

Members of the Portland City Council.
Remarks by Bill Deiz,
Aug. 24, 2011

Thank you for letting me address you on the issue of our neighborhood's concern about a proposed cell tower installation at NE 31st and Prescott.

We are concerned that since we are in a priority 4 neighborhood, which should, according to rules of the City of Portland, be the absolute last resort for a cell tower location, that T-Mobile has forced its way in without notice, without a hearing, uninvited, and without showing a compelling need to build at this last resort location when there are other, higher priority, locations available to it in the area.

Concern for neighborhood livability was the primary reason these priority rules were put in place and we commend the City for this action. Cell providers know that new installations should follow these rules and that they should be compelled to seek priority 1, 2 or 3 locations before they even consider priority 4—a neighborhood.

Our neighbors and I chose this Alameda neighborhood, deliberately, because of its livability, the result of planning and foresight. We do not have junk yards or commercial establishments near our homes. Instead, ours is a neighborhood in which we take pride in the condition of our homes, and work hard to keep them in good condition. Because of the character of our neighborhood, even in these recessionary times, the values of our homes have remained relatively stable.

We are very concerned that an installation at this location will lower our property values and force some of our neighbors with vulnerable children to move away.

As real estate agents will tell you, many of their customers won't look or buy in a neighborhood where there is a cell tower, because of parental concerns that these installations might be harmful to their children. For this reason, jurisdictions are placing restrictions on locating these towers near homes or schools. Hempstead, Long Island, won't allow an installation within 1500 feet of a home or school, unless the cell company has a truly compelling reason to put one there.

None of us denies the need for cell towers to support our cell phone usage. Many of us drive cars. But this does not mean that car companies are free to put a gas station or used car lot or service facility in any neighborhood they choose to. Zoning takes care of this need.

We need a true zoning approach to our cellular tower needs. Keep them OUT of our neighborhoods except as a last resort; force companies to go to a higher priority zone before they even consider a priority 4 installation, and don't permit any priority 4 installation to happen without the support of the neighborhood involved.

Portland is a special place, known as the city that works. May it continue to work for its citizens and its neighborhoods. Thank you.

(2)

Jennings, Gayla

From: Bill Deiz [billdeiz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 5:24 PM
To: Jennings, Gayla
Subject: Re: Request to Speak

Hi Gayla: Yes, thank you...I look forward to speaking on August 24th. Bill Deiz

From: "Jennings, Gayla" <Gayla.Jennings@portlandoregon.gov>
To: 'Bill Deiz' <billdeiz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 4:46 PM
Subject: RE: Request to Speak

Hi Bill,

The Communications spots on next week's agenda, August 17th, have been filled however there's availability on August 24th. Commissioner Leonard is scheduled to be absent from that meeting. Would you like me to schedule you for that date?

I apologize for the delay in getting back to you - please let me know if you have any questions,

Gayla Jennings

Deputy Auditor | Office of the City Auditor
City of Portland, Oregon
Phone (503) 823-3560

From: Bill Deiz [mailto:billdeiz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 2:57 PM
To: Jennings, Gayla
Subject: Request to Speak

Hello Gayla:

I would like to reserve a spot to speak at City Council on Aug. 17th. We are concerned about a T-Mobil cell tower that was started in our residential neighborhood, at NE 31st and Prescott in Alameda, without community notification. The work was begun on an expired permit and has been temporarily halted. The issue for council is that our Alameda neighborhood is a priority 4 location, the lowest priority location, and there are other higher priority locations that could serve the company's purpose without building next to homes. There was no neighborhood notice and the company has a history of circumventing city regulations, making a mockery of the regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Bill Deiz
4332 NE 31st Av
Portland, Oregon
97211
503-288-8643

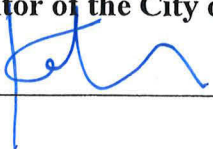
8/10/2011

Request of Bill Deiz to address Council regarding cell tower in Alameda
neighborhood (Communication)

AUG 24 2011
PLACED ON FILE

Filed AUG 19 2011

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

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