

Six reasons to oppose a

70-ft. tall mega-microwave tower in the Pines

ONE: AESTHETIC BLIGHT A 70-foot tower, more than double the height of the already tall Community Center, would dominate and degrade almost every view. The tower would become the visual center of our community.

It is the antithesis of the natural beauty for which the Pines is known; an irrevocable downgrade.

TWO: HEALTH HARM The Pines, with many immune-compromised residents, is the last place high-powered microwave towers should be installed. Those living near cell phone towers are exposed to strong radio frequency radiation 24 hours a day. Immediate symptoms can include headaches, fatigue, concentration problems, dizziness, insomnia, depression, appetite loss, skin rashes, and discomfort. Scientific studies show that proximity to cell phone towers seriously disrupt health with longer-term deadly results like brain and breast cancer. While there have been studies that show that these microwaves are not harmful, there are many studies that refute these claims and all should be considered before moving forward.

THREE: NOISE Mega-microwave towers are noisy. This would be especially disturbing to those closest to the Community Center.

Almost every community requires these towers be placed elsewhere--they are a noisy visual blight, and a health and real estate value destroyer.

Typically, cell towers are confined to commercial areas such as parking lots or along Interstates, where exposure to human beings is limited. *That's* where towers belong.

FOUR: DEPRESSION OF REAL ESTATE VALUES Towers in residential areas--for obvious reasons—often depress real estate values. That means every Pines home and business. While homeowners far from the tower may benefit from improved service, those closest to the tower might suffer depressed values. There is evidence that people's perceptions about the negative impact of towers can decrease property values up to 28% and in some cases may make properties close to the tower very difficult to sell.

FIVE: STORM DAMAGE RISK A toppled mega-tower would damage the Community Center heavily, possibly kill passersby, and harm nearby homes. Presumably insurance rates would rise.

SIX: PERCEPTIONS Perception is real estate reality: if something looks bad, or seems to connote health dangers, it impacts values.

Real estate values drop up to 28% after mega-cell towers are installed.

The FIPPOA Board Treasurer has stated that the money that would be received from Verizon is not a driving factor in deciding on the placement of the tower. If that is the case, then we should be asking ourselves “what is the value added”?