The City Council met this date in a regular session, via Zoom, which was available to the public via teleconference, at 7:39 p.m.

Present at Roll Call:  Mayor Gerry Welch  
Councilmember Laura Arnold  
Councilmember Pam Bliss  
Councilmember David Franklin  
Councilmember Emerson Smith  
Councilmember Karen D. Alexander  
Councilmember Sarah Richardson

A quorum was present.

Also present:  Mr. Steve Wylie, City Manager  
Mr. Neil Bruntrager, City Attorney  
Ms. Katie Nakazono, City Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

630 S. Elm Avenue (Wireless Communications Facility): An Application by ORA Properties LLC for a Conditional Use Permit to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Use at Moss Field at 630 S. Elm Avenue

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing, and Mara Perry, Director of Planning and Development, gave a brief presentation on the application [Exhibit A- Copy in City Clerk’s office]. This has gone through the Plan Commission. She reviewed the zoning and surrounding properties, as well as existing conditions (See Exhibit A, page 1-2). The request before Council is a conditional use which goes on top of the primary use, which is the public/institutional/community use. She reviewed the history of the site and the process for a Conditional Use Permit (See Exhibit A, page 3-4). She stated that we focus on what we can approve or review to approve at our local level. The other thing that is important to note is that although it goes through a Conditional Use Permit procedure, we have a very specific wireless communications facilities ordinance. That was put in place because changes were made at the state level that were going to allow a very open ability for wireless facilities. She reviewed the staff analysis including use, color, ground equipment, wiring, design, height, landscaping, setbacks, storage, and parking (See Exhibit A, page 5-9).

Prior to reviewing staff recommendations, she asked if Council had any questions.

Councilmember Franklin asked, who owns the property? Ms. Perry stated that it is school district property, so the lease would be with the school district.

Councilmember Franklin asked if we know if the school district has approved the lease yet. Ms. Perry stated that they have signed off on the application before it came to the Plan Commission.
Councilmember Franklin asked if we have a copy of the lease agreement. Ms. Perry stated that it would not usually be finalized until they receive the CUP.

Councilmember Franklin stated that he is more or less just interested in what the school district or City is getting in return for this. Ms. Perry stated that this is not City property, so the City is not getting anything from this lease. It would just be the school district's lease.

Councilmember Franklin stated that that makes sense, but it doesn't mean that AT&T can't come through for the City on something. Ms. Perry stated that that would be a legal matter for Neil.

Councilmember Franklin stated that he is not looking for a quid pro quo, but this is going into a visible part of the City, right next to the Recreation Complex and where the School District and City host events. It seems reasonable that AT&T would reach out to the City and say we are willing to do x, y, or z.

Mayor Welch stated that she thinks that typically there is a payment that comes with these to the school district. Neil Bruntrager, City Attorney, stated that that was correct. But we don't. We have the right to have them meet the zoning requirements, but beyond that we don't have any skin in the game.

Councilmember Alexander asked where our consideration for safety comes in? Reading a lot of comments from citizens, is that part of this evaluation at all?

Mr. Bruntrager stated that the Federal Communications Act of 1934 is what we look to determine who has control over the placement of cell towers and the components for service. There are specific provisions that talk about what rights of local government are. In section C7 it tells us the rights of the municipality. He read the section 7a. It goes on to limit those powers that it shall not reasonably discriminate or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of wireless services. It also says no state or local government may regulate the placement, construction, or modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions. They have said that they are the ones who will set the rules regarding the acceptable level of emissions. If we make a decision that we are not going to approve it, it says we have to put that decision in writing and have substantial evidence in the record. If we approve it and someone is offended by it they do have a remedy. They can go to court and challenge it. This is important because we could potentially see denials all over the place if municipalities could say they don't want those emissions in their neighborhood even if they meet federal standards.

Ms. Perry reviewed staff recommendations (See Exhibit A, page 9-10).

Applicant Doug Dolan stated that this is an existing 90 foot light pole. We do have a lease agreement with the school district. This is going to be for a 4g site. We did get Plan Commission approval for the site. It is the same type of antennas that are on BJC Hospital, Washington University, St. Louis University, and Mercy Hospital. We operate the site at less than 1% of what the FCC allows us to use. These are very safe and provide enhanced communications to the schools and through the E-911 system. This is an existing site from US Cellular. We will use the existing platform. The average resident would have no idea it was there once it is installed.
Councilmember Bliss asked about the closest existing AT&T tower to the location. Mr. Dolan stated that he doesn't have that information. We have been asked by AT&T to place this site. The typical purpose is coverage and capacity. There is a lot of traffic at this location and it is a key site.

Councilmember Franklin asked why this is a 4g and not a 5g. Mr. Dolan stated that 5g is generally used in more urban areas. They are a different type of network on light and utility poles. They have to be placed within a block or two of each other and are on shorter poles.

Councilmember Franklin asked if he was able or willing to share what the lease agreement says. Mr. Dolan stated that they have a 25 year term agreement with the school district. We will take ownership of the tower and will be the management company that oversees the tower.

Councilmember Arnold clarified the less than 1% comment. Mr. Dolan stated that the FCC regulates what spectrum and power levels we can broadcast in. We only broadcast at 1% or less, so the base of the tower or nearby homes will only get the emf equivalent to a baby monitor.

Jennifer Conrad, Deputy City Clerk, read submitted public comments opposed to the cellular tower application from the following (Exhibit B available in the City Clerk's Office):

- Darryl Barker
- Annie Tierney
- Diane Sperber
- Patricia Tocco
- Robert Workman
- Jody Porter
- Marissa Zeller
- Claire de Largy
- Lauren Bruno
- Lindsey Michaud
- Sheilah Mitchell
- Maggie Taylor Berkowitz
- Laura Welch
- Christi Rejent
- Hannah Bingaman
- Catherine Cogorno
- Susan Kreig
- Joel Bingaman
- Amy Layton
- Shelly and Edward Huffman

Councilmember Franklin asked Mr. Dolan what benefit this brings to the community. Mr. Dolan stated that it brings enhanced coverage and capacity. In many communities, the existing cellular network is not robust enough to handle all of the devices on the network which results in dropped calls and the like. Cell phones are the primary communications source for households in Webster Groves.
July 7, 2020

Councilmember Alexander asked if there are other options for locations. Mr. Bruntrager stated that we have control over placement as long as you are not making the decision based on emissions. This is an existing tower that was used in the past (Ms. Perry stated that it was used from approximately 2008-2014).

Neil Bruntrager, City Attorney, entered the following into the public record:

1. City Plan Commission staff report by Danny Jendusa, Planner, for meeting date June 1, 2020
2. Applicant’s Written statement from ORA Properties LLC, received January 7, 2020
3. Applicant’s Exhibit A, dated March 2020
4. Letter of Support, John O’Conner, Director of National Communications Coordination Branch, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, dated March 16, 2020
5. Draft Minutes from the June 1, 2020 Plan Commission meeting
6. E-mails from the following:
   - Annie Tierney dated June 14, 2020 and additional response on June 15, 2020
   - Diane Sperber dated June 27, 2020
   - Patricia Tocco dated July 6, 2020
   - Annie Tierney dated July 6, 2020
   - Robert Workman dated July 6, 2020
   - Jody Porter dated July 6, 2020
   - Marissa Zeller dated July 7, 2020
   - Claire de Largy dated July 7, 2020
   - Lauren Bruno dated July 7, 2020
   - Lindsey Michaud dated July 7, 2020
   - Sheilah Mitchell dated July 7, 2020
   - Maggie Taylor Berkowitz dated July 7, 2020
   - Laura Welch dated July 7, 2020
   - Christi Rejent dated July 7, 2020
   - Hannah Bingaman dated July 7, 2020
   - Catherine Cogorno dated July 6, 2020 and July 7, 2020 with attachment
   - Susan Kreig dated July 7, 2020
   - Joel Bingaman dated July 7, 2020
   - Amy Layton dated July 7, 2020
   - Shelly and Edward Huffman dated July 7, 2020
7. Director of Planning and Development’s Powerpoint before the City Council July 7, 2020
8. Chapter 53, the Zoning Code of the City of Webster Groves

Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.
BILL #9125 – FIRST & SECOND READING
Councilmember Bliss introduced BILL #9125 – ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO DRA PROPERTIES LLC TO INSTALL NINE (9) CELLULAR ANTENNAS ATOP AN EXISTING LIGHT POLE AS AN ACCESSORY UTILITY FACILITY USE AT MOSS FIELD ON AN APPROXIMATELY 17.30-ACRE TRACT OF LAND AT 630 S. ELM AVENUE IN THE “A4” SEVENTY-FIVE HUNDRED SQUARE FOOT RESIDENCE DISTRICT AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO, and at the Councilmember’s request, the Bill was read twice, first and second times by title only, and placed on the agenda for future consideration of the Council.

REMARKS OF VISITORS
Jennifer Conrad, Deputy City Clerk, read submitted Remarks of Visitors into the record. Submissions were received from:

- Joan McGivney – (Exhibit D) – Feedback on pool discussion from last meeting.
- Dave Buck - (Exhibit E) – Comments regarding cancellations and other current topics.
- Mike Blaes - (Exhibit F) – Concerns regarding Resolution #2020-24.

Mayor Welch stated that she did want to make one comment. Since a number of people have brought up the police cars, I should mention that they come out of the Capital Improvement Fund from a quarter-cent sales tax that cannot be shifted to other funds like operations or salaries.

NEW BUSINESS – MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS, CITY ATTORNEY, CITY MANAGER
No New Business.

CONSENT AGENDA
A motion was made by Councilmember Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Bliss, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Welch called for the vote on the Consent Agenda.

MEMBERS VOTING:
AYES: ARNOLD, BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER, RICHARDSON, WELCH
NOES: NONE

Mayor Welch stated that the Consent Agenda was approved.

The following consent agenda was approved:

- **Approval of Minutes** – June 16, 2020
- **Resolution #2020-24** – Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Four New Police Vehicles
- **Resolution #2020-25** – Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order for the Purchase of Emulsion and Rental of Chip Sealing Equipment, with Operators, for the Annual Chip Sealing Program, and Amending the Budget for FY-2021
- **Resolution #2020-26** – Authorizing the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order for Trap Rock for the Annual Chip Sealing Program, and Amending the Budget for FY-2021
- **Resolution #2020-27** – Amendments to the Budget for FY-2021
- **Liquor License** – Application to Sell Liquor by the Drink for Consumption on the Premises Where Sold, and on Sundays, by The Parkmoor Drive-In, 220 W. Lockwood Avenue
• Resolution #2020-28 – Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase One (1) Replacement Vehicle for the Parks & Recreation Department

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
No Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

RECOGNITION – CITY MANAGER STEVE WYLIE
The Mayor, City Council and staff, as well as former Councilmembers Debi Salberg, Joan Esserman, Bud Bellomo, Jeanne Kirkton, Toni Hunt, and Frank Janoski recognized City Manager Steve Wylie, who is retiring on July 17, 2020, after nearly nineteen years of service with the City of Webster Groves. Steve received many accolades and well wishes on his retirement -- and he will be missed.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION
No Executive [Closed] Session.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m. on motion of the Mayor, duly seconded.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 21st day of July, 2020.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK
An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the "A4" Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto
### Zoning: Surrounding Uses

- **All:** "A4," Seventy Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District
- **South:** Memorial Park & athletic/recreation facilities
- **West:** Hixson Middle School & Moss Field

## Existing Conditions

- **View from the east**
- **View of shelter from the south**
- **View of platform from southeast**
Bill #9125  
First & Second Reading

An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the "A4," Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto

**Comprehensive Plan Analysis- “Public / Institutional / Community”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use and Zoning History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Hixson Middle School- 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Additions in 1990, 1996, &amp; 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Moss Field- 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stadium, lights, track: 1978 to 1984</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2004- Variance allows first stealth cell tower at light pole located north of subject light pole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2005- Variance request denied for a second cell tower at subject light pole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2008- Permit issued for second cell tower at subject light pole. No documentation found overturning variance denial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2014- Demo permit issued to remove antennas, radio, and cables from subject light pole, leaving platform in place</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### City Council

#### 20-PC-09 630 S. Elm Avenue
(Wireless Communication Facility)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill #9125 First &amp; Second Reading</th>
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<tr>
<th>Conditional Use Permit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Sec. 53.173(c), the Council shall determine whether the proposed wireless communication facility use will not:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Substantially increase traffic hazards or congestion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Substantially increase fire hazards.</td>
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<td>3. Adversely affect the character of the neighborhood.</td>
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<td>4. Adversely affect the general welfare of the community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Overtax public utilities.</td>
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<th>Zoning Analysis – Conditional Use Permit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Per Section 53.227(d.), no Conditional Use Permit shall be approved for a wireless communications facility unless the City Council finds that the following conditions exist:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. That the design of the Wireless Communications Facilities, including ground layout, maximally reduces visual degradation and otherwise complies with provisions and intent of this Wireless Code;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. That the design is visually compatible with the area, will not distract from the view of the surrounding area, is maximally concealed or blended in with the environment, and will not adversely affect property values;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. That such conditional use shall not be inconsistent or adversely affect the regular permitted uses in the district in which the same is located;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. and That the proposal fully complies with applicable law including the General Requirements herein; provided that an exception to the General Requirements, other than building or safety code compliance, may be approved upon evidence that compliance is not feasible or is shown to be unreasonable under the specific circumstances shown.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bill #9125
First & Second Reading
An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the “A4” Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto

20-PC-09 630 S. Elm Avenue (Wireless Communication Facility)

Use -
• Nine (9) cellular antenna atop an existing light standard at Moss Field as a disguised support structure

Color -
• Per Sec. 53.224, the wireless communications facility and disguised support structure are to be painted a neutral color consistent with the natural or built environment of the site.
• The existing structure meets this design requirement.
• Future owners would not be allowed to paint or re-clad the structure in a non-neutral color.
### Ground Equipment -
- Per 53.224, all equipment servicing the facility must be contained in a single shelter with an exterior finish compatible with the natural built environment of the site.
- The equipment servicing this facility will be located in the existing shelter and will follow this design requirement.

### Wiring -
- Per Sec. 53.224(e.1), all wiring to or from ground mounted antennas or antenna towers located more than five (5) feet from the nearest building wall shall be underground.
- The proposal would comply with this requirement.
Design -

- Per Section 53.224(7.C.), antenna attached to a disguised support structure shall be contained within the structure. Exposed antenna on “crow’s nest” or other visible platforms or extensions are not allowed in the General Requirements.

- The proposal would install the antennas to the existing platform atop the light standard and therefore does not conform with this requirement.
## Bill #9125
### First & Second Reading

An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the "A4," Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto

### Height -
- Existing light pole is ninety (90)-ft above grade
- Antenna proposed to extend ninety three (93)-ft above grade

### Landscaping -
- Per Sec. 53.224, landscaping or other screening may be required around the base of a disguised support structure if needed to implement an approved disguise
- Landscaping/screening around base does not appear necessary to improve disguise of this wireless communications facility
City Council

Bill #9125
First & Second Reading
An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the "A4," Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto

20-PC-09 630 S. Elm Avenue (Wireless Communication Facility)

Setbacks, Storage, and Parking:
- Per Sec 53.224, disguised support structures at a public or private parking lot may be exempted from setbacks, storage, and parking requirements.
- Because the installation is proposed upon an existing light standard at Moss Field, it is reasonable to exempt the proposal from such requirements.

Staff Recommendations
Should the City Council recommend approval, Staff would recommend the following conditions:
1. All provisions of the City Code shall apply except as expressly modified in this Ordinance #9125.
2. The wireless communications facility shall be constructed to appear similar in design and in the location atop the existing light standard identified in Exhibit A with a maximum of nine (9) total antenna.
3. The wireless communications facility and disguised support structure shall be painted a neutral color consistent with the natural or built environment of the site.
4. All equipment servicing the facility shall be contained in a single shelter with an exterior finish compatible with the natural built environment of the site.
5. The antenna shall be attached flush to the existing platform.
| City Council | 20-PC-09 630 S. Elm Avenue  
(Wireless Communication Facility) |
| --- | --- |
| **Bill #9125**
**First & Second Reading**
An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use Permit to DRA Properties LLC to Install Nine (9) Cellular Antennas Atop an Existing Light Pole as an Accessory Utility Facility Use at Moss Field on an Approximately 17.30-Acre Tract of Land at 630 S. Elm Avenue in the “A4,” Seventy-Five Hundred Square Foot Residence District and Matters Related Thereto | **Staff Recommendations Continued**
Should the City Council recommend approval, Staff would recommend the following conditions:

6. The height of the antenna shall not exceed ninety-three (93)-ft above grade.

7. All wiring connected to the light sources, antenna, and radio equipment shall be buried underground or ground-mounted. Power shall not be provided to the structure via overhead wiring.

8. All necessary permits shall be applied for prior to installation and all disturbed areas shall be restored to City standards.

9. This conditional use permit is personal to the owner and shall not run with the land. |
RE: Public Comment, Bill #9125, 07/07/2020 Public Hearing

Dear Webster Groves City Council,

Please vote "NO" to Bill # 9125, a conditional use permit to install nine new cellular communications antennas on the vacant tower platform at Moss Field, Hixson Middle School, 630 South Elm, Webster Groves, Missouri, submitted to the city of Webster Groves, by DRA Properties, 343 Kirkwood Road, Box 220130, Kirkwood, Mo. 63122. DRA Properties representative is Mr. Doug Dolan.

On page 8 of the Webster Groves City Plan Commission Staff Report dated June 1, 2020 regarding Petition: 20-PC-09 630 S. Elm Ave. (Wireless Communication Facility, it is stated, "This new site will enhance the coverage and capacity of AT&T Mobility in the City while maintaining the aesthetics and community standards of the City."

The proposed use is therefore regulated by City Code Section 53.170 which pertains to all Conditional Use Permit requests. Per Sec. 53.173(c), the Council shall determine whether the proposed wireless communications facility use will NOT:

1. Substantially increase traffic hazards or congestion.
2. Substantially increase fire hazards.
3. Adversely affect the character of the neighborhood.
4. Adversely affect the general welfare of the community.
5. Overtax public utilities

I submit to the Council that, in light of the peer reviewed scientific research that exists and has been openly available to the public for many years, which clearly states that harmful biological effects do in fact occur as a result of both short term and long-term, chronic exposure to non-ionizing, microwave radiation, that the installation of nine new microwave emitting antennas on the proposed Moss Field site will increase radiation levels that are inconsistent with item number four (4) of the above stated Conditional Use Permit requirements.

The City Council is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that proposed use will not “Adversely affect the general welfare of the community”. To claim that there is no evidence that such harmful health effects exist is a statement made either in ignorance of the facts, or an attempt to conceal the truth.

Whereas, I have personally provided substantial evidence to specific Webster City officials, in the form of both peer-reviewed science that shows wireless radiation, including those frequencies utilized by cellular telephone companies, do in fact cause harmful biological effects, as well as video testimony of victims who have suffered from both short term and long term exposure to wireless radiation, it is clear that the Webster City Council must vote “NO” to Bill #9125 for a conditional use permit by DRA Properties, LLC, Kirkwood, Mo.

Finally, know that CHILDREN are more vulnerable to harm from cellular telecommunications microwave radiation, and given these nine (9) proposed antennas are to be added to the already proven, biologically damaging radiation levels that currently exist at Hixson Middle School, adding more antennas is surely a move against the general welfare of the community.
Below, you will find a brief selection of peer-reviewed scientific studies that prove that non-ionizing radiation as utilized in wireless equipment products, is a public health concern of vast proportion, and deferring to the Telecom Act of 1996 is not becoming of any government who cares about the health and well-being of its children.

Please vote NO to Bill # 9125.

Thank you,
Darryl Barker
St. Louis for Safe Technology
Kirkwood, Webster Groves

PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC STUDIES SHOWING HARM OF NON-IONIZING RADIATION


https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15368338.2017.1350584


http://www.tetrawatch.net/papers/naila.pdf


https://www.researchgate.net/publication/45387389_Epidemiological_Evidence_for_a_Health_Risk_from_Mobile_Phone_Base_Stations


FYI: https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-is-peer-review
Dear Webster Groves City Council,

I am in strong opposition to the proposed cellular antennas at Moss Field.

-A major research study found decreased memory among teenagers with higher cell phone exposures to the brain after ONE YEAR of repeated exposure

-People who begin using cell phones as teenagers have a four to five times higher chance of being diagnosed with brain cancer

-Two major peer reviewed scientific studies have proven that cell phone radiation can cause cancer. The two studies are:
  1) National Toxicology Program study on Cell Phone Radiation, Peer-reviewed final report issued November, 2018;
  2) and the Ramazzini Institute Study, in Bologne, Italy, completed in August, 2018.

1a) NTP: SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT.

-Wireless communications equipment has NEVER been proven safe for human exposure at levels below heating of human tissue.

It does not make any sense why the Webster Groves City Council would approve the installation of more cellular antennas with this knowledge. There are going to be even more students at Hixson next year with the addition of the sixth grade moving into the school.

You have the chance to protect all of these kids brains and development by saying “no” to more radiation. We are inundated enough with cell phones and radiation please protect our children. It is your duty to protect the children not the cell phone company.

Thank you for listening.
I know you will make the right decision.

Sincerely,
Annie Tierney
To: Mayor Gerry Welch and the following councilmembers, Karen Alexander, Laura Arnold, Pam Bliss, David Franklin, Sarah Richardson and Emerson Smith

My name is Diane Sperber. I live at 164 Central Avenue here in Webster Groves. I am concerned about the plan to install additional 9 cell antennas on a pole at Moss Field near both the Hixson School and the Webster Groves Recreational Center. Please be patient in reading this as I would like to explain how I learned the dangers of non-ionizing radiation.

I have previously sent a similar email to many of you, but let me refresh your memory. My husband and I have already been injured by microwave radiation from a “Smart Meter” that was installed on our house in 2012 right outside our bedroom window within 3 feet of where we slept. This is the worst place for it to be as no one should be within ten feet of it for any length of time. So, without our knowledge we were exposed every night for six years to microwave radiation.

Extra info...You may question that if “Smart Meters” caused such injury, why don’t we hear more about it. First, most injury is slow and is not connected to the meter. Secondly, it makes some difference depending on the material a home is made of, like brick homes are safer. Thirdly, where it is placed on the outside wall determines how dangerous it can be. But it really is a national problem that the media keeps quiet. And they are new upgrade digital meters that have not been installed everywhere.

Though we had been healthy and on no medications we both began to have health issues that doctors could find no reasons for. Dave seemingly aged overnight and I started experiencing episodes of hives and angioedema and we both were suffering with adrenal fatigue. The doctors decided that I must have some sort of autoimmune or mast cell disease. Dave has come down with systems similar to Parkinson. As you may know there is no test for Parkinson and they really do not know what causes it, but they do agree that it most likely is from toxins in our environment.

It was only by accident that we discovered our health decline was connected to the “Smart Meter”. We at first screened the meter and were able to reduce the microwave radiation enough that I was able to get off medication and my hives and angioedema went away and have not returned. Since then we have had Ameren replace it with a mechanical meter.

My husband is suffering more than me because he had also been installing Wi-Fi the last 3 years of his employment so he was bombarded at work with microwave radiation during the day and also at night while he slept. The Truth is no one should have to go through
what we did, if we had never connected our health issues to microwave radiation exposure, we most likely would not be here today.

You could say it is a silent killer. It is the fact that you cannot see the damage it is doing that makes it so dangerous. Today we have more and more individuals that are highly sensitive to any wireless technology. They will have immediate health reactions in the presence of EMFs and radio waves, like a headache, heart palpitations, or a skin rash, etc. Many of them now consider their sensitivity to EMFs and radio waves to be a life saver as otherwise they would not realize their dangers till it was too late. We would be wise to consider these sensitive individuals as warning signs to the rest of us, similar to the canaries that were used to protect miners from being overcome with gas fumes before the miners had time to escape.

Personally, we are concerned about the addition of these antennas because a building biologist who has inspected our home for additional EMF exposure got a high reading in our bedroom and living room coming from the present cell tower on Moss Field. There is a limit to what we can do to protect ourselves from all this new technology when our neighborhoods are being bombarded with all these cell towers and antennas.

Just like we were, most individuals are ignorant of all the health issues that can be caused by all this wireless technology. Many are being injured right now and simply have not connected the dots. It is all the toxins or combinations of them in this world that are making us sick. It needs to stop.

All living things are being injured in some way. The navigation of birds and bees are being disturbed because we are polluting their environment with all these EMFs. Microwave radiation makes it impossible for them to make melatonin which affects their navigation. In the past bee hive owners blamed parasites or mites for the death of bee hives. But when they found the same parasites or mites in healthy hives, they realized it was something else. Scientists now know that the biggest reason our bees, birds and other insects are disappearing is because EMFs destroy the system in them that produces melatonin. And melatonin in used to help them navigate. So, without the melatonin they get confused and lost.

Exposure to EMFs reduces melatonin to all living creatures. For example, cows that were grazing in the line of an antennae’s rays had low melatonin levels. Melatonin is an antioxidant, and though it mainly regulates our waking and sleep modes, it is also used by every cell in our bodies.

By some estimates this generation of children are being exposed daily to as much as one hundred million times more electromagnetic radiation than our grandparents were. Parents who are anxious for their children to achieve in this world are being deceived that all this wireless is safe. And every School Board member has been blinded by the financial benefit these towers offer a school district and the desire for their schools to be first in any new wireless technology without any concerned for the accumulative damage done to children. It would be a real eye opener if parents started sharing their children’s health concerns with each other and monitoring the increase in headaches, anxiety attacks, and all kinds of cancers.
This does not have to be. Admittedly, we have all become addicted to this new technology but there is a safe way and it makes no common sense to take the harmful way.

We don't have to use wireless. Fiber Optics all the way is more reliable, more secured and most of all it is much safer. If the FCC was headed by individuals with integrity instead of those that are controlled by the telecom corporations this problem would not be where it is today. The FCC leaders have conflict of interest. The present chairman, previously was an attorney for the telecom corporations and the previous chairman, Tom Wheeler was a senior lobbyist in Congress for the telecom corporations.

Actually, our tax monies were originally set aside for Fiber Optics installations, but the FCC allowed them to be mishandled and used for wireless. So, basically, we pay them to use our tax monies for their profit.

The FCC's present safety standards do not apply to today's situation. They are nearly 30 years outdated. Many have asked the FCC to revise their limits and have expressed concern that the current FCC limits are not protective and have cited instances of biological harm.

But get this, the FCC responded stating that it is "not a health and safety organization" and called for expert comments. If they admit that they are not a health and safety organization why do we continue to go by their standards? The FCC knows the truth, but this was just a delay tactic, because even though the commission has since received nearly 1000 submissions from various scientists, doctors, government agencies, and organizations asking them to change their limits to protect against bioeffects other than heating, nothing has been done. It could be many years before we see any changes from the FCC, if any, as there is no timeline for them to take action.

You must follow the money... It is the conflict of interest. They are filling their own pockets and our government is allowing them to get away with it. And sadly, at the expense of not just our children but all living creatures and plants in our environment.

The Webster Groves Planning Commission seemed to be content that since the School Board did not question the safety of these antennas why should they? Are you Council Members going to do the same? By God's grace I pray not.

What good are any of you elected officials if none of you take the personal responsibility and initiative to investigate the truth. Please for your own sake, but mostly for the children in Webster Groves learn the truth by educating yourself before it is too late. Don't let wireless be to us like DDT, asbestos, and cigarettes were. These websites will give you all the scientific links to the information I've shared: www.evtrust.org and www.mdsafetech.org.
Physicians for Safe Technology | Wireless Technology and Public Health
We are physicians and professionals whose mission is to provide trusted leadership in promoting healthy environm...

Lies kill, truth saves.

Thank you for your patience in reading this. Sincerely, Diane Sperber
Katie Nakazono - comment for public hearing

From: <patocco@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG>
Date: 7/6/2020 5:16 PM
Subject: comment for public hearing

I vehemently object to placing any cell phone towers at a grade school. This is endangering the children who are especially vulnerable to the EMF's that are transmitted to all people in near proximity. There are many scientific studies that prove the danger and harm of the EMF's and there are schools that have experienced cancers in children from nearby towers. You are putting children at risk and will be held accountable if you do this and harm befalls them.

Here are many references that you must read and become knowledgeable about before such a decision is made.

http://www.tetrawatch.net/papers/naila.pdf
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/45387389_Epidemiological_Evidence_for_a_Health_Risk

Above studies accessed from:
FYI: https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-is-peer-review

Sincerely,
Patricia Tocco
Hello,
My questions for the council is
1. What precautions have you made for children and pregnant women?
2. What measures have you made for the sensitive group?

Thank you
Robert Workman
Certified Building Biology Environmental Consultant
Katie Nakazono - PUBLIC Comment for HEARING RE: 9 NEW CELL ANTENNAS AT HIXSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

From: Jody Porter <jodybeckmann@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/6/2020 9:44 PM
Subject: PUBLIC Comment for HEARING RE: 9 NEW CELL ANTENNAS AT HIXSON MIDDLE SCHOOL
Cc: Jeff Porter <jfporter01@gmail.com>

Dear City Council,

As a Webster groves resident with school aged children planning to eventually attend Hixon Middle School, I urge you to VOTE NO on the installation of 9 new cellular antennas there. There are decades of research showing children and adolescent brains to be particularly vulnerable to the EMF radiation emitted from these towers. At a time when we should be focusing on the health and well-being of our community more than ever, we should pay attention to the science documenting these unregulated safety hazards, and we should not increase exposure of them to our middle schoolers. Protect the brains of our vulnerable adolescents and VOTE NO for more cellular antennas.

Sincerely,

Jody Porter
148 Valley Rd.
Webster Groves, 63119

--

Jody Porter
Director

314.296.9064 | jodybeckmann@gmail.com
www.beautycounter.com/jodyporter

[Exclamation]

Our mission is to get safer products in the hands of everyone.
Dear City Council,

As a Webster Groves resident with children in the School District, I oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers to Hixon Middle School.

Marissa Zeller

Sent from my iPhone
Katie Nakazono - Hixon middle school

From: Claire De Largy <youcalllove@icloud.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 9:12 AM
Subject: Hixon middle school

As a Webster Groves resident with children in the School District, I oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers to Hixon Middle School.

Thank you,
Claire DeLargy
Dear Webster Groves City Council,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the possible installation of 9 more cellular antennas next to Hixson Middle School. I expect I am in the majority, which does not consent to having our children exposed to excessive wireless radiation which peer reviewed science has shown to be harmful to public health and to nature. Children, the ill, and the elderly are more vulnerable, and the proposed proximity of these towers to school-aged children is especially concerning! As a Webster groves resident with school aged children planning to eventually attend Hixon Middle School, I urge you to VOTE NO on the installation of 9 new cellular antennas there.

At a time when we should be focusing on the health and well-being of our community more than ever, and as European countries are making huge strides to get EMF and wifi OUT of their schools, for Webster Groves to ignore decades of research documenting these unregulated safety hazards and to increase exposure of our children to them is unacceptable. I cannot support a city government that would act against the health and welfare of its children and residents in this manner.

Protect our vulnerable adolescents and vote “NO” for more cellular antennas.

Sincerely,
Lauren Bruno
134 S. Maple Ave
Webster Groves, MO 63119
Katie Nakazono - Cell phone tower installation

From:  Lindsey Michaud <lindseywiese29@gmail.com>
To:    "CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG"
       <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date:  7/7/2020 9:43 AM
Subject: Cell phone tower installation

As a Webster Groves resident of over 30 years with 2 children in the School District, I oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers to Hixon Middle School. Please consider the health of our children and future generations and vote no on this matter. Please find a location much further away from a school.
Sincerely,
Lindsey Michaud
Katie Nakazono - REMARKS OF VISITOR 7-7-20

From: Sheilah Mitchell <sheilahmitchell@gmail.com>
To: <citycouncil@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 10:02 AM
Subject: REMARKS OF VISITOR 7-7-20

********YOU HAVE ALL BEEN ELECTED TO REPRESENT AND TO PROTECT ALL OF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE CHILDREN!!!!!

********FROM INTENSIVE RESEARCH BY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF WISE, INFORMED, WELL-RESEARCHED AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING MY FRIEND, BOBBY KENNEDY, Jr. (The son of Robert F. KENNEDY and a lawyer for IRREGULATORS VS FCC FOR EXTREME FRAUD KILLING CHILDREN AND OUR BEES, INSECTS AND FOOD SUPPLY!!!) , DR. DEVRA DAVIS, THEODORA SCORATTO( www.EHTRUST.org The Environmental Trust ), AND ST. LOUIS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS, WE DEMAND THAT YOU STOP (NOW!!!!!) ANY UNTESTED TECHNOLOGY PUTTING OUR CHILDREN AND OUR LIVES IN THE GREATEST JEOPARDY AS 2G, 4G, 5G, DANGEROUS ‘SMART METERS, ETC., ETC., ETC.!!!!

********MY SON, 26, EXPERIENCED A THREE YEAR JOURNEY OF TORTURE AND EXTREME PAIN AND DIED A VERY EARLY DEATH FROM CARRYING A 2G CELL PHONE IN HIS POCKET WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING THE TRUE DANGERS!!!! THE PAIN AND LOSS IS ONLY SOOTHERED BY KNOWING YOU PROTECT US, NOW!!!!!!********

YOU MUST STOP THE INSANITY AND HELP CITIZENS SURVIVE ALL UNTESTED, TOXIC AND DANGEROUS, LIFE THREATENING TECHNOLOGIES AND INDUSTRIES OR YOU WILL SEE YOUR COMMUNITY SUFFER AND BE BANKRUPTED FROM SO MANY DEATHS AND LITIGATIONS UNIMAGINABLE!!!!!! AS BOBBY KENNEDY, Jr., recently stated, "IF YOU ARE ALIVE TODAY, WE ASK YOU TO JOIN US IN SAVING HUMANITY"!!!!!!

********HOLD FAITH THAT YOU WILL ALL JOIN ST. LOUIS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TRUST, IRREGULATORS VS. FCC, BOBBY KENNEDY, JR., DR. DEVRA DAVIS, AND THE CITIZENS THAT TRUSTED AND SUPPORTED YOU WITH TRUST YOU WOULD CONSCIOUSLY AND COURAGEOUSLY PROTECT THEIR LIVES, CHILDREN, FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND LEGACY!! NOW!!!!!!

ONWARD AND UPWARD FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE AND A MUCH MORE CONSCIOUS, HEALTHY COMMUNITY AND WORLD!!**********

MOST SINCERELY AND PASSIONATELY, A DEVOTED MOTHER GRIEVING THE LOSS OF HER PRECIOUS SON,
Sheilah Mitchell
**********
Mitchell Vidal International Consulting
Sheilah Sisco Mitchell
sheilahmitchell@gmail.com
T: 314-456-9291

The Adam Mitchell Foundation
Research Justice Non-Toxic Cures
"Seeking the best in others, we find the best in ourselves."
From: Maggie Taylor Berkowitz <berkowitzmt@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 11:20 AM
Subject: Cell towers at Hixson

I am a lifelong Webster resident and now a mother of (soon to be 3!) children who will be attending Webster Schools. I implore you to vote NO on the addition of the 9 proposed new cell towers at Hixson. Any additional EMF exposure to our children is unacceptable.

Thank you,
Maggie Taylor Berkowitz

Sent from my iPhone
Katie Nakazono - Cell phone towers

From: Laura Oeltjen Welch <laurakaywelch@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 11:32 AM
Subject: Cell phone towers

To whom it may concern:

As a Webster Groves resident with children in the School District and someone who lives close to Hixson Middle School, I strongly oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers at Hixson. Please vote NO on the addition of these new towers. I do not like the idea of my kids being exposed to additional EMF which has been shown to be especially harmful to children and adolescents. I urge you to vote NO. Thank you for your time.

Laura Welch
Katie Nakazono - Proposed Installation of 9 more Cellular Towers at Hixson Middle School

From: christi rejent <christi_rejent@me.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 11:42 AM
Subject: Proposed Installation of 9 more Cellular Towers at Hixson Middle School

As a Webster Groves resident with children in the School District, I oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers to Hixson Middle School.

I urged you to please VOTE NO on the addition of 9 new cellular towers at Hixson Middle School. As a resident, I don't like the idea of my kids being exposed to additional EMF which has been shown to be especially harmful to children and adolescents.

Christine & Anthony Rejent
117 S Gore Ave

christi j rejent
314 • 218 • 5586

christi j rejent
314 • 218 • 5586
Katie Nakazono - NO to 9 new cellular towers at Hixon!

From: hannnahmayer <hgm01@msn.com>
To: "CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG"
     <CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG>
Date: 7/7/2020 11:59 AM
Subject: NO to 9 new cellular towers at Hixon!

Hannah Bingaman

As a Webster Groves resident with children in the School District, I strongly oppose the installation of 9 new cellular towers to Hixson Middle School. Please VOTE NO on the addition of 9 new cellular towers at Hixson Middle School! As a resident, I do not want my kids being exposed to additional EMF which has been shown to be especially harmful to children and adolescents.

Thank you!

Hannah Bingaman
Katie Nakazono - Opposition to DRA Properties application to install 9 more cell phone antennas

From: Catherine Cogorno <catcogorno@sbcglobal.net>
To: "citycouncil@webstergroves.org" <citycouncil@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 12:37 PM
Subject: Opposition to DRA Properties application to install 9 more cell phone antennas

thank you for accepting my comments.

To the Webster Groves Council:

For decades I had Webster Groves in high esteem, until I drove by Hixson School & Rec Center recently, and my heart sank 10 miles.

To those in the telecom, cell towers and antennas industries directly or indirectly, I say: ignorance of the damage wireless technology causes does not exculpate you. 4G is bad enough, and now we are exposing our children to more, whether 4G or 5G? What for? For faster connections, along with faster physical deterioration, emotional and mental dysfunction and worse? For faster death of trees and disappearance of birds and insects?

About 30% of the population is now experiencing damaging effects from electromagnetic frequencies, whether they engage in the use of the devices or not. Did you know those towers radiate out for miles? There are now 23 towers and 100 antennas within 2 miles of that spot. Imagine the scope of repercussions.

Damage from microwave and radio-frequency radiation has been known for 40 yrs, from the Naval Medical Research Institute Study of 1971. Add the National Toxicology Program study on Cell Phone Radiation and the BIONITIATIVE REPORT which compiled over 1,000 studies by 29 scientists in 10 countries. Please read their summary sheet of conditions associated with radiation which I am attaching. Also, I am attaching a list of 168 studies on radiation, including effects on fetal and newborn development, on young children, brain and parotid gland tumors, on DNA, and 5G effects.

This is a repeat story of DDT, asbestos, cigarettes, opioids, glyphosate, etc. all toxic, but tooted safe to suit irresponsible and unconscionable interests. Just like the cell phones manuals' fine print considers their use to constitute radiation "pollution", while they warn: 'do not hold close to your body.'
Many testimonials exist. One example is that of the 6 college students who died of brain tumors, having lived in a dorm next to a cell tower. Now, over 200,000 cell tower installers in the U.S. have been hurt or become ill and are walking away from the job.

Mr. Mottus (from the California Brain Tumor Association) indicates: "The wireless devices and antennas have not been tested for safety before put on market. This is the biggest environmental and safety threat of our time."

Yet, the FCC has conducted no safety tests. How convenient! To not acknowledge the science and alarms sounded by physicians and scientists worldwide and to operate with no liability, while their guidelines are 23 yrs OBSOLETE. This is unconscionable CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. No wonder they are now being sued big time.

In smart places WiFi is being removed from schools, and 5G banned. You have the opportunity and power of saying NO MORE! Be the leaders! Invest in safe and reliable GROUNDED computers, phones and electronic equipment for your residents, students and workers.

PLEASE OPPOSE WIRELESS RADIATION AND, FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN, STOP THIS INSANITY.

Thank you.

Catherine Cogorno

PD - For thorough and best current info, go to [http://www.ehtrust.org](http://www.ehtrust.org)
From: Susan Krieg <susan.l.krieg@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 1:21 PM
Subject: Cell tower

Please VOTE NO on the addition of 9 new cellular towers at Hixson Middle School. As a resident and parent of children in WGSD, I don't like the idea of my kids being exposed to additional EMF which has been shown to be especially harmful to children and adolescents.

Thank you for your consideration.
Susan Krieg
I would like to state that I oppose the installation of new cellular towers to Hixson Middle School, and/or other school buildings. As a Webster Groves resident and parent of children attending Webster Groves schools, I am not comfortable with the potential risk presented by cellular towers. While current evidence cannot clearly demonstrate an increased risk from cell towers, several lab studies of animals have shown that there is a potential for increased risk. As such, please vote against the installation of these new towers. Exposing our children to even a potential increase of risk is not worth it to me.

Joel Bingaman
50 Hart Avenue
From: amy layton <amylayton1@gmail.com>
To: <CITYCOUNCIL@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 2:39 PM
Subject: The concern of new cell towers

My husband and I have been looking to possibly move to webster groves partly because of the strong school district. I have looked over some concerning data dealing with these towers. I see that other countries are banning it. I think more research needs to be done before these are put in place. This is the welfare of our children - the very place that should be a safe zone could be harming them with small incremental influences.
I would encourage non biased research to assure this is a good choice. If the jury remains undecided would it not be smarter to take the safe road and not use the kids school as a testing ground?
Sincerely,

Amy Layton

Sent from my iPhone
Katie Nakazono - Deny DRA Application For 9 New Cell Phone Antennas At Moss Field

From: "Shell." <hgefree@msn.com>
To: "CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG" <CITYCOUNCIL@WEBSTERGROVES.ORG>
Date: 7/7/2020 3:16 PM
Subject: Deny DRA Application For 9 New Cell Phone Antennas At Moss Field
Cc: webster/kirkwood times <mailbag@timesnewspapers.com>

We request that Webster Groves City Council DENY the application from DRA Properties (Doug Dolan, et al), on the grounds that they do not have insurance to cover them for liabilities associated with the use of these towers.

Six months ago our family with five members, each with a cell phone had our land line reconnected in our home in Glendale. We have successfully changed our cell phone use to less than half of what it was and now utilize our ATT landline and rely on it for emergency use even if electricity goes out. We know of at least ten other families that have done the same and one friend who canceled thier cell phone completely. We encourage others to do this to limit thier own exposure to EMFS and to limit the exposure that each call and text with a cell phone emits to other people, animals, birds, insects, trees and plant life. Less cell phone use is desirable and we are seeing a trend of less use.

Let's see DRA Properties provide evidence and proof of necessity for our community not just for thier pocket book AND a contract that they accept all liabilities associated with these cell towers and that Webster Groves will not be held liable, nor the city council members individually for neglecting thier oath to protect, nor the tax payers of Webster Groves. We also need to see proof that they are INSURED FOR ALL LIABILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THESE PROPOSED 9 CELL TOWERS. So that they can't just run from a bankruptcy with their CEO bonuses and we are left with the certain coming massive legal mess from this unsafe technology. As cell phones DO CAUSE CANCER, as PROVEN by the U.S. NTP study. AND long-term exposure, even at levels below the fraudulent FCC limit of 60 Volts per meter (V/m), can causer cancer and harm people in many ways that can go unseen for years before they surface and become apparent that a disease has taken hold in the body.

And how about property values of the homes all around Moss Field? No one wants a home next to a cell tower. How is this issue being addressed? Who is paying for the loss of property value or the relocation cost of residents in the surrounding areas? Will DRA Properties also accept liability for law suit and legal fees when property owners finally see what is has happened and sue Webster Groves?

You must vote no until proof of insurance covering DRA properties specifically for all liabilities associated with these proposed cell towers can be seen by the people and the public and tax payers can have thier say about that. AND we want to know who is profiting from this? We want
this to be public information. If any council members or any of their family members are profiting in any way the public must be informed of this as well.

Sincerely,
Shelly and Edward Huffman
741 Bismark Ave
Glendale, MO 63122
Hello,

I have concerns about Resolution 2020-24: Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase Four New Police Vehicles.

The American Public Health Association has found that police violence is a public health issue. "With law enforcement violence — including death, injury, trauma and stress — often disproportionately affecting marginalized populations, [The American Public Health Association] Calls on governments to allocate funding from law enforcement agencies to community-based programs that address violence and harm without criminalizing communities, including restorative justice programs." (American Public Health Association).

Webster Groves and our country is in the middle of another public health crisis--Covid-19. The response to the covid-19 crisis should not be to increase the resources for the police department.

The Council's most recent goals published on the website include

- 2018 – 2019 Goal - Explore additional housing options, such as multi-family housing and affordable housing.
- 2018 – 2019 GOAL - Address and correct, through ordinance changes, housing issues that negatively affect Webster Groves homes and neighborhoods.

If police violence most impacts the marginalized populations, such as people in poverty or people of color, increased police spending does not serve the same people that you have the goal to create affordable housing.

Your Statement of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion says "Webster Groves welcomes and supports the unique and individual qualities of each resident, business owner, employee and visitor to our community. We are committed to promoting diversity, respectful conduct, and equitable service; we strive to be an inclusive place for all; and we condemn discrimination. In all that we do as a City, we pledge to treat everyone with equity and without bias, regardless of their race, creed, religion, language, national origin, gender identity, marital status, familial status, citizenship, sexual orientation, age, income, physical appearance, or ability."

Increasing police funds is not shown to lead to equitable service or respectful conduct at all.

I urge you not to purchase four new police vehicles and instead use that money to assist people vulnerable to the ravaging effects of COVID-19.

Thank you.
Dear Mayor Welch and Council members Alexander, Arnold, Bliss, Franklin, Richardson and Smith

RE: Follow up on June 16 Meeting

As I listened to your thoughtful discussion during the last meeting about the aquatic center, I understand your votes and thank you for your consideration about opening the pool this summer. I thought the idea that Mayor Welch suggested that Director Scott Davis contact other neighboring cities to see if a plan could be implemented for Webster residents to use their pools was an excellent idea. As Director Davis stated, August is usually a lower-attendance month for pools, so other cities may welcome our participation. I hope something can be worked out for our citizens. Thank you for your service to our community.

Joan McGivney
346 Tulip Drive Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-0389

J
Mayor & City Council,

Five quick remarks:

1. I was wrong and you were right to make the difficult but smart and safe decision to close the pool for the summer. Thank you, Scott and Council.
2. I was wrong and you were right to cancel or postpone the parade, carnival and fireworks this past weekend. Thank you, Scott, Steve and Council. And please see below. Our family loved participating in the "reverse parade" and home decoration contest with our "Child Garden of Peace." We didn't win but that's not the point. We had FUN and supported our great city!
3. To me, it takes humility, empathy and courage to truly listen, respect and understand the harsh criticisms of arrogance, apathy and inaction from the youth at Blackburn Park against City Council, the School Board, the Police Department and the entire Webster Groves community. Thank you for starting the process of bridging and closing the divide, healing their wounds, and coming together to find common ground and agree on a corrective course of tangible actions.
4. I think SG Collaborative is doing a great job overall and in their current public input sessions on their six identified opportunity areas. But, to me, four of these areas are "wants" and only two of them are real and urgent community "needs", that being "Housing" and "Diversity." And, to me, "Housing" really means "Affordable Housing", not for the affluent in our community, but for lower, low and poverty families.
5. Over the past 20 years, Webster's black population has basically been cut in half, from 13-14% to just over 7% and falling. Thus, while the celebration of North Webster's past is appreciated by all, we need to dramatically shift focus 1) to the present and stop the hemorrhaging and loss of black families due to gentrification, and 3) to the future and attract new black families to our city. Because if we don't, we risk becoming an all-white Webster sooner rather than later, which would be very bad and sad for all of us.

PEACE.

Dave

w/photo
Katie Nakazono - Remarks of Visitors

From: Michael Blaes <blaes.mike@gmail.com>
To: <CityCouncil@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/7/2020 2:46 PM
Subject: Remarks of Visitors

My compliments to the Webster Groves Police force for keeping our city safe, quickly responding to numerous calls for service, and being respectful of our residents. In a time of a global pandemic and national crises, the police are under increasing pressure to perform their jobs justly and heroically. Our leaders rarely question expenditures to their department.

While I understand the need to cycle vehicles to keep their fleet maintained and dependable, I also see an opportunity to respond to areas of concern in the community. Tonight's agenda includes the purchase of 4 new police vehicles and one new Parks vehicle at a cost of roughly a quarter million dollars. A considerable budget shortfall is expected this year and probably next due to the pandemic and lack of sales tax dollars. This represents a considerable investment that might be best postponed or invested elsewhere, regardless of when these funds were appropriated.

The City of Webster Groves has a rare opportunity to stand behind the Black Lives Matter movement to bring justice, healing and freedom to our African American citizens by reappropriating these funds to programs and needs in North Webster. This is the meaning behind the slogan "Defund the Police": to redistribute money that might be considered excessive and/or unnecessary to an already high performing police force. You might ask your police officers what they think. I imagine you will find them supportive of a better use of these funds. While these vehicles may have been approved for purchase under previous budgets, priorities are changing with the pandemic and cries for racial reform. Asking "Why can't we do both?" sends the wrong message to our African American constituents.

We post signs in our front yards: BLACK LIVES MATTER
We march in protests throughout the St. Louis Area and in Webster Groves demanding CHANGE
We condemn racial inequality in all aspects of society
We remove monuments to those who fought for slavery
We work to be ANTI RACIST
But what are we willing to do in our own community to say to the rest of the world, WE MEAN IT! Are we willing to be leaders in change, or are we just putting on a show that will end when things return to "normal". Some of us don't want that "normal" to return, we dream of change and look to our leaders to make it happen. Are you as leaders in Webster Groves willing to take this opportunity and make a monetary gesture to our African American community while doing no harm to our police force? I challenge you to reconsider the purchase of these vehicles.

Michael E. Blaes
412 Newport Ave, Webster Groves, MO 63119