



To: Kristen [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

PRESIDENT

Alice Gallagher

From: Village of Western Springs Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES

Heidi Rudolph

William Siffermann

James Tyrrell

Nicole Chen

Alan Fink

James John

Date: January 27, 2019

Re: The Rollout of 5G Technology in Western Springs

CLERK

James Horvath

Question #1:

We are grateful for the letters that President Gallagher wrote to the legislators and public officials to make them aware of the residents' concerns. What additional steps has the Village taken to address our concerns? In particular, we are interested in any action to return authority to local government for approval of 5G technology installation. We asked in December that the Village hire a lobbyist to help us in Springfield, collaborating with other lobbyists hired by neighboring communities. Can you inform us of the steps taken in this regard?

MANAGER

Ingrid Velkme

Response:

The Village Attorney is in the process of drafting proposed amendments to the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act (the "Act") [signed into law on April 12, 2019 as Public Act 100-0585], regarding local government approvals of small cell technology installations. The proposed amendments will be sent to our local legislators for sponsorship. The Village Attorney is also aware of other similar legislative amendment efforts by other Illinois interest groups, which will be monitored and reported on by the Village.

DIRECTORS

Grace Turi

Pat Schramm

Martin Scott

Matthew Supert

Patrick Kenny

Brian Budds

Ellen Baer

Aleks Briedis

The Village is gathering resumes and credentials of Illinois-based and Washington-based lobbyists to advocate on behalf of the Village and its residents on this issue. The Village is going to present the hiring one or more lobbyists to the "Small Cell Working Municipality Group" (current members: Western Springs, Riverside, La Grange, La Grange Park, Brookfield, Berkeley, Hinsdale and Clarendon Hills) per a cost sharing agreement.

Question #2:

Has the Village President or Trustees done their own independent research on the safety of 5G radiation? What evidence is the Village government relying on to address our concerns? Can you share any peer reviewed research that wasn't funded by the telecom industry to prove the safety of 5G radiation?

Response:

The Village officials are reviewing materials on the safety of 5G radiation to better educate themselves on this issue. The Village is in the process of hiring a small cell consultant and researching other experts to retain in the areas of NEPA Reviews and Radio Frequency Emissions to assist with the small cell issue and to verify independent research on the safety of 5G radiation.

NOTE: In regard to radio frequency emissions ("RFs"), Village officials are prohibited by federal law from denying any small cell equipment permit applications based on the health effects of RFs. Section 704(a) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 expressly preempts state and local government regulation of the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the FCC's regulations concerning such emissions. 47 U.S.C. §332(c)(7)(B)(iv).

Question #3:

Has anyone from Crown Castle or any of their representatives reached out via email or by telephone to any WS employee or public official to discuss the application that was denied and what they were doing going forward? Why are there stakes and markings in village property even as the application was withdrawn?

Response:

On January 8, 2020, Sam Franklin, Government Relations Project Manager for Crown Castle, emailed Martin Scott to inform him that they were withdrawing the application. Mr. Scott then phoned Mr. Franklin on January 9th and inquired why they had withdrawn and if they intended to re-apply. Mr. Franklin explained that the application submitted was not thoroughly prepared and Crown Castle did not realize that the proposed antenna location was private property. Mr. Franklin noted that Crown Castle would return in the future with a new application for an alternate location.

There were no known stakes placed related to the Crown Castle application. However, according to Octavio Herrera, Manager of RE Regulatory for Verizon, some of the markings/stakes around the community by his company relate to proposed underground fiber work. Staff has requested that Mr. Herreara confirm this information and provide a written response.

Question #4:

Has anyone in the Village government reached [out] to the towns in other states that were successful, like Rye City, in challenging the deployment of 5G? Has anyone consulted attorneys working on these cases?

Response:

The Village Attorney is in the process of contacting attorneys in other jurisdictions who have handled litigation involving small cell technology.

Question #5:

What meetings has any of our Village representatives and/or employees have with the telecom industry, who was present, and what was discussed? Did these discussions include the health effects of this technology?

Response:

- 08/30/2018
 - Crown Castle
 - Introduction meeting to discuss Crown Castle’s proposal to install a small cell wireless facility in the Village of Western Springs.
 - Crown Castle
 - Drew Parker
 - Sam Franklin
 - Village
 - Marty Scott
 - Matt Supert
- 04/11/19
 - Verizon
 - General information provided to Village regarding Verizon’s proposed 5G rollout, new pole standards, street lighting, master lease agreement, and other general introductions
 - Verizon
 - Nick Polydoros
 - T. Ferry
 - Megan Leger
 - Octavio Herrera
 - Ryan Ponton
 - Village
 - Martin Scott
 - Matt Supert
- 08/13/19
 - Verizon
 - General introduction to 5G technology
 - Verizon

- Mike McDermot
 - Other Verizon Rep. – Name Not recorded
 - Village
 - Alice Gallagher
 - Ingrid Velkme

- 11/26/19
 - General introduction to AT&T 5G, possible use of ComED poles, commercial benefits, state legislation,
 - AT&T
 - Sylvia Aldrete
 - Jeff Adducci
 - Brian (Last name not recorded – Future external affairs manager)
 - Village
 - Alice Gallagher
 - Ingrid Velkme
 - Marty Scott
 - Matt Supert

Response:

On different occasions, Village staff met with representatives from Verizon, AT&T and Crown Castle regarding the roll-out of small cell equipment in the Village.

Question #6:

Village President Gallagher has been appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Toll Highway Authority. How is the Village President representing our concerns in this Board, given the links between 5G technology and the efforts underway in the tollway system to accommodate for autonomous vehicles and other “smart” technology?

Response:

Statement from President Gallagher: As one of the Directors of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Toll Highway Authority (“ISTHA”) and as Village President, I will continue to represent the interests of Western Springs and its residents as well as the other communities and their residents who are located within the central corridor area that are impacted by ISTHA projects, like the Move Illinois Project, or other initiatives proposed by the ISTHA. I will always evaluate all such projects and initiatives based on their local impacts, including any health, welfare and safety concerns.

