The Supreme Court of Virginia has upheld the Albemarle ordinance based on visibility and aesthetics. These rules are within the County's authority to uphold and must be done. Much of Crozet's appeal to homeowners lies in its small-town community feel, access to open spaces, and it's expansive pastoral and mountain vistas. An enormous cell phone tower, planted within sight of Crozet and beyond, absolutely shatters these highly-prized views. When conducting our own home search in 2008, we specifically avoided any real estate that was in sight of power lines, for aesthetic reasons. Had there been cell phone towers in the area at the time, we would have declined to consider any properties within sight of these as well. A cell phone tower of this size and scope, built in such a centrally-located spot, will surely negatively impact the property values of those in the area.

Dan

Dan Conquest - REALTOR, GRI Sue Ann Conquest - REALTOR, GRI

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dconquest70@gmail.com sagconquest1@gmail.com

From:

Han Lee <han1728@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 4:43 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

WAHS tower proposal. They should allow for new tower

Many carriers can benefit from the new tower. Crozet area is lagging in speed.

New tower ASAP please

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Kyle Enfield <kbenfield@me.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 4:28 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

Proposed Cell Tower

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I recently heard of the proposed cell tower st WAHS. It is unclear to me what this tower adds to our region. However, as I understand the issue this tower does not meet county ordinances and would urge that you vote no unless it meets those ordinances and meets a clear need.

It is ironic that this is being considered when there are areas of our county that lack basic telephone and internet services.

Regards,

Kyle Enfield 7149 Bradbury CT Crozet

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Mia White <miawhite0@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 2:38 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

VOTE NO FOR THE CELL TOWER AT WAHS!

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you!

Mia

Mia White
massage & wellness
for women

Mia White Massage & Wellness for Women In Old Trail/Crozet 434.825.2708

Visit www.MiaWhiteMassage.com to schedule your massage online

From:

Allison Splaun <allison.splaun@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 2:05 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell Tower near WAHS

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Allison Splaun

From:

Margery Thacker <margerythacker@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 1:56 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell tower

I am against building the cell tower at WAHS. Please deny the request.

From:

David Kohn <dave.kohn3@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, June 23, 2018 1:54 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell Towers at Western Albemarle

My wife and I live in Crozet and we are in FAVOR of the proposed cell tower at Western Albemarle. There is no scientific evidence that the cell tower provides any significant risks to humans and we need the coverage in Crozet.

Please approve the cell tower.

Thank you.

David and Leslie Kohn 6661 Welbourne Ln Crozet, VA

From:

Susan Martin <susan.komartin@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 8:25 AM Board of Supervisors members

To: Subject:

Cell tower

Dear Sir/Madam:

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County Schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this important decision.

Sincerely,

Susan Martin

From: Jennifer Till < jennifer.l.till@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2018 6:04 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject: WAHS proposed cell tower opposition

Fellow citizens,

I am STRONGLY opposed to a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances. I would like you to will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you!

Respectfully, Jennifer Till Batesville resident

From:

Cynthia Rikhye <cynthia.rikhye@alum.vassar.edu>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 2:19 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell tower at WAHS

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances, and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Cynthia Rikhye 1130 Highlands Drive C'ville, 22901

From:

Stephanie <skhicks@creeksidecrozet.net>

Sent:

Sunday, June 24, 2018 11:21 AM

To: **Subject:**

proposed cell tower at WAHS

Planning Commission

Dear planning commission members-

Please do not build cell towers near our schools! The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances, and I hope you will vote to deny the application. I also hope you will consider the health and safety of my children and all the others who attend WAHS now and will attend in the future.

Thank you for making our children your priority! Odines Health 50/50

Stephanie Hicks

From: Chelsea Sachno <csachno@aftoncs.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2018 11:50 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject: Cell Tower @ WAHS is a horrible idea

I do not want a cell tower at any of our county schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Respectfully, Chelsea Sachno Crozet, VA



9357 Critzer Shop Road, Afton, Virginia 22920 Telephone: 540.456.6853 Fax: 540.456.6236

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From: Sarah Harris <sarahkeenan128@hotmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2018 4:53 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject: WAHS Cell Tower

Hello,

I am a resident of Albemarle County, having resided in Old Trail for the past six years. I have three children who currently attend Henley Middle and Brownsville Elementary. I am writing to you to express my concerns about the construction of a cell tower on the property of Western Albemarle High School, my children's future high school. I am concerned about the potential for health risks associated with living/attending school in such proximity to a tower. I am also concerned, though significantly less so, about the fact that the tower will be visible from our neighborhood.

Beyond my concerns, however, the Albemarle County Planning Staff Report Summary clearly states that the proposed cell tower FAILS to meet several sections of the ordinance, in addition to other concerns:

- "1. The proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(6) of the ordinance because the location and height of the monopole does not provide adequate opportunities for screening and the facility is not sufficiently sited to minimize its visibility from adjacent parcels.
- 2. The proposal fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(2)(b) of the ordinance because the size of the Shentel antenna is larger than 1,400 square inches. This increases the bulk atop the tower, which increases visibility of a highly visible tower.
- 3. ARB does not support or recommend approval of the facility.
- 4. Under FCC regulations if approved the monopole would be permitted to increase in height by 20 feet and install antenna extending up to 20 feet from the monopole which would further increase the visibility of the facility.
- 5. The facility is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan."

(Source: http://www.albemarle.org/upload/images/forms center/departments/community development/forms/PC Reports/2018/SP201700026 June 26 Staff Report.pdf)

Please take the community's input into consideration when making the decision whether or not to approve the proposal to construct a cell tower on the WAHS property. I will not be able to attend Tuesday evening's meeting (it's our 14th wedding anniversary!) but would like my opinion to be noted.

Thank you for taking the time to take my concerns into consideration.

Sarah Harris Old Trail

Early Childhood Program Director Wildrock www.wildrock.org

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 9:50 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Please vote NO on WAHS cell tower!

From: Bob Bond <rtbond@comcast.net> Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 9:13 AM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Cc: Bond Robert T. <rtbond@comcast.net>
Subject: Please vote NO on WAHS cell tower!

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Best regards,

Bob Bond rtbond@comcast.net

From: Elaine Echols

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 9:46 AM

To: Christopher Perez

Subject: FW: Crozet in desperate need for improvement in Cellular infrastructure!

----Original Message----

From: Bob Keysar <rkeysar@me.com> Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2018 12:01 PM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Crozet in desperate need for improvement in Cellular infrastructure!

Commissioners,

I don't care if it's as high as the clouds if it provides the Crozet community 360 degree 5G coverage!!

Of course health concerns matter regarding high school location...there should be alternatives at 164/250 intersections.

We need 5G coverage; make it happen!

I live on Burchs Creek Road and can't even get DSL so please represent your rural citizens!

VR/ Robert Keysar

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 1:20 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: No cell tower at WAHS

From: Kristine Bourque < kristine4@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 12:07 PM

To: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>; Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>

Subject: No cell tower at WAHS

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

Sincerely, Kristine Bourque Crozet resident and parent

From:

Sarah Scarboro <sarah.scarboro@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 1:22 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

NO CELL TOWER, PLEASE!!

Dear Planning Commission,

I do not want a cell tower at any of our county schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established county ordinances and I sincerely hope that you will vote to deny the application.

Thank you!!

Sarah Scarboro

--

Sarah Scarboro

From:

D Sylvester <sylves4elohim@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 2:04 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

Cell tower proposed at WAHS

Dear Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission,

As a long-time resident of Albemarle County, I do not want a cell tower at any of our county schools. The one being proposed to be built at WAHS does not meet established county ordinances. **Therefore I hope you will vote to deny the application!**

There are plenty of other sites to consider besides one that is close to thousands of residents.

Thank you, Donna Sylvester Ph.D. Candidate, MFT

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 2:26 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Crozet Cell Tower

From: Haium, Lauren J (Lauren) < LHAIUM@ball.com>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 2:26 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Crozet Cell Tower

Good afternoon,

I understand that tomorrow you are voting on the cell tower to be placed at Western Albemarle High School and want you to know that as a property owner in Crozet, I am STRONGLY opposed to the placement of the tower. I have two children at Brownsville that will attend Henley and Western in the upcoming years and I can't even imagine that placing a cell tower next to three schools were our developing children spend the majority of their days is even up for consideration. After much reading and discussion, I am not convinced that all health concerns are known at this point and the potential risk does not even come close to justifying the limited benefits.

In addition to potential health concerns, it is a complete eyesore and I believe it will destroy the small town charm we have been fighting so hard to protect these past few years. I support growth in our community but it must be planned and implications must be carefully considered. I have read emails saying this is financially motivated and if that is the case, I am deeply saddened. Simply put, there has to be another way to fund our schools, and uphold the values of our town and its residents.

Furthermore, I understand that the tower being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you, Lauren Haium

286 Grayrock Drive

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From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 3:03 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Proposed cell tower

----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Rapp < lizrapp12@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 2:46 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members

bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Proposed cell tower

Hello,

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you,

Liz Rapp, Crozet resident

Rich Cifaldi

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a long-time resident and dutiful employee, who has lived and worked in our beautiful community of Crozet for years. I am writing in order to detail the many reasons why a Cell Phone Tower should not be built nor operated at Western Albemarle High School.

There have been numerous documented government recognitions of cell tower hazards. I have listed a few here:

- On April 2, 2009, the European Parliament overwhelmingly passed a resolution on "Health Concerns associated with Electromagnetic Fields (Cell Tower emissions)". One of the resolutions is that the wireless telecommunications cell towers should not be placed near schools.
- In 2009, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to overturn Section 704 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which takes away local government rights to refuse cell towers for health reasons. Since then several other local governments in California, Arizona, Mexico, and Oregon have passed similar resolutions.
- In 2010, an Indian government panel reported on the dangers of cell towers.

Many studies have shown conclusive evidence that radio frequency emissions, a form of electromagnetic radiation, from cell towers is harmful. I have listed some of the studies here:

- Dr. Neil Cherry, a biophysicist at Lincoln University reported that, "Public Health surveys
 of people living in the vicinity of cell site base stations should be carried out now, and
 continue progressively over the next two decades. This is because prompt effects such
 as miscarriage, cardiac disruption, sleep disturbance, and chronic fatigue could well be
 early indicators of adverse health effects."
- Biomedical engineer Mariana Alves-Pereira has reported exposure to cell phone towers can lead to vibroacoustic disease. Effects are "similar in what is seen in vibroacoustic disease patients, which are people who develop a disease caused by low frequency noise exposure." Symptoms can include mood swings, indigestion, ulcers and joint pain.
- Dr. Gerard Hyland, a physicist who was twice nominated for the Nobel Prize in medicine, wrote, "Existing safety guidelines for cell phone towers are completely inadequate."
- According to the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center, "Studies have shown that
 even at low levels of this radiation, there is evidence to damage of cell tissues and DNA,
 and it has been linked to brain tumors, cancer, suppressed immune function,
 miscarriage, depression, Alzheimer's disease, and numerous other serious illnesses."

All of this evidence is in addition to the much documented fact that Cell Towers of this size and scope, built in a centrally located spot of a small community, will negatively impact the property values in the area. Whether you agree with these assessments or not, I, along with many other members of the community, are ready, willing and able to fight the installation of this Cell Tower at Western Albemarle High School, as long as necessary. The safety, health and well-being of our community hangs in the balance. The decision is up to you.

Sincerely, Rich Cifaldi

From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 11:19 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: WAHS Cell Tower - NO!!!

----Original Message----

From: Luke Fairborn < Ifairborn@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 11:14 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Re: WAHS Cell Tower - NO!!!

Hello,

I am a resident of Crozet with a rising 9th grader at WAHS and rising 7th grader at Henley.

I am writing to urge you deny the application to place a cell phone tower next to WAHS. Many experts believe that cell phone towers are a possible carcinogen.

http://microwavenews.com/news-center/iarc-cell-phone-radiation-possible-human-carcinogen

Additionally, studies have shown that cell phone towers cause other health issues, including fatigue, nausea, and depression -- even for people living more than 300 meters from a base station.

https://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/scalar_tech/esp_scalartech23.htm

I realize that there are people who claim the evidence of risks posed by cell towers is not 100% conclusive. My response to them is that the health of our children is too important to gamble with. I do not want my children riding a bike without a helmet even though they most likely will be fine without it-- because the consequences of falling and hitting their head are severe. Along those lines, I don't want my children to attend a school with a cell phone tower on its campus, even though the tower might not cause them health problems -- because the consequences of depression and cancer are severe.

Thank you, Luke Fairborn 5961 Westhall Drive Crozet VA 22932 414.241.5487

From: Marianne Jackson <marianne_jackson@me.com>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 9:09 PM

To: Planning Commission **Subject:** Cell Tower at WAHS

To any members who did not receive our email, as we were unable to access the member list due to a server error:

Dear Members of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission,

We are the Jackson family of Savannah Court, a neighborhood situated in the immediate vicinity of the proposed cell tower. We are strongly opposed to the construction of this tower as it doesn't meet county ordinances and poses a direct threat to the value of our property. Please vote to deny this application.

Thank you,

Sean, Marianne, Thomas, and Hannah Jackson

From:

Heidi Burnette <heidiburnette73@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 8:43 PM

To:

Planning Commission; Board of Supervisors members

Subject:

Cell Tower at WAHS - Please Vote Against the Proposal

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly.

Thank you!

Heidi Burnette 5249 Park Ridge Ct. Crozet, VA 22932

Sent from my iPhone

From:

kipaudri < kipaudri@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 25, 2018 6:13 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

Support for the cell tower in Crozet

Cory Farm supports the cell tower...

Kishor

From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 8:41 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Cell Tower at WAHS

From: Jennifer Henderson < jennwhenderson@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 8:38 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Cell Tower at WAHS

I do not want a cell tower at any of our County schools. The one being proposed at WAHS does not meet established County ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application accordingly. Thank you!

From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 12:03 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: WAHS cell tower opposition

From: Chris Highley <chrishighley@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 12:00 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: WAHS cell tower opposition

I am writing to express opposition to the construction of the proposed communications tower on the WAHS campus. In the shadow of this structure would lie our schools and a growing community--and of course natural beauty defined by mountains, trees, and (despite the development) a simpler feel. This tower violates multiple local ordinances, designed to protect these features of this community. Violating these ordinances is incongruous with the environment these ordinances are specifically designed for and would have potentially negative impacts on all local properties and on the natural resources (vistas around scenic byway and rural beauty). This alone should be enough for the committee to reject the tower on the WAHS property.

I would like to state that I recognize the need to provide access to rural communities, but I do not think that this concern should override carefully considered local ordinances. I'm guessing there are many other towering structures that might be proposed in a growing community, and we should not start making exceptions without careful and deliberate consideration of all alternatives--are there other sites that might serve the needs of the rural community? A communications tower right off 250, on top of our schools (K-12--Brownsville ES and Henley MS, not just WAHS), in direct sight of a densely populated neighborhood, and in violation of multiple ordinances, should be built only if all other options have been exhausted, and even then, maybe not--there are of course other considerations (and surely other ways to facilitate rural connectivity).

In short, on the basis of established ordinances alone, this structure should be denied. However, it should be noted that the health risks posed by these towers are certainly not scientifically resolved as of June 26, 2018. Contrary to what some supporters of the tower have said in online discussions I've been part of, the science on the safety of the radiation from these towers is definitely not settled. Folks have suggested you should be more worried about heat lamps (or bluetooth or wifi) than cell phone radiation--and while that might be true--it is beside the point here. There is apparently good science linking radiation from cell phones and cell towers to cancer-apparently reputable studies are currently under review by the National Institutes of Health, including "the largest, most complex studies ever conducted by [the National Toxicology Program]" (quote from link below). Anyone suggesting that health concerns from cell towers are not supported by actual science is not accurate, scientifically. You can read more about the studies and review process at the NIH here: https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/results/areas/cellphones/, and if you'd like to read a summary, a reputable popular science magazine (Scientific American) reported on the studies just this past March: https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/new-studies-link-cell-phone-radiation-with-cancer/ Scientifically speaking, these kinds of radiation have not been linked to cancer in humans, but statements suggesting that concerns are not supported by actual science are absolutely not true. At this point anyway. There are concerns that derive directly from science. In the end, they may not be significant or major concerns, but the question is scientifically open (particularly since the mechanism is unknown). You cannot ethically run the same sorts of

tests on humans that you run on rodents. I'd prefer my children not be part of the unknowing cohort receiving extra radiation doses, above and beyond what they are already getting.

So in your duties in planning for the community, even though you can not take health concerns into consideration, please know that your community does and rest assured that they will stand behind you if you do too. Can consideration of this kind of structure not at least be postponed until the NIH has reported on the findings of these studies this coming fall?

Surely access can be provided through careful placement of communications equipment that is not directly over our children's schools. And I'd bet that local families would prefer you to raise revenues in any other way than potentially (at this point, until the risks are better understood) putting children and educators at risk throughout their K-12 years to prolonged exposures to radiation that studies suggest may be carcinogenic. As to the finances, I'd have to think that the desirability of our schools would take a huge hit if this tower were built and the NIH found reason for concern. I'd have to think that the primary basis of revenue generation--local taxes would think also be at risk.

Thanks for considering this, Chris Highley current resident of Old Trail, Crozet 22932

From:

Stephanie Banton

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:39 PM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Please vote NO to WAHS cell tower

----Original Message-----

From: Deb Lamberton < deblamberton@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 12:47 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Please vote NO to WAHS cell tower

What is the ultimate price of turning Crozet into a "mini-me" Charlottesville? The eradication of 79 trees plus impacting a rural viewshed? The hands-down capitulation to incentivized developers who build without regard to both infrastructure and quality of life and then disappear?

One citizen proponent of the tower compares robust cell service throughout WVa to Crozet's inadequate coverage. It beg to differ, but cell service is WVa is wholly dependent on your cell provider, yet somehow, folks living in the Mountaineer state still manager to survive from one day to the next.

I respectfully urge a "NO" vote for permission to construct the proposed cell tower.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deb Lamberton Crozet, VA

From: Elaine Echols

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 2:19 PM

To: Christopher Perez

Subject: FW: Opposed to cell tower

----Original Message-----

From: Christie Kilby <chkilby@gmail.com> Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 2:12 PM

To: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>; Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>

Subject: Opposed to cell tower

Dear Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission,

As a citizen of Albemarle County (5321 Ashlar Avenue Crozet), I would like to voice my support for a no-vote on the WAHS cell tower, for both aesthetic and potential health concerns. I also do not think it prudent to bring corporate interests onto our school properties for the sake of maintaining local control and financial transparency.

Thank you for your public service,

Christina A. Kilby

Christie Kilby, Ph. D.

From:

Erin Marley <erinmarley@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 9:02 PM

To:

Planning Commission

Subject:

WAHS cell tower

Good evening,

I do not want a cell tower at any of our Albemarle county schools. The cell tower being proposed at WAHS does not meet established county ordinances and I hope you will vote to deny the application. Please pause to consider all the facts regarding this cell tower and hear the voices of our Crozet community.

Many thanks, Erin Marley Crozet, VA

Erin

From:

Ann Mallek

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 6:02 PM

To: Subject: Planning Commission Fwd: Cell tower at WAHS

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cynthia Rikhye < cynthia.rikhye@alum.vassar.edu>

Date: June 26, 2018 at 5:44:21 PM EDT

To: bos@albemarle.org

Subject: Cell tower at WAHS

At the request of neighbor Mr. Dan Barney, I forward herewith his Vote No comments on the cell tower:

Dan Barney

, Jarman Estates 5h ago New

For 50 years (I graduated with an electronic degree in 1968) i have analyzed communication systems. I am as old and experienced as you can get in this field. There is no apparent need for another tower with cell phone/communications transmissions. Look at most cell phone towers and you will notice perhaps 30 to 40 antennas around the top. Just put a few more antennas on the existing towers. Expedia ranked Crozet as the most beautiful location in Virginia. DON'T destroy our environment with a worthless, redundant, 16 story abomination....with blinking red lights the whole night. This destroys the daylight views and night time views of our community. If the cell phone service is not adequate in your area, it can be improved by using the same towers with a greater number of directional antennas. Where I live the security system I use (Simply Safe) changed from the cell phone service that the tower (about 8 inches tall) came with the system to another cell phone service that has tremendous service. Sometimes one needs to change from the cell phone service to a service that provides adequate energy (service) where they live. We can't expect that every cell phone company has to have 100% coverage of every area (Unless you want cell-hone towers in your back yard.) The water company years ago wanted to put a water tower 100 yards from my home and I objected and they stood down. If there is any doubt, I vote NO! Use existing towers. Please forward this to the appropriate officials.

Cynthia Rikhye 1130 Highlands Drive

From:

almira.saenz@gmail.com

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 3:49 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission

Subject:

Opposition to Cell Phone Tower at WAHS

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Almira Saenz and I am a resident of Crozet. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

The location and height of the proposed tower fails to meet section 5.1.40(b)(6) of the Albemarle zoning ordinance. The Supreme Court of Virginia has upheld the Albemarle ordinance based on visibility and aesthetics. These rules are within the County's authority to uphold and must be done. Much of Crozet's appeal to homeowners lies in its small-town community feel, access to open spaces, and it's expansive pastoral and mountain vistas. A cell phone tower of this size and scope, built in such a centrally-located spot, will negatively impact the property values of those in the area.

As for the assertion that the tower will increase wireless coverage allowing people to make emergency calls, we have had no issues with wireless coverage and no difficulties making emergency calls.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to abide by established County ordinances and vote to deny the application for the cell phone tower. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Almira Saenz

From:

Ed <edquigs@comcast.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:47 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Letter of Support for Proposed Tower at WAHS

My name is Ed Quigley and I am a current Albemarle County resident who lives at 5215 Park Ridge Court in Crozet. I am writing to voice my support of the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School currently under consideration. I have child who attends the school (or others who soon will) and believe it important that students and administrators have reliable wireless communications - particularly in support of emergency response, if needed. I also think that the improved cell coverage will be a benefit to our Crozet community. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ed Quigley

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Kevin Murray <kevin29er@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:49 AM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Proposed Tower at WAHS

My name is Kcvin Murray, resident of Crozet, VA at 5074 Spring Cove Ct. Please support the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. We need **reliable** wireless communications at these schools, particularly for emergencies.

From:

Jeff Hoffman <jeff@virginiatower.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:26 AM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Cell Phone Tower at Western Albemarle High School

My name is Jeff Hoffman and I live at 3700 Magnolia Road, Gordonsville which is in Albemarle County. Please support the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. We need better wireless service in the County. We also need some sort of option for high speed internet in the north east (forgotten) portion of the county.

Thank you for your time, Jeff

Jeff Hoffman Virginia Tower Construction, LLC jeff@virginiatower.com 540.241.0271





From:

Diego Anderson <dander0412@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, March 26, 2018 6:16 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Cell coverage improvement

Hello all,

My name is Diego Anderson and I live at 1872 Rhett Court in Albemarle County. Please support the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School aimed at improving network coverage in that area. We need reliable wireless communications at our schools. Just a short note to express feedback about this pending matter.

Best Regards,

Diego 434.760.8778

From:

Jeffrey Claman < Jeffrey.Claman@emp.shentel.com>

Sent:

Monday, March 26, 2018 6:57 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Proposed Tower at Western Albemarle High School (WAHS) / Application

#SP201700026

Hello,

My name is Jeff Claman and I live at 5925 Weston Ln, Crozet in Albemarle County. Please support the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. We need better wireless service in the County and a safer school campus environment with the ability to have better communication with our students, children and staff.

Thank you

Get Outlook for iOS

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, February 26, 2018 9:14 AM

To: Subject: Christopher Perez FW: WAHS cell tower

From: Meagan MacQueen [mailto:meagan.macqueen@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 25, 2018 3:11 PM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Subject: WAHS cell tower

Dear Planning Commission,

I'm writing to say that I am a committed voter and I vehemently oppose the placement of a cell tower at Western Albemarle high school. As a mother of two children in the western feeder pattern, I do not want them to be exposed to that. I know that you are not supposed to consider health concerns, however I am compelled to share the following. I am a nurse and a cancer survivor and we do not yet know the full effects of having a cell tower in that close proximity to developing bodies. I don't want my children or anyone else's to be the experiment to find out what happens. This is an opportunity to demonstrate how committed we are to protecting our children in school.

In addition to the potential harmful health effects of the cell tower, it is a complete eyesore. I know that the balloon test proved that the tower would be visible to those in old Trail thereby potentially decreasing property values and having the county and school be known for selling out and harming the community for profit. If the money is so needed, I feel sure that there is another way. We need to get creative and involve the community.

Lastly, as I understand it, this violates the County's own concealment and view-shed ordinances. This is an opportunity to demonstrate ethics and morality to our students and community, rather than going for the easy money play.

Please do not allow the placement of the cell tower. I know that many in my community are as opposed to it as I am.

Thank you, Meagan MacQueen Crozet, VA

From:

HEIDI BROWN <heidihbb@comcast.net>

Sent:

Thursday, February 22, 2018 7:49 PM

To:

CHarold@milestonecorp.com; Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission;

Christopher Perez

Subject:

Shentel Cellphone Tower at Western Albemarle High School

My name is Heidi Brown.

My address is 977 Clearfields Lane in Crozet.

Please accept this email as my support for the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. The schools need more funding, and we all need more reliable wireless service in Crozet.

Thank you,

Heidi Brown

From:

leahudaniel <leahudaniel@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 8:04 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Cc:

Todd Daniel; Dan.Meenan@emp.shentel.com

Subject:

Cell Tower support

My name is Leah Daniel. My address is 352 Grayrock Drive in Crozet. Please accept this email as my support for the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. The schools need more funding, and we all need more reliable wireless service in Crozet.

Leah

Leah U. Daniel 434-409-1166

From:

Darcy Starsia <darcystarsia@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 11:12 AM

To:

CHarold@milestonecorp.com; Christopher Perez; Planning Commission; Board of

Supervisors members

Subject:

Proposed WAHS cell tower

My name is Darcy Starsia. I am a teacher within the Western District, and I have a student at WAHS.

Please accept this email as my support for the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. The schools need more funding, and we all need more reliable wireless service in Crozet.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Darcy A. Starsia 2659 Browns Gap Tpke Charlottesville VA 22901 845.803.4462

--

Darcy A. Starsia 845.803.4462 cell

From:

Heilman, Carrie (cmh8p) <cmh8p@comm.virginia.edu>

Sent:

Saturday, January 20, 2018 3:53 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

Cell Tower at WAHS

Dear County and Milestone Communications Representatives:

May name is Carrie Heilman (6559 Woodbourne Ln., Crozet) and I am writing to support the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. The schools need more funding, and we all need more reliable wireless service in Crozet.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Carrie Heilman Crozet Resident Mother of 2nd & 5th graders (B'ville), 8th grader (Henley) and 11th grader (WAHS)

Carrie M. Heilman Associate Professor of Marketing McIntire School of Commerce Faculty Athletics Rep University of Virginia

Email: <u>heilman@virginia.edu</u>; Office: 434-243-8738 https://www.commerce.virginia.edu/faculty/heilman

From:

Doug Barrese <doug@flavorguru.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 10:38 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

RE: Proposed Tower at Western Albemarle High School

Thanks for your time and attention on this.

We are at:

299 Field Pine Lane Crozet, VA 22932



Doug Barrese

Ben & Jerry's Franchisee Charlottesville VA 1112 Emmet Street Charlottesville, VA 22903 434-249-4896 doug@flavorguru.com

From: Christopher Perez [mailto:cperez@albemarle.org]

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 10:53 AM

To: Doug Barrese <doug@flavorguru.com>; CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject: RE: Proposed Tower at Western Albemarle High School

Doug,

Thank you for your feedback. Your support of the project will be reflected in the staff report to the PC/BOS. What is your home address? I want to make sure I can locate your home on the GIS map. Thanks

Christopher P. Perez | Senior Planner

Department of Community Development | County of Albemarle, Virginia 401 McIntire Road | Charlottesville, VA 22902 434.296.5832 ext. 3443

From: Doug Barrese [mailto:doug@flavorguru.com]

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 11:05 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members < bos@albemarle.org >; Planning Commission < PlanningCommission@albemarle.org >;

Christopher Perez < cperez@albemarle.org >; CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject: Proposed Tower at Western Albemarle High School

I'm writing today in support of the proposed tower at WAHS.

From: Doug Barrese <doug@flavorguru.com>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 11:05 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject: Proposed Tower at Western Albemarle High School

I'm writing today in support of the proposed tower at WAHS.

Our home is located 300 yards off Route 250, only 1 mile from WAHS, but based on our location we have no access to land based internet. We have exhausted all our options in finding an affordable wireless service with unlimited data and check the marketplace regularly for new services. We currently use a Crozet based wireless provider and connect at speeds of 1.5 MB/sec or less. Based on weather and shared network demand our connection speed is often lower.

Just last night, my son spent 20 minutes waiting to stream a 1 minute video as part of his homework. Both of my children (I have an 11th grader at WAHS and an 8th grader at Henley) struggle to complete their homework each day based on access to reliable high speed internet. Both of my children go to school early each day to complete their assignments using the school WiFi.

I am certain that many other homes in our community suffer the same lack of access based on the challenges of long term investment in infrastructure. Please consider how important technology access is for the young men and women in our community and approve this tower which will dramatically impact so many of the developing leaders in our county.

Please feel free to let me know if I can be of further assistance in any way.



Doug Barrese

Ben & Jerry's Franchisee Charlottesville VA 1112 Emmet Street Charlottesville, VA 22903 434-249-4896 doug@flavorguru.com

From:

Matt Winkler <mattwinkler94@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, January 18, 2018 3:39 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors members; Planning Commission; Christopher Perez;

CHarold@milestonecorp.com

Subject:

WAHS Cell Tower

Hello,

My name is Matt Winkler. My address is 1711 Wickham Way in Crozet. Please accept this email as my support for the proposed cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School. The schools need more funding, and we all need more reliable wireless service in Crozet.

Thank you.

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:33 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: proposed WAHS cell phone tower

From: Steve Turner <sdturner2a@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 09, 2018 4:22 PM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Subject: proposed WAHS cell phone tower

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

My name is Steve Turner and I am a long time resident of Crozet. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

The height of the proposed tower, 145 feet, is more than 80 feet above the trees around it. At this height, the tower will be visible from White Hall to Batesville, Afton to Foxchase. Moreover, If approved, the applicant could also raise the tower twenty feet without further permission, making it 165 feet tall!!

Much of Crozet's appeal to homeowners lies in its small-town community feel, access to open spaces, and it's expansive pastoral and mountain vistas. An enormous cell phone tower, planted within sight of Crozet and beyond, absolutely shatters these highly-prized views. When conducting our own home search in 2008, we specifically avoided any real estate that was in sight of power lines or other large man-made eyesores for aesthetic reasons. Had there been cell phone towers in the area at the time, we would have declined to consider any properties within sight of these as well. A cell phone tower of this size and scope, built in such a centrally-located spot, will surely negatively impact the property values of those in the area.

The Planning Commission should also consider that a tower of this size may soon be obsolete with the coming of 5G wireless technology. 5G service will require the installation of very small towers in close proximity, two to three hundred feet apart. As 5G will certainly become standard in the coming years, Crozet has little need for a large, ugly tower providing soon-to-be antiquated technology.

As for the assertion that improved cell phone coverage in the area will increase property values, our family of cell phone users has had no issue with poor coverage in Crozet in our over 10 years in the area. Furthermore, the idea that 911 emergency response times would improve is also of marginal benefit. Our volunteer fire and rescue squad has a tremendous reputation in the community for not only providing outstanding levels care, but its incredibly swift response times. Moreover, any slight improvement in coverage that would result would be greatly outweighed by the negative impact to property values.

I sincerely urge the Planning Commission to consider these compelling arguments against approving the cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School and vote NO accordingly.

Sincerely,

Steve Turner

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:33 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: WAHS Cell Phone Tower

From: Jennifer Turner < jenniferturner 2@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 09, 2018 8:22 AM

To: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>

Subject: WAHS Cell Phone Tower

Dear Planning Commission Members,

My name is Jennifer Turner and I am a resident of Crozet. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

The height of the proposed tower, 145 feet, is more than 80 feet above the trees around it. It will be fully visible for more than it is screened. This is completely contrary to our county ordinance for tree top towers which specifies that towers should be 7-10 feet higher than the reference tree. Higher towers would only be approved by special permit, be that there was found to be no significant detriment to the surrounding area or residents' quality of life. Taller towers have been approved in places where there is mountain and forest behind them, making them much less visible. At this height, the tower will be visible from White Hall to Batesville, Afton to FoxChase. Moreover, If approved, the applicant could also raise the tower twenty feet without further permission, making it 165 feet tall and about 100 feet in full view.

The Supreme Court of Virginia has upheld the Albemarle ordinance based on visibility and aesthetics. These rules are within the County's authority to uphold and must be done. Much of Crozet's appeal to homeowners lies in its small-town community feel, access to open spaces, and it's expansive pastoral and mountain vistas. An enormous cell phone tower, planted within sight of Crozet and beyond, absolutely shatters these highly-prized views. When conducting our own home search in 2008, we specifically avoided any real estate that was in sight of power lines, for aesthetic reasons. Had there been cell phone towers in the area at the time, we would have declined to consider any properties within sight of these as well. A cell phone tower of this size and scope, built in such a centrally-located spot, will surely negatively impact the property values of those in the area.

As for the assertion that improved cell phone coverage in the area will increase property values, our family of cell phone users has had no issue with poor coverage in Crozet in our over 10 years in the area. Furthermore, the idea that 911 emergency response times would improve is also of marginal benefit. Our volunteer fire and rescue squad has a tremendous reputation in the community for not only providing outstanding levels care, but its incredibly swift response times. Moreover, any slight improvement in coverage that would result would be greatly outweighed by the negative impact to property values.

I urge the Planning Commission to consider these compelling arguments against approving the cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School and vote NO accordingly.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Turner

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:34 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Cell tower at Western

----Original Message-----

From: Atieno Bird <atieno@gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, June 09, 2018 7:17 AM

To: Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>

Subject: Cell tower at Western

Will people want to live here and will our schools seem attractive to them if we do this? The benefits are so negligible compared to the drawbacks. I can't believe this is even being considered.

Mrs Bird of Crozet

´'') ',.•´',.•´'') ',.•*'') ',,.•´ (,,.•´ *Atieno*

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:34 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Proposed Cell Tower - WAHS

----Original Message----

From: Sue Ann Conquest <sagconquest1@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 10, 2018 8:31 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members

bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>;

crocetcac@googlegroups.com

Subject: Proposed Cell Tower - WAHS

My name is Sue Ann Conquest. I am a resident of Albemarle County and Realtor at Roy Wheeler Realty Co. I strongly support my daughter's valid concerns and comments outlined in her email to the Board of Supervisors.

From my experience, potential buyers are most impressed with the open spaces with unrestricted view-shed, Mountain Views, and the overall "small town" community feel of Crozet. Sadly, this proposed tower would be seen from so many neighborhoods and locations.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to vote, NO.

Cordially,

Sue Ann Conquest 2341 Abington Dr Charlottesville, Va 22911

*** My name is Jennifer Turner and I am a resident of Crozet. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at Western Albemarle High School.

The height of the proposed tower, 145 feet, is more than 80 feet above the trees around it. It will be fully visible for more than it is screened. This is completely contrary to our county ordinance for tree top towers which specifies that towers should be 7-10 feet higher than the reference tree. Higher towers would only be approved by special permit, be that there was found to be no significant detriment to the surrounding area or residents' quality of life. Taller towers have been approved in places where there is mountain and forest behind them, making them much less visible. At this height, the tower will be visible from White Hall to Batesville, Afton to FoxChase. Moreover, If approved, the applicant could also raise the tower twenty feet without further permission, making it 165 feet tall and about 100 feet in full view.

The Supreme Court of Virginia has upheld the Albemarle ordinance based on visibility and aesthetics. These rules are within the County's authority to uphold and must be done. Much of Crozet's appeal to homeowners lies in its small-town community feel, access to open spaces, and it's expansive pastoral and mountain vistas. An enormous cell phone tower, planted within sight of Crozet and beyond, absolutely shatters these highly-prized views. When conducting our own home search in 2008, we specifically avoided any real estate that was in sight of power lines, for aesthetic reasons. Had there been cell phone towers in the area at the time, we would have declined to consider any properties within sight of these as well. A cell phone tower of this size and scope, built in such a centrally-located spot, will surely negatively impact the property values of those in the area.

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 10:06 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

From: Amanda Alger <amanda_alger@hotmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2018 4:06 AM

To: Board of Supervisors members

bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>;

crozetcac@googlegroups.com
Subject: Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

Dear Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and CCAC members,

When I read Mike Marshall's 1/5/18 article in the Crozet Gazette that explained the "Federal Communication Commission rules prevent local governments from considering the possible health affects from cell towers when making decisions about approving them" at our CHILDREN'S school, I was shocked.

I started researching and reading articles - some that were very concerning and others that claimed cell towers are safe. I also reflected upon when cigarettes and thalidomide for morning sickness were considered safe and I realized as a mother of three (one in elementary, middle and high school next year) there simply doesn't exist definitive data that would assure me that my children will be safe with this cell tower next to them for most of their waking hours.

We know that cell towers and electrical lines negatively affect property values. Also, I believe the biggest reason people move to Crozet is for our schools. Will they want to move here with a school(s) that has a cell tower? The fact that they CAN'T consider scientific information that exists tells me that SOMEONE is more concerned with protecting business interests and growing an industry than they are about our community's children.

The height of the proposed tower, 145 feet, is more than 80 feet above the trees around it. It will be fully visible for more than it is screened. This is completely contrary to our county ordinance for tree top towers which specifies that towers should be 7-10 feet higher than the reference tree. Higher towers would only be approved by special permit, *if* there was found to be no significant detriment to the surrounding area or residents' quality of life. Taller towers have been approved in places where there is mountain and forest behind them, making them much less visible.

If approved, the applicant could also raise the tower twenty feet without further permission, making it 165 feet tall and about 100 feet in full view. The Supreme Court of Virginia has upheld the Albemarle ordinance based on visibility and aesthetics. These rules are within county authority to uphold.

Turge you to vote NO to this proposed cell tower for our children and our community.

Thank you, Amanda Alger Crozet, VA

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 10:05 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: [CCAC] Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

From: David Mitchell <david@southern-classic.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2018 2:27 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>;

crozetcac@googlegroups.com

Cc: amanda_alger@hotmail.com

Subject: Re: [CCAC] Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

ALL, due to fat fingers and being on a cell phone my complete email did not get sent...here is my intended text

Dear BOS, PC and Fellow CCAC members,

SAFETY

From the American Cancer Society website...

"First, the energy level of radiofrequency (RF) waves is relatively low, especially when compared with the types of radiation that are known to increase cancer risk, such as gamma rays, x-rays, and ultraviolet (UV) light. The energy of RF waves given off by cell phone towers is not enough to break chemical bonds in DNA molecules, which is how these stronger forms of radiation may lead to cancer.

A second issue has to do with wavelength. RF waves have long wavelengths, which can only be concentrated to about an inch or two in size. This makes it unlikely that the energy from RF waves could be concentrated enough to affect individual cells in the body.

Third, even if RF waves were somehow able to affect cells in the body at higher doses, the level of RF waves present at ground level is very low – well below the recommended limits. Levels of energy from RF waves near cell phone towers are not significantly different from the background levels of RF radiation in urban areas from other sources, such as radio and television broadcast stations."

I encourage the PC and BOS to value the increase safety and lives saved through better cell coverage and 911 call/response.

PROPERTY VALUES

Full and redundant cell coverage is not just an amenity it a requirement and only increase property values.

I encourage the PC & BOS to support the cell tower at Western

From:

Elaine Echols

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 10:03 AM

To:

Christopher Perez

Subject:

FW: [CCAC] Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

From: David Mitchell <david@southern-classic.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2018 2:14 PM

To: Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Planning Commission < Planning Commission@albemarle.org>;

crozetcac@googlegroups.com
Cc: amanda_alger@hotmail.com

Subject: Re: [CCAC] Proposed WAHS Cell Tower

Just to add a few facts to this discussion

 $\underline{https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/radiation-exposure/cellular-phone-towers.html}$

David Mitchell
Please forgive brevity and spelling.
Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy Note8.