

January 8, 2026

Supervisor Ed Lachterman  
Councilman Sergio Esposito  
Councilman Patrick Murphy  
Councilwoman Susan Siegel  
Councilman Ilan Gilbert  
Yorktown Town Hall  
363 Underhill Avenue  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Dear Yorktown Town Board,

Our family is respectfully asking that you do not approve the 130-foot cell tower that is planned to be installed in the wetland buffer just north of Crystal Lake off of Granite Springs Road between Curry Street and Quaker Church Road.

We live about 1 mile north of this proposed tower site. Our cell phone reception is fine. Our tech, powered by Verizon, works just fine all year round and even in storms.

It is completely inappropriate to place such a large tower adjacent to people's homes and backyards. It is not a pleasant sight to view from one's yard, even as trees are planned to be planted surrounding the unit, this monstrosity will still be easily seen by everyone living in this vicinity and by everyone driving by. Further, it is inappropriate to place a cell tower so close to homes for health reasons. All other cell towers in our area are not adjacent to homes. For example, the cell tower on Route 6 near the JV Mall is at least a football field away from the nearest resident – if not more. The cell tower on hwy 35 between Lasdon Park and the dam is next to the road, flanked by the forest in all other directions. What is not clear, since cell phones and cell towers are a relatively new technology, is how they can affect human beings genetically, medically, environmentally, emotionally, psychologically, aesthetically and mentally over time. Children and families will be playing in their backyards very close to this unit.

Residents have invested most of their hard-earned money in the homes that they have purchased here in our neighborhood, and they did not figure into their investment to have an enormous mechanical, electronic, radio-wave, radiation eyesore mess as part of their investment. Their homes will absolutely be worth less with a cell tower view. Here's what I know, that if this tower was to be built next to your home, you would NEVER want it or allow

it. So then why are you even considering this project to be built next to your constituent's homes? It is unconscionable.

As I'm sure you have observed, as it is by your design, that Yorktown's environment is quickly being removed, developed and monetized. That this cell tower is just another iteration of that. A removal of nature. A change from suburban to city. From earth to metal. From maple trees to money. From peepers to pavement. From wildlife to walls. In 15 years, you've already cut down at least 10 forests and paved over countless parcels of open space. When is it going to stop? When is the "preservation" part of Yorktown's logo going to kick in?

We still have incredible wildlife in our area, despite the massive amount of development that the people of Yorktown have endured in less than 20 years. In this very sensitive wetland area, home on the periphery to coyotes, deer, rabbits, racoons, otters, fox, opossums, reptiles, within the wetland are turtles, fish, beavers, amphibians and tall trees (that are planned to be removed with this project) that are home to bats and landing and hunting places for barred owls and red-tailed hawks. The trees and bush there are also homes to songbirds like nuthatches, house finches, cow birds, black-capped chickadees, dark-eyed juncos, sparrows, gold finches, blue birds and larger birds like grackles, blue-jays, cardinals and woodpeckers. This large wetland also feeds into the adjacent Crystal lake and the surrounding brooks, an environmentally important connection that needs to remain open underneath Granite Springs Road as a wildlife corridor as well for flooding relief for the homes surrounding this area.

Another major concern that comes with this cell tower development is the machinery and back-up generator materials that come with such a tower. Are there flammable materials like propane or chemicals that can leak into the sensitive wetlands if not properly maintained due to wear and tear or if there is a catastrophe like a hurricane or ice storm? And once built, we know that it will be maintained by workers that will come by periodically to spray pesticides, insecticides and glyphosate (Round Up) to clear the gravel at the site of weeds and greenery that will inevitably grow over time. All of these poisonous materials will negatively impact the wetland, the animals that live there, the lake and ultimately, our waterways and our health.

This is my neighborhood. I may not live exactly where this tower is planned to be, however, I take ownership and stewardship with my neighbors there. It is wrong to put this tower that none of us need or want, in this sensitive area. My family drives by this location everyday as we embark on our days. One of the last natural pleasures Yorktown offers us is to drive east onto Granite Springs Road and view lovely, Crystal Lake on the right, with its magnificent

waterfowl present in all seasons and to look to the left to see the immense, mysterious, majestic wetland to the left. This adds to our days. This fills our cup. This view helps us feel like we made a good decision by making our home in the Town of Yorktown Heights. Please do not ruin this place. Please do not succumb to profit over people here. Please say “no” to the 130-foot cell tower, all its machinery, it’s filling in of this portion of a wetland and its aesthetic pollution, chemical pollution, long-term exposure to radio-wave pollution that will negatively affect the local children and the animals in this vicinity in perpetuity. You wouldn’t want this to be in your backyard, so you cannot expect your citizens to accept this fate. So please vote, “no” on this project.

And one more comment: I do not care what “experts” you or the client’s lawyers procure to “review” this area to determine that wildlife “can take it” or that flooding will be fine or that radio waves aren’t harmful or that we should just endure more and more because of a certain study or how some remote expert can give the “green light” on whatever the lawyers want to prove. This project is too big, and it is wrong for this area for a myriad of very valid reasons. But mostly, our homes and our lives should be enough for you to do the right thing, to protect us, to be there for us and to fight for us.

Thank you and sincerely,

***Jennie Sunshine***  
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