



# NEW MONTEREY

## Neighborhood ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 2642 Monterey, CA 93942

March 12, 2018

RE: Cell Equipment on Utility Poles

City Council  
City Hall  
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Mayor Roberson and members of City Council:

The City has received the first of what promises to be a tsunami of requests from cell service providers to permit placement of cell phone equipment on publicly-owned poles in residential neighborhoods.

We are aware that the City revised its code in the not too distant past to allow this type of equipment to be placed in residential-zoned areas.

We are writing to suggest that the City amend the City Code section to include measurable standards for such installations.

- What constitutes “inadequate coverage?” We believe there should be a stated value.
- What constitutes “inadequate capacity?” If an area has adequate capacity 70% of the time, is that enough? Must it be 100%?

What we see is one of at least 4 competitive companies wanting equipment. Every company uses a different pole. If the current applicant wants 13 poles in one neighborhood, four companies could be asking for 52 to cover the same area.

We believe there should be a stated maximum (e.g. not to exceed #/4 block area). How many is enough? Note that areas with underground utilities get 3’-4’ tall metal pedestal boxes when there are no poles in close proximity.

Is the City requiring companies to pay for the use of the city-owned and JPA poles?

Since there is new and developing technology, it seems reasonable to us to reexamine the City’s ordinance and state measurable standards against which staff may weigh applications and not rely simply upon consultants. There needs to be an upper limit – and not equipment on every pole.

Sincerely,

Nicole Capps, President

Cf: City Manager  
NewM NA board