

From: [John Calonico](#)  
To: [Community Development Admin](#)  
Subject: Email to Millbrae City Council and City Manager  
Date: Wednesday, May 09, 2018 3:33:11 PM

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May 9, 2018

Millbrae City Council  
621 Magnolia Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030

Subject: Small Cell Tower Sites

Millbrae City Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you during the public comments section of the City Council meeting on May 8, 2018. As I mentioned, I wanted to make you aware of an emerging issue in our neighborhood and ask for your immediate help.

As you are aware, Verizon has submitted applications to install 12 new small cell sites in Millbrae and they are further expected to file up to 8 more applications. This is in addition to their existing sites which we are told by Code Enforcement are "numerous". Please keep in mind that Verizon is just one of the many cell service providers in our area. Just yesterday, I was in City Hall collecting information for my comments and several cell tower applications were submitted while I was there for less than one half hour.

Due to the easement that runs adjacent to our properties, our neighborhood is particularly impacted by Verizon's proposed sites. Verizon has filed an application to install one small cell site in our neighborhood and the City map has an additional Verizon site proposed on the easement. We already have equipment from PG&E (including a transformer), several cable companies and a T-Mobile cell tower on the easement. Just last year, AT&T installed a large service box on the sidewalk adjacent to the proposed Verizon cell tower. If both Verizon sites are approved, we will have 3 cell towers within 100 yards of each other directly adjacent to several homes. Needless to say, the cumulative effect of this equipment, even before Verizon's proposals, is excessive in our neighborhood.

Our neighbors are banding together to oppose the Verizon towers, however, Millbrae's cell site ordinances written roughly 10 years ago are outdated and inadequate to protect residents and prevent the inevitable explosion of cell towers requested from cell service providers. Currently, the City has no cell site master plan governing the design, construction and placement of cell towers. Therefore, residents are essentially left to oppose the powerful cell companies on their own. We need the

City's help. We need a modern, comprehensive ordinance and plan that addresses, among other things, site design, location, their proximity to homes and schools and the number of towers in a particular area. Without such a policy and plan, Millbrae will soon be overrun with cell equipment. We also need a moratorium on new tower construction until these policies and plans are completed. I am asking that this matter be placed on the Council Agenda as an information Item at an upcoming meeting.

In preparation for my comments last night, we researched the issues associated with cell towers. These issues include but are not limited to (1) visual unattractiveness of equipment and antennas, (2) invasion of privacy resulting from installation, service and maintenance, (3) noise pollution from the operation of towers, (4) devaluation of property values from cell tower placement and (5) the possible health issues resulting from the operation of cell towers. We would be happy to provide copies of research and news articles we reviewed. Further, we attempted to obtain a coverage map to understand whether additional cell towers were even necessary and, to the best of our knowledge, no such map exists. Because no coverage map exists, the City essentially needs to take the service providers word that additional towers are needed. The only way to protect residents is with a master plan and an understanding of need through a map of all cell sites from an independent, third party expert. I want to be clear, our neighborhood is not against improving Millbrae's infrastructure and services. We do believe the City needs appropriate and reasonable controls to protect citizens from unrestrained equipment sprawl, unnecessary intrusion, noise and the ugly visual implications of these cell towers.

While Verizon is the service provider that currently has applications for additional small cell towers on our easement, I want to be clear that our request of City Council is not about any one service provider. Instead, our call to action is about appropriate regulations and controls to protect Millbrae, its citizens and future generations.

The residents of our neighborhood appreciate you being receptive to investigating this important matter. There are a significant number of cell tower applications in-process with the Millbrae Planning Commission currently. Accordingly, we need swift action to delay these applications while you perform your necessary work or it will be too late for our neighborhood and others. Please help us with prompt responsible action.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Calonico  
301 Laurel Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030

## Elaine Tran

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**From:** John Calonico <jcalonico@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 8:25 PM  
**To:** Community Development Admin  
**Subject:** Letter to Planning Commission, Planning Director and City Manager - Time Sensitive

May 9, 2018

Millbrae Planning Commission  
621 Magnolia Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030

Subject: Small Cell Tower Sites

Millbrae Planning Commission Members:

I am writing to make you aware of an emerging issue in our neighborhood and ask for your immediate help.

As you are aware, Verizon has submitted applications to install 12 new small cell sites in Millbrae and they are further expected to file up to 8 more applications. This is in addition to their existing sites which we are told by Code Enforcement are "numerous". Please keep in mind that Verizon is just one of the many cell service providers in our area.

Due to the easement that runs adjacent to our properties, our neighborhood is particularly impacted by Verizon's proposed sites. Verizon has filed an application to install one small cell site in our neighborhood and the City map has an additional Verizon site proposed on the same easement (both sites listed as 301 Laurel Avenue). We already have equipment from PG&E (including a transformer), several cable companies and a T-Mobile cell tower on the easement. Just last year, AT&T installed a large service box on the sidewalk adjacent to the proposed Verizon cell tower. If both Verizon sites are approved, we will have 3 cell towers within 100 yards of each other directly adjacent to several homes. We have major concerns over being sandwiched between these cell sites and the cumulative RF exposure each and every day. Needless to say, the cumulative effect of this equipment, even before Verizon's proposals, is excessive in our neighborhood.

Our neighbors are banding together to oppose the Verizon towers, however, Millbrae's cell site ordinances written roughly 10 years ago are outdated and inadequate to protect residents and prevent the inevitable explosion of cell towers requested from cell service providers. Currently, the City has no cell site master plan governing the design, construction and placement of cell towers. Therefore, residents are essentially left to oppose the powerful cell companies on their own. We need the City's help. We need a modern, comprehensive ordinance and plan that addresses, among other things, site design, location, their proximity to homes and schools and the number of towers in a particular area. Without such a policy and plan, Millbrae will soon be overrun with cell equipment. We also need a moratorium on new tower construction until these policies and plans are completed. At last night's City Council meeting, I asked that this matter be placed on the Council Agenda as an information item at an upcoming meeting.

I have researched the issues associated with cell towers. These issues include but are not limited to (1) visual unattractiveness of equipment and antennas, (2) invasion of privacy resulting from installation, service and maintenance, (3) noise pollution from the operation of towers, (4) devaluation of property values from cell tower placement and (5) the possible health issues resulting from the operation of cell towers. I would be happy to provide copies of research and news articles we reviewed. Further, I

attempted to obtain a coverage map to understand whether additional Verizon cell towers were even necessary and, to the best of my knowledge, no such map exists. From my questioning, it is apparent that the City does not even know which providers control the existing cell antennas in Millbrae due to corporate changes which would make it impossible to evaluate coverage issues. Because no coverage map exists, the City essentially needs to take the service providers word that additional towers are needed. From a review of the current Millbrae ordinance, once a cell site exists, other providers can co-locate on the site. The only way to protect residents is with a master plan and an understanding of need through a map of all cell sites from an independent, third party expert. I want to be clear, our neighborhood is not against improving Millbrae's infrastructure and services. I do believe the City needs appropriate and reasonable controls to protect citizens from unrestrained equipment sprawl, unnecessary intrusion, noise and the ugly visual implications of these cell towers.

While Verizon is the service provider that currently has applications for additional small cell towers on our easement, I want to be clear that our request of the City is not about any one service provider. Instead, our call to action is about appropriate regulations and controls to protect Millbrae, its citizens and future generations.

The residents of our neighborhood appreciate you being receptive to investigating this important matter. There are a significant number of cell tower applications in-process which has the clock ticking. Accordingly, we need swift action to delay these applications while you perform your necessary work or it will be too late for our neighborhood and others. Please help us with prompt responsible action.

Lastly, the permit for a small cell site at 301 Laurel Ave should be denied. There is already power, cable, telephone and WIFI, as well as a T-Mobile small cell site at Ashton and Hillcrest. Please do not allow another small cell site that would open the door for more service providers to co-locate here.

Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Calonico  
301 Laurel Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030

From: [John Cesario](#)  
To: [Community Development Admin](#)  
Subject: Reject the Cell Sites  
Date: Wednesday, May 09, 2018 11:26:11 AM

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Dear Millbrae City Officials, I ask that this email is given to the planning committee.

My family and I strongly object to the cell site being planned for installation at 331 Poplar, a residential area.

Any cell site is a health hazard from the electro-magnetic radiation that these sites emit, which is a serious concern for all of us in the neighborhood, and as city officials, should be a concern to you.

In addition, these sites are eye-sores and they're noisy, and in a residential neighborhood, can also depress property values.

Verizon has not proven that there is a need for these sites in the area, and I hope that the Planning Committee will reject the installation.

Thank you!

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John Cesario  
[jcesario@gmail.com](mailto:jcesario@gmail.com)  
650.520.4333 v

**From:** [sharon.morena](#)  
**To:** [Community Development Admin](#)  
**Subject:** Cell Towers  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 8:38:19 AM

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Please do not consider implanting cell towers in our neighborhoods. We need to realize that not only for safety but for the distraction it will cause for those that will be impacted by this plan.

W. & S. Morena  
Vista Grande  
Millbrae

## Elaine Tran

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**From:** Robert Anderson <Ande885@att.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 7:26 PM  
**To:** Community Development Admin  
**Subject:** Verizon

I'm opposed to anymore boxes and cell towers going up in millbrae. The rules must be updated. I vote for a moratorium on any building until the people of millbrae gets a say in it.

Coral Romero  
630 Taylor Blvd.  
millbrae.

Sent from my iPad

**Elaine Tran**

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**From:** Kitykity Kitykity <kitykity3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 10, 2018 8:10 PM  
**To:** Community Development Admin  
**Subject:** cell towers

the cell towers need to be rejected due to loud noise and property value decline.  
Hillsbrough and PaloAlto beat them based on these factors.  
vote NO  
thank you  
charleen silveta  
307 beverly

## Elaine Tran

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**From:** John Calonico <jcalonico@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2018 8:46 PM  
**To:** Community Development Admin  
**Subject:** urgency ordinance - Attention: City Council and Planning Committee

Millbrae City Council and Planning Commission,

At the recent City Council meeting, I asked for a moratorium on the approval of small cell site applications until the City could adopt appropriate controls over such sites. As I learn more about these applications, I realize that a more efficient and efficient approach would be to enact an urgency ordinance with actual small cell site standards. I understand that you have a very short window to enact appropriate and reasonable ordinances (90 or 150 days) but time is already ticking on many current site applications.

The ordinances for small cell sites in residential and school areas should include:

- . A requirement to use the "least intrusive" design/technology
- . Independent third-party proof of coverage and/or capacity gap
- . An alternatives analysis to show whether other sites are available that can address the service need in a less intrusive manner
- . Public right-of-way guidelines, which allows the City reasonable discretion over location and design ("design" being inclusive of aesthetics, equipment noise, lighting, specific placement, streetscape plans) of wireless in the public right-of-way.
- . A requirement that small cell sites be fully camouflaged
- . a required review by the airport land use commission given the proximity to airport safety zone
- . Independent RF emissions studies and full California Environmental Quality Act review
- . Noise studies
- . A 5/10 year time limit to reevaluate cell site is safe based on current studies, standards and laws
- . An additional permit if additional equipment is added to the site
- . An agreement from applicants to restrict future expansion
- . Guidelines on site distance from residences and schools, equipment density guidelines and distances between small cell sites

Immediate action is required to protect our community, its citizens and future generations.

Thank you,  
Karen Calonico