

## What Can NCs Do to Control Cell Tower (WTF) Siting & Aesthetics?

- **No authority or control** under current regulations; **power of persuasion only**.
- **Read all notices** your NC receives for WTF/CUPs (Planning) or AGF permits (Bureau of Engineering) in your district.
- **Obtain additional information** from city officials/telecom reps as to the facility's scope, size, height and appearance, whether alternative sites were considered, how many antennas and what type of ancillary equipment will be involved (i.e., vaults, vents, cabinets), etc.
- **Make reasonable inquiries** as to the community's position on the proposed installation; if residential, have nearby homeowners received notice, do they object, do they plan to oppose or appeal, on what grounds? Are there safety issues as well as aesthetic considerations? Share info. with HOAs.
- If the community has concerns, **invite residents, HOAs, opponents and telecom reps to attend board meeting** to discuss the parameters of the installation, what the concerns are, why it is opposed, why this site was chosen, whether other options are available, etc.
- Put pressure on the telecom and city officials to consider other **design options** (e.g., new types of poles or finishes, camouflaged antennas); to use a metal **street light pole as an alternative** (requires BSL approval); or to re-locate.
- **Support homeowners, HOAs and other citizens** who are reasonably opposing a proposed WTF on aesthetic and safety grounds; **persuade your Council member** to support the community and to put pressure on the telecom involved to address community concerns, as needed.
- When appropriate, **explain the process** to residents who may not understand legal notices; **encourage residents to appeal** AGF permit issuance whenever necessary or warranted by circumstances (notices are confusing and appeal is limited only to *adjoining property owners*; without an appeal there is little or no leverage to obtain concessions from the telecom).
- **Important: NCs cannot appeal permit issuance.** However, if the telecom cannot be persuaded to satisfy community concerns, an NC can and should **write letters** and **appear at all permit or appeal hearings** to advise authorities of the NC's position and/or support the opposition.
- **Join with other NCs in the city-wide effort to enact a comprehensive new WTF ordinance** with protections for communities and residential neighborhoods to the fullest extent of the law. **Pass a resolution**, notify Council members and the City Attorney. **Speak out** and let the media know your community's concerns!