From: Diana Quast
To: Maura Weissleder
Subject: FW: Cellular Communications Towers
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:24:21 PM

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From: Kopstein Jay <jkopstein@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Matthew Slater <mslater@yorktownny.org>; Ed lachterman <elachterman@yorktownny.org>; Thomas Diana <tdiana@yorktownny.org>; Luciana Haughwout <lhaughwout@yorktownny.org>; Sergio Esposito <sesposito@yorktownny.org>; Diana Quast <dquast@yorktownny.org>
Subject: Cellular Communications Towers

Some members of the public as well as some members of the Town Board are completely unaware of the correlation, or the lack there of, between the siting of a cellphone tower and an improvement in cellular coverage in the immediate vicinity.

The improvement of cellular service in an area is dependent not only upon the siting of the cell tower, but upon the height of the antenna arrays, the sector direction of the antenna arrays as well as the horizontal and vertical orientation or deviation from the horizontal or vertical center lines of the individual antennas. Although federal law gives Planning and Town Boards little leeway on siting, vendors and/or carriers can be publicly asked about these concerns. It must be noted that carriers place their antenna arrays as to maximize utilization or revenue. As more and more emergency services increasing depend upon cellular uses, especially data, the Planning and Town Boards must ask questions about local area coverage.

Even the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) in the national contract with its contractor discusses coverage by population density and not geography.

Two examples: My residence is 0.4 miles from one new tower and 1.9 miles from another new tower, yet the cellular service in my neighborhood hasn't improved in 20 years. Those of you who drive Route 35 may be aware of a dead spot between the Amawalk Dam and just west of Route 100 in spite of the fact that a new cell tower was put up on the side of Route 35 in that same general vicinity.

In todays' world many members of the emergency services community as well as the public use cellular services. These services include voice, video, data and texting. In fact, these services are all, in actuality, data. Because of both natural and manmade issues, many cellular carriers are choosing to install back up generation at the sites that they use. Theoretically, if there are 4 carriers located at a cell tower site, there may be 4 back-up generators and 4 fuel supplies, each contributing to air quality issues, if activated. Further, if commercial power fails and the back-up generator

fails, the individual carrier goes down. A far more efficient and environmentally friendly design would require the tower operator to install and bill the carriers for only 2 generators at each site. Each generator capable of powering the site with the 2nd generator serving as a back-up. This double redundancy or N+2 build has served us well. Incidentally, the larger generators are more environmentally friendly than the smaller ones. During the attacks occurring on 9/11/2001, the public safety communications systems remained functional despite significant infrastructure damage. During extra-tropical storm Sandy, the public safety communications systems as well as most cellular systems remained functional in New York City and the immediate surrounding vicinity. The resiliency of the systems was because of engineering design and emergency management oversight.

I would urge the Town Board to review 2 documents. One document on the FEMA website concerns Continuity of Operations, the 2nd document on the CISA SAFECOM website concerns Third Party Dependencies.