

Andrew Leon

From: Evan Maxim
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2019 11:55 AM
To: Sella Ramaiyah
Cc: Andrew Leon; Mona Davis
Subject: RE: Small cell transmission site planned near 7466 E Mercer Way - MIV 40

Dear Sella Ramaiyah,

Thank you for taking the time to comment – looking at our maps, it appears you are close to the small cell node referred to as MIV 40. The small cell antenna is proposed to be located at the intersection of East Mercer Way and SE 97th Street – essentially adjacent to where your driveway connects to East Mercer. I do not think this is the same pole in your picture, though I could be mistaken.

I have copied Andrew Leon (Planner) and Mona Davis (Planning Manager) on this email - they can provide additional information about the specifics of the proposed site.

Small cells have been hot topic on Mercer Island, and I wanted to make sure you are aware of changes to the regulations in the last 10 months or so. The FCC has issued a “new rule” (here: <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-353962A1.pdf>) which curtails the City’s authority to review small cells in a number of ways – notably the City cannot prevent the installation of small cells, or “densifying” the wireless coverage (page 16 of the PDF, item 36 and subsequent). This new rule limits the City’s ability to require a change in the location of the small cell, though we will be applying pressure on Crown Castle to address neighborhood concerns. The City has also established a webpage that has background information on our current regulations and long term thinking, which may be of use: <https://letstalk.mercergov.org/small-cells>.

The FCC’s new rule has been appealed by a number of cities (including Bellevue, Seattle, Portland, LA). To date, the appeal has not moved very far through the judicial process. Because the FCC’s new rule is “in force” until the appeal is resolved, the City has adopted interim standards (here: <https://mercerisland.municipal.codes/MICC/19.06.070>) that are intended to focus on minimizing the aesthetic impact to the extent feasible. Longer term, we are currently anticipating that we will adopt new, permanent standards that will also be intended to minimize the aesthetic impact of small cells. Things like, enhanced limits on noise, requiring the undergrounding of power, creating incentives for collocation, requiring hollow poles with internal equipment and antenna mounts, will be discuss more fully by the Planning Commission and City Council.

Regards,

Evan Maxim

Director

City of Mercer Island - Community Planning & Development

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Mercer Island

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From: Sella Ramaiyah <sellapriya@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, July 8, 2019 10:35 AM

To: Evan Maxim <evan.maxim@mercergov.org>

Subject: Small cell transmission site planned near 7466 E Mercer Way

Hello Evan,

I live in 7466 E Mercer Way and I recently came to know about a small cell transmission site that is being planned on the border of our property line. My husband and I have been living in this house for about 4 years with a 12 year old daughter and a 3 year old dog. Both my daughter and my dog have severe noise sensitivity issues. My dog has displayed severe sensitivity to exactly the same buzzing cell site sound at a friends house, that we can't/don't ever take him there after the experience.

Also, we have a house with a view and we currently have the transformer pole which is an eye sore to look at from the living room. We are planning on working with the PSE to get it relocated when we do a rebuild/remodel of the house next year. I am assuming the cell site will go on that pole. I have attached a photo of the pole as seen from our living area.

Please let me know what we can do about this. It will be a huge hassle and probably not an option for our dog to have the cell site near us.

Thanks
Sella Ramaiyah