

OBJECTION: 916 Union Street Cell Antenna Project
Adrienne Lakadat - 900 Union Street – adjacent neighbor
To: Planning Division planning@alamedaca.gov

Initially, I was not planning to object to this project, but after briefly looking at these documents, I object. The **documents are inaccurate**, omitting important information without noting the omissions. Also, the ***Radio Frequency-Electromagnetic Energy Jurisdictional Report* notes dangerous levels of radiation at distances from the antennas that are within my property and home** and that may affect the apartment residents and other surrounding neighbors.

Since my house is next to the apartment building and proposed antennas, I'm a bit concerned about cell tower radiation and about shadow on my yard, so I looked to the documents to inform me. They are both inaccurate and scary.

1. Inaccurate Drawings:

The plans and elevations do not match – AT ALL. There are three antennas planned and three enclosures. Some elevation drawings show one enclosure, some show two, none show all three. The enclosures shown are inaccurately placed and generally are shown farther from the edge of the building than they are shown on the dimensioned plans.

The plans show antennas only 10' from the building edge, but in the elevation, where you can better visualize height, the antenna enclosures appear to be over 20 feet from the edge, making them seem less imposing. This is misleading. Really, not ok.

It is not possible to review the massing of the enclosures with drawings that do not show the enclosures and/or show them in the wrong places.

Drawing A-4: **Omits Antenna Gamma** which should be shown 10' from the side of the building next to my property. It also omits my building, which sits 10 feet from the apartment building (20 feet from the antenna) and is two stories high.
Inaccurately shows Antennas Alpha and Beta.

Drawing A-5: **Omits Antenna Gamma** which should be shown 10' from the side of the building next to my property. It also omits my building, which sits 10 feet from the apartment building (20 feet from the antenna) and is two stories high.
Omits Antenna Alpha.
Inaccurately shows Antenna Beta.

Drawing A-6: **Omits Antennas Beta and Gamma.**

Drawing A-7: **Inaccurately shows Antennas Gamma and Beta. Omits Antenna Alpha.**

Photo Simulations from Intellocity: cannot be relied upon as it is unclear whether they are based on inaccurate information.

Neighboring buildings are not shown on any elevation drawings: This apartment building is **5 feet from its property line**. It is **Not especially tall**. My building is of similar height, very close to the building, and **my top floor (facing the new antennas) is occupied 24/7.**

2. Radiation: I have been convinced that cell towers are not that bad and was hoping for good news in the reports. However, in the first paragraph of the *Radio Frequency-Electromagnetic Energy Jurisdictional Report* attached to this project, it states, "As

presented in the sections below, based on worst-case predictive modeling, the worst-case emitted power density may **exceed the FCC's general public limit within approximately 26 feet of DISH's** proposed antennas at the main roof level." Well, my property is within 15 feet of the antennas, and a family member's sleeping room is well within the 26-foot danger zone.

Quotes from the Jurisdictional Report are scary. Here are three quotes from the report:

1. the worst-case emitted power density **may exceed the FCC's general public limit within approximately 26 feet of DISH's proposed antennas** at the main roof level. Modeling also indicates that the worst-case emitted power density may exceed the FCC's occupational limit within approximately 3 feet of DISH's proposed antennas at the main roof level.

MY PROPERTY IS WITHIN 10 FEET OF THE BUILDING AND 20 FEET OF THE ANTENNAS, WITHIN THE AREA WITH RADIATION EXCEEDING THE FCC'S GENERAL PUBLIC LIMIT.

2. At the nearest walking/working surfaces to the Dish Wireless antennas, **the maximum power density generated by the DISH antennas is approximately 725.04 percent of the FCC's general public limit (145.01 percent of the FCC's occupational limit).**

725% OF THE FCC'S GENERAL PUBLIC LIMIT OF RADIATION IS A LOT OF RADIATION. THIS IS WITHIN 15 FEET OF MY PROPERTY AND RIGHT ABOVE THE APARTMENTS IN THE BUILDING.

3. MITIGATION/SITE CONTROL OPTIONS...Barriers are recommended for installation when possible to block access to the areas in front of the antennas that exceed the FCC general public and/or occupational limits. Barriers may consist of rope, chain, or fencing. Painted stripes should only be used as a last resort. A 18 foot barrier is recommended around the Dish Wireless Sector A antennas, **a 20 foot barrier is recommended around the Dish Wireless Sector B antennas, and a 32 foot barrier is recommended around the Dish Wireless Sector C antennas.**

MY PROPERTY, AND A FAMILY MEMBER'S SLEEPING ROOM, IS WITHIN THESE DANGER DISTANCES FROM THE ANTENNAS NOTED IN THE JURISDICTIONAL REPORT.

3. Shade and view: **The plans and elevations submitted to the city do not match, so it is impossible to determine what this will look like.** The plans show antennas only 10' from the building edge, but in the elevation, where you can better visualize height, the antenna enclosures appear to be over 20 feet from the edge, making them seem less imposing. This is misleading. Really, not ok.

Also, the enclosures are 13 feet high although the antennas are only 6 feet high. Necessary?

Conclusion:

Please revise this project so that

1. excessive radiation does not enter my property and
2. so that the enclosure height is as low as possible and as far from the building edge as possible.

Before reviewing the project again,

1. Revise the plans and elevations so that they match each other accurately and neighbors can properly see the location and size of the antennas and enclosures.
2. Include diagrams showing worst-case radiation levels on my property and that of our neighbors that is safe for all of us, including young children and the elderly.
3. Show neighboring buildings and properties and the worst-case radiation affecting us.



Height of neighboring building is substantially the same as 916 Union. Upper floor of neighbor (in dormers) is occupied 24/7. Behind the tree in the middle of this photo is a two-story house situated 10 feet from 916 Union. A neighbor's building is similarly situated 10 feet or less from 916 Union.

Please address radiation exposure and view from these adjacent properties.

Thank you –

Adrienne Lakadat
Adjacent neighbor

[EXTERNAL] 916 Union St. Project Objection

Karen Manuel 510-332-6507 <karen@karenmanuel.com>

Reply

Today, 7:48 AM

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 1/7/2023 7:48 AM

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to object to the cell tower installation at 916 Union St. I live at 915 Union St, directly across the street from the subject. 916 Union Street is a historical building. The building is in a residential neighborhood that has a number of historic buildings, including the building directly next door at 900 Union Street.

900 Union St has a historical designation of N: A historic resource of the highest quality, eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, usually because of its architectural significance. These are of the highest priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments.

916 Union Street has a historical designation of S: A historic resource distinguished by its architectural, historical, or environmental significance, eligible for inclusion in the State Historic Resources Inventory, and of secondary priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments. Many of these are also eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Others would be eligible if design integrity were restored.

My home at 915 Union has a mere B designation: A resource which, due to its scale, massing, materials, style, and other features, is similar to a nearby "N" or "S" resource and serves as Background support for it. These resources are eligible for inclusion in a group or district nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

I understand the proposal is for multiple towers to be installed on the roof of 916 Union St and that these towers are quite large and

there are plans to enclose them in buildings. I understand there are several of these buildings, but some of them are very near the perimeter of the roof. This essentially means adding an additional level to an already large and imposing 4 story building. I think this is unreasonable. This is a large change for the neighborhood that is filled with historic victorian era and craftsman homes. The apartment building is already imposing upon and out of character with the neighborhood of mostly single family homes. It is situated very close to the lot lines of the homes at 900 Union St. and 1804 San Jose. Adding a 5th story to the building (even if this would be multiple smaller buildings) would change the nature, and look of the neighborhood in significant ways. How is the historic nature of this building being cared for, if you put several new buildings on the roof? How does this care for the maintenance of "background support" for nearby historic buildings, like 900 Union?

I'm sure there are many other options for locations. There are many commercial and publicly owned buildings that have a larger footprint where adding these cell towers would be less impactful. We should not be using smaller historic buildings in residential neighborhoods with a number of historic buildings in this fashion. It will change the character of the neighborhood.

I strongly urge the planning commission to reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

Karen Manuel

915 Union St.
Alameda, CA
510-332-6507

[EXTERNAL] 916 Union St.

Deirdre McCartney

Today, 10:33 AM

FYI Deirdre McCartney, Planner Planning, Building + Transportation City of Alameda 510 747-6814
dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

Reid Family <anthrospeak@yahoo.com>

Reply

Mon 9/19/2022 10:32 AM

To:

Deirdre McCartney;
Derek Turner <dturner@qualtekwireless.com>;
Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>;
tasses1972@yahoo.com;
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Karen Manuel <Karen@karenmanuel.com>;
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You forwarded this message on 9/19/2022 10:33 AM

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 3/18/2023 10:32 AM

Dear Ms. McCartney and Qualtek,
Re: 916 Union St.

Please also address the following concerns—

1. What is the current wireless coverage in the area? Has a "drive test" been conducted? What are the results?
2. Please indicate an effort to seek other locations (ie: least intrusive) that are not immediately adjacent to residential living spaces within a narrow radius of 36'.
3. Please address increased fire risk and analysis vis-a-vis older building construction, rooftop materials etc.
4. Please update RF engineer report to include all future proposed antennas at the site, and exhibits that show the location and boundaries of areas with RF exposures in excess of the controlled/occupational limit (as the term is defined by the FCC). Currently, it appears the proposed RF levels are higher than recommended safety requirements as submitted.
5. Since this is considered a "large wireless facility" what other safety implications does this have on the immediate residents, and what are the engineering standards associated with such a facility?

Thank you,
Matt and Carmen Reid

[EXTERNAL] 916 Union St. Project

Deirdre McCartney

Today, 7:47 AM

[FYI public comment](#)

Deirdre McCartney,
Planner
Planning, Building + Transportation
City of Alameda
510 747-6814 dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

Matt Reid <anthrospeak@gmail.com>

Reply

Sat 9/17/2022 1:06 PM

To:

Deirdre McCartney;
Derek Turner <dturner@qualtekwireless.com>;
Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>;
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Stephanie Lee <stephanielee1@comcast.net>

You forwarded this message on 9/19/2022 7:47 AM

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Dear City Planning Office:

[In advance of the September 19 meeting, we wanted to document some serious concerns about the proposed design from Qualtek Wireless for a rooftop telecom facility at 916 Union St.](#)

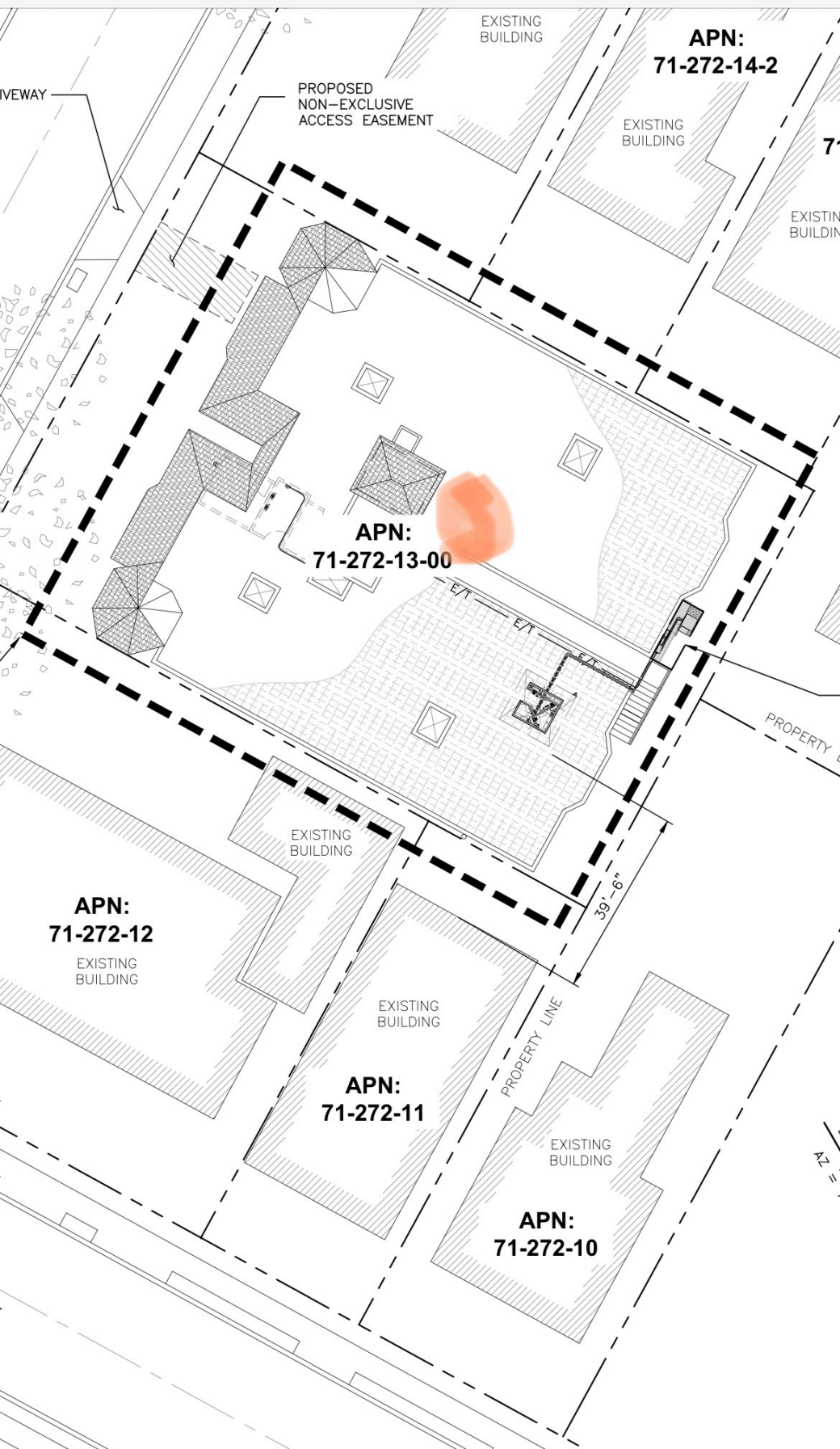
1. Part of our living space in existing building AP 71-272-11 has been omitted from drawing A-1. This is a serious cartographic omission. We have a permitted living space in the form of a detached garage abutting the property line. It is a home office that I spend 8-10 hours a day in, and this falls squarely within the 39'6" distance marker indicated on the diagram, which is intended to convey the distance from the facility to our home. We estimate the distance between the proposed facility and the edge of our home to be about 19'6", which is within the acknowledged "danger zone".

2. The inventory of parts listed (pages D1-D3, E1, and RF-1 - RF4) makes no mention of fans. We understand that facilities like this typically require fans for cooling, and that these fans emit a high pitched whine 24 hours a day. We would like to see specs for the fans Qualtek intends to install, including estimated noise levels. It should be noted that trees adjacent to the facility host nesting birds, which may be impacted by noise.
3. Diagram A-3 states that Qualtek will seek in the future to double the count of antennas from 3 to 6, but does not enumerate related impact of this - e.g. more fans required to be installed, and potentially an increase to the danger zone radius.
4. Within the correspondence to the City, we noted that photos are missing, although they were submitted. We request these be added in for the record.

In addition to correcting the errors and omissions above, we humbly request that the Planning Office ask Qualtek to:

1. Seek other locations- the Alternative Site Analysis appears to be inadequate. The only other site looked at was the hospital. When we requested they look for additional sites, Qualtek was non-responsive. There are numerous other locations with slightly less dense surrounding structures including on city-owned property (e.g. Lum School, Rittler Park) that would likely be a better fit. Additionally, there are other apartment buildings where the adjacent structures are one-story structures exclusively.
2. If it has to be at 916 Union, please move the tower yet further back, so that it is immediately adjacent to the elevator shaft in the center of the building, for the safety and well-being of the neighbors. See attached image- we've placed an orange smudge at a location which is more equitable in terms of its equidistance to the neighboring structures.

Sincerely,
Matt and Carmen Reid
1811 Clinton Ave



Environmental Assessment Required by current FCC Rules regarding Historic Structures

OBJECTION: 916 Union Street Cell Antenna Project
Letter #2

Adrienne Lakadat - 900 Union Street – adjacent neighbor
To: Planning Division planning@alamedaca.gov

FCC rules require an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the antenna installation proposed at 916 Union St adjacent to my property at 900 Union Street in Alameda. See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307(a)(4) and Nationwide Programmatic Agreement for the Collocation of Wireless Antennas, Appendix B to Part 1, an Agreement Regarding the Section 106 [National Historic Preservation Act](#) Review Process (NPA) and collocation of wireless antennas. (NPARP)

POINTS

- 1. FCC Rules Do Not Require That the City Approve This Large Wireless Facility Project Without An Environmental Assessment/ Section 106 Review Because The National Preservation Act Review Process Applies.**
- 2. Although The FCC Rules Allow Small Wireless Facilities To Bypass Section 106 Review For Historic Resources, Large Facilities Such As The One Proposed For 916 Union Are Not Exempt.**
- 3. The Wireless Facility Proposed For 916 Union St Exceeds The FCC Definition Of A Small Wireless Facility By Orders Of Magnitude.**
- 4. Replacements Of Small Wireless Antennas Such As The One Currently On 916 Union Street Are Not Exempted From Review Under The National Historic Preservation Act.**
- 5. The FCC Also Requires A Section 106 Review If A Member Of The Public Complains That An Installation Has An Adverse Effect On One Or More Historic Properties.**
- 6. Conclusion And Discussion – Proposal Cannot Be Approved Without Environmental Assessment/106 Review.**

- 1. FCC Rules Do Not Require That the City Approve This Large Wireless Facility Project Without An Environmental Assessment/ Section 106 Review Because The National Preservation Act Review Process Applies:**

Although 47 C.F.R. § 1.6100, quoted by the applicant, appears to require the City to approve the proposed Project, that rule does not apply to installations on buildings over 45 years old if the proposed installation is not a “Small Wireless Facility” as defined by the FCC. 916 Union St is over 45 years old. The proposed antenna system is larger than a “Small Wireless Facility” by orders of magnitude. Therefore, an Environmental Assessment under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act review process is required. (NPARP)

If the applicant would like to revise its application and install a “Small Wireless Facility” on 916 Union Street, I will retract this objection. With the current size of the proposal, however, I object, and will file all necessary paperwork to inform the FCC of the objection and to require an Environmental Assessment, and further to show that this installation is too large for this historic building and neighborhood.

- 2. Although The FCC Rules Allow Small Wireless Facilities To Bypass Section 106 Review For Historic Resources, Large Facilities Such As The One Proposed For 916 Union Are Not Exempt:**

The FCC has confirmed multiple times that historic preservation review is still required, including in its Order in 2018, which did remove “Small Wireless Facilities” from review but confirmed that larger facilities involving Historic Structures still require review. *See Below.*

In this Second Report and Order (Order), we thus continue our efforts⁵ to reduce regulatory impediments, first by reexamining the types of deployments that are **subject to review pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)⁶** and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).⁷ ...Our definition includes size limits on antennas, associated equipment, and pole height that are intended to exclude from review those facilities that are least likely to implicate federal environmental and historic interests. **The definition we adopt will ensure that larger facilities continue to be subject to those federal reviews.** *In re Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment (Second Report & Order) (Order), FCC 18-30, 2018 WL 1559856 (F.C.C.) (Mar. 30, 2018)*

Although smaller facilities are exempt, Large Wireless Facilities are not.

3. The Wireless Facility Proposed For 916 Union St Exceeds The FCC Definition Of A Small Wireless Facility By Orders Of Magnitude:

The proposed facility is huge and far exceeds the definition of a “Small Wireless Facility.” A “Small Wireless Facility” includes antennas of no more than 3 cubic feet in volume and associated equipment no larger than 28 cubic feet.

75. Our public interest finding here also applies only when certain volumetric limits are met. To qualify as a small wireless facility, the antenna associated with the deployment, excluding the associated equipment, must be no more than **three cubic feet** in volume.¹³⁴

76. Additionally, the wireless equipment associated with the antenna must be no larger than **28 cubic feet.**¹⁴⁰ We derive this limit from analogous limits on associated equipment in the Collocation NPA¹⁴¹

¹⁴¹ Collocation NPA, §VI.A.5.b. Because we build on the Collocation NPA, we likewise define the scope of associated equipment to encompass “[a]ll other wireless equipment associated with the structure, including pre-existing enclosures and including equipment on the ground associated with antennas on the structure, but excluding cable runs for the connection of power and other services.” *Id.*

In re Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment (Second Report & Order) (Order), FCC 18-30, 2018 WL 1559856 (F.C.C.) (Mar. 30, 2018)

The proposed **antennas are each 6 feet tall and 6.67 cubic feet, more than twice the allowed size.** Together the equipment far exceeds the 28 cubic feet allowed without review. The antennas alone are 40 cubic feet, and the central base unit is that size again. This is not a “Small Wireless Facility” as defined by the FCC in its most recent rule regarding historic structures.

4. Replacements Of Small Wireless Antennas Such As The One Currently On 916 Union Street Are Not Exempted From Review Under The National Historic Preservation Act:

Replacements of small wireless antennas such as the one currently on 916 Union Street are not exempted from review under the National Historic Preservation Act unless they are of similar size to the existing antenna (small in this case) or less than 6 cubic feet in total volume. The NPRAP addresses this case specifically.

VIII. REPLACEMENTS OF SMALL WIRELESS ANTENNAS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

A. An existing small antenna that is mounted on a building or non-tower structure or in the interior of a building that is (1) a historic property (including a designated National Historic Landmark or a property listed in or **eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**); (2) inside or within 250 feet of the boundary of a historic district; or (3) located on or inside a **building or non-tower structure that is over 45 years of age**, regardless of visibility, may be replaced without being reviewed through the Section 106 process set forth in the NPA, provided that:

1. The antenna deployment being replaced has undergone Section 106 review, ...
2. The facility is a replacement for an existing facility, and it does not exceed the greater of:
 - a. The size of the existing antenna/antenna enclosure and associated equipment that is being replaced; or,
 - b. The following limits for the antenna and its associated equipment:
 - i. The antenna, excluding the associated equipment, fits within an enclosure (or if the antenna is exposed, within an imaginary enclosure, *i.e.*, one that would be the correct size to contain the equipment) that is no more than **three cubic feet** in volume, with a **cumulative limit of 6 cubic feet** if there is more than one antenna/antenna enclosure on the structure; and,
 - ii. The wireless equipment associated with the antenna and any pre-existing antennas and associated equipment on the structure, but excluding cable runs for the connection of power and other services, are **cumulatively no more than 21 cubic feet** in volume

NPARA Second Amendment 2020

So, if the building is 45 years old or older, or eligible for listing in the National Register – both of which are true of 916 Union – then the antenna may be replaced without review under the NPA **IF** it is similar in size to the existing antenna or below the given dimensions. 916 Union is more than 45 years old and is documented on the City of Alameda Historical Building Study List.

916 Union – Group S - A historic resource distinguished by its architectural, historical, or environmental significance, eligible for inclusion in the State Historic Resources Inventory, and of secondary priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments. Many of these are also **eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**. Others would be eligible if design integrity were restored.

Neighboring and surrounding buildings are also over 45 years old and eligible for listing **in the National Register of Historic Places**.

900 Union – Group N - A historic resource of the highest quality, **eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**, usually because of its architectural significance. These are of the highest priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments.

*****alameda.graphtek.com/sites/default/files/document-files/files-inserted/historical_building_study_list.pdf

The proposed Large Wireless facility does not meet the size requirements of the rule.

2(a) it is similar in size to the existing antenna and associated equipment or

A POLE EXISTS ON THE ROOF WITH SMALL EQUIPMENT ON IT, IN NO WAY SIMILAR TO THE PROPOSED LARGE WIRELESS FACILITY. See Photo below.

2(b) the new antenna is no more than 3 cubic feet in volume and the cumulative volume of antennas is no more than 6 cubic feet and cumulative total equipment size is no more than 21 cubic feet.

THE PROPOSED EQUIPMENT IS FAR LARGER THAN 3 CUBIC FEET EACH/ 21 CUBIC FEET CUMULATIVE. See project documents by applicant.

As shown above, the proposed installation exceeds these thresholds and is far, far larger than either of these exclusions would allow. It is not exempt from Section 106 [National Historic Preservation Act](#) Review Process.

5. The FCC Also Requires A Section 106 Review If A Member Of The Public Complains That An Installation Has An Adverse Effect On One Or More Historic Properties:

The FCC also allows for a complaint by a member of the public regarding the collocation of wireless facilities on or affecting a historic structure.

A. An antenna may be mounted on a building or non-tower structure without such collocation being reviewed through the Section 106 process set forth in the NPA, **unless:**

.....

4. The collocation licensee or the owner of the building or non-tower structure has received written or electronic notification that the FCC is in receipt of a complaint from a member of the public, an Indian Tribe, a SHPO or the Council, that the collocation has an adverse effect on one or more historic properties. *NPARAP V.A.*

As a member of the public, I will send a complaint to the FCC tomorrow when they open after the holiday such that it is received prior to the Planning Board meeting on July 11, 2022. This project has an adverse affect on 916 Union, on 900 Union, and on several other historic properties surrounding the Large Wireless Facility. This action alone is cause for NPA Section 106 review of the proposed installation.

6. Conclusion And Discussion – Proposal Cannot Be Approved Without Environmental Assessment/106 Review:

I previously wrote that the antennas and their enclosures are at the same height as my home, facing bedroom windows so close to the antennas that they are within the zone described by the Project's engineers as **exceeding the FCC's general public limit for harmful EMF radiation**. Also, the drawings provided by the applicant are inaccurate and do not properly show the antennas that they plan to install adjacent to and looming over my property. However, I understand that the city believes it has little recourse under the rules in the Middle Class Tax Relief Act and included in 47 C.F.R. § 1.6100, which are quoted by the applicant, stating that City approval is required.

Those rules though implement 47 U.S. Code § 1455 - Wireless facilities deployment, and are subject to 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307(a)(4) and Nationwide Programmatic Agreement for the Collocation of Wireless Antennas, Appendix B to Part 1, an Agreement Regarding the Section

106 [National Historic Preservation Act](#) Review Process (NPA) and collocation of wireless antennas quoted above. The FCC is not exempt from the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act and confirms that it must act to protect historic structures.

The FCC rules regarding historic structures are more strict than the general rules in 47 C.F.R. § 1.6100, quoted by the applicant. They apply to buildings over 45 years old, and more specific restrictions apply when the building or the area is on the Historic Register or could be on the Register, both of which are true of 916 Union and the surrounding buildings.

Despite the applicant's statement that no rule exists to stop them, such rules do exist. This is a historic neighborhood. It has protections in the law. If antennas are installed, they must meet the requirements of the law – less than half size.

This project is out of scale for 916 Union, a historic building, and for this historic residential area. It has harmful impacts to the neighborhood. It requires an Environmental Report per FCC regulations. It cannot be approved as currently proposed.

Adrienne Lakadat
900 Union Street
Alameda

Photo – **View from 900 Union Window to 916 Union Roof** and proposed Enclosures around Large Wireless Facility – 3 Enclosures are each 10' x 4' x 13' high (**taller than a building story**) – Antenna Units are each 6' tall (**taller than the windows**) and raised on poles. Two sets of antennas and their enclosures are proposed on this side of the building and shown here. The third is on the far side. Cottage (blue, bottom right) is only 10 feet from 916 Union and its proposed large antennas.



[EXTERNAL] 916 Union Large Wireless - FCC Complaint and Historic Review

Deirdre McCartney

Today, 2:46 PM

FYI Deirdre McCartney, Planning Division Planning, Building + Transportation City of Alameda 510 747-6814
dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>

Reply

Wed 7/6/2022 2:37 PM

To:

joe@alamedarentals.com;

dturner@qualtekwireless.com;

Deirdre McCartney

You forwarded this message on 7/6/2022 2:45 PM

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 1/2/2023 2:37 PM

Joe Snell, representing TimberDell Properties, LLC 1255 Sherman St.

Derek Turner, Qualtek Wireless, representing Dish Wireless

Deirdre McCartney, Alameda City Planning

Hello,

I hope you have seen the objection letters sent regarding the proposed large antennas and enclosures on 916 Union Street, a historic property in a historic neighborhood. The antennas are really oversized for our dense, historic neighborhood. I'm sending this to you just to make sure the project is reviewed under Section 106 Historic environmental assessment and hoping that some review will result in modifications to the plans. Many neighbors of this project are very worried and upset due to the size of this installation and the short distances from the antennas to our homes and yards. We hope that you and the owners will revise this proposal or move it to another location that has more space around it. If the project remains, move the antennas so that they are 32' from the property line or reduce their size. These antennas are huge (6' tall each), and the enclosures are a full story tall, looming over our yards and streets. Although I believe that EMF is not usually dangerous, the EMF report states that a safety barrier should be erected 32' in front of the antenna facing my house, but that distance is mostly on my property, and the antenna is very close to my bedroom windows (at the same height). All the neighbors are within these distances. We don't know what effects there may be for the residents of 916 Union, but there are many small units in the building occupied by people working at home full-time. All of these enclosures will be highly visible from surrounding streets and really massive from our windows. Please consider revisions.

Please work with us to make Dish Wireless a positive for the community instead of an unsightly danger.

Thank you - Adrienne Lakadat
adjacent neighbor at 900 Union St.

The Wireless Facility Proposed For 916 Union St Exceeds The FCC Definition Of A Small Wireless Facility By Orders Of Magnitude.

Although The FCC Rules Allow Small Wireless Facilities To Bypass Section 106 Review For Historic Resources, Large Facilities Such As The One Proposed For 916 Union Are Not Exempt.

The FCC Also Requires A Section 106 Review If A Member Of The Public Complains That An Installation Has An Adverse Effect On One Or More Historic Properties.

FCC Complaint sent today:

FCC Complaint: 916 Union St Alameda, CA Proposed Wireless Facility Installation

Dish Wireless plans to install a large wireless facility on a historic building next to my historic home in a historic neighborhood. This will have an adverse effect on one or more historic properties. As a member of the public, I submit a complaint, requiring Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Review - See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307(a)(4) and The Nationwide Programmatic Agreement for the Collocation of Wireless Antennas, Appendix B to Part 1, an Agreement Regarding the Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Review Process (NPA) and collocation of wireless antennas Second Amendment 2020 V(A)(4).

1. 916 Union St., the proposed location of the large wireless facility, is a historic building as are most of the surrounding residential buildings such as my home, 900 Union Street adjacent to 916 Union St. 916 Union and 900 Union are documented on City of Alameda Historical Building Study List as historic resources of the highest quality, eligible for listing in the **National Register of Historic Places**, and surrounding homes of our neighbors, are also documented historic structures both separately and as a group.

Documented on the City of Alameda Historical Building Study List

https://alameda.graphtek.com/sites/default/files/document-files/files-inserted/historical_building_study_list.pdf

916 Union – Group S - A historic resource distinguished by its architectural, historical, or environmental significance, eligible for inclusion in the State Historic Resources Inventory, and of secondary priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments. Many of these are also **eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**. Others would be eligible if design integrity were restored.

900 Union – Group N - A historic resource **of the highest quality, eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**, usually because of its architectural significance. These are of the highest priority for inclusion on the list of Alameda Historical Monuments.

See City of Alameda Historical Building Study List to find that almost every surrounding building is similarly documented as a Historic resource, many **eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**.

2. Distance from antennae to neighbors is too close. Please ensure that any antennas are pushed back at least 32' from the property line. The RF-EMF Jurisdictional Report states that radiation exceeds allowed levels at up to 26' from the antennas and also states that Antenna gamma, facing my home, should have a barrier in front of it at 32' from the antenna. With the proposed antenna locations, several homes are within these distances. My home, eligible for the Historic Register, is the same height as 916 Union and has bedroom windows directly facing and very close to Antenna Gamma. The 32' danger zone extends well onto my property and endangers my yard and my bedrooms where people work from home and sit 24 hours a day.

3. The proposal "collocation" requires Section 106 review. The property is historic and the proposed antennas are much larger than a "Small Wireless Facility." There is currently a small pole on the roof but no wireless antenna per the Jurisdictional Report.

4. Cooling fans are too loud.

The proposed antennas require cooling fans to run 24/7, causing noise disturbance in the immediate area at historic properties with small yards immediately adjacent to the antennas.

5. A project of this size is already placed nearby at St. Joseph's Basilica. There is no need to place these large towers so close to similar cell towers. Also, this neighborhood in particular is much more densely populated with residents than the Basilica block. There are much better locations available such as the nearby shopping center roofs that have large parking lots around them rather than residences within a few feet.

6. The proposed structures are much too large and would visually disrupt the neighborhood. The enclosures are 13 feet high, a full story. Neighboring windows look right at them. They will be fully visible from the street and from surrounding historic homes, changing the character of the neighborhood.

They will cast shadow on small historic yards.

7. Drawings showing the proposed antennas and their proposed enclosures are incorrect and omit most of the structures on the elevations. Because they are not shown on the elevations, they are also not shown on the proposed photos. In reality, they will be large, looming, and imposing.

View from Window of 900 Union:

Blue building bottom right is cottage residence ten feet from 916 Union and antennas. View is from a window approximately 40' from proposed antennas.

View from Clinton Ave

Proposed enclosure not shown, but clearly will be very visible.

View from San Jose Ave.

Proposed enclosure not shown, but clearly will be very visible.

Front of 916 Union and adjacent 900 Union St, both eligible for National Register -
Close 3rd floor bedrooms look directly at proposed large antennas



[EXTERNAL] Re: Dish Proposed Rooftop Neighborhood Discussion-PLN22-0271 at 916 UNION STREET

[Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>](mailto:alakadat@gmail.com)

Reply

Today, 9:46 AM

Derek Turner <dturner@qualtekwireless.com>;

Planning;

dianneclark2013@gmail.com;

+9 more

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 3/14/2023 9:46 AM



We sent you safe versions of your files³⁰ KB

Antennas 091522.pdf 1 MB

Show all 4 attachments (1 MB) Download all

Action Items

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

City Planning, Dish/Qualtek, and Neighbors:

Dish Wireless and Qualtek propose Installation of a New Large Wireless Facility on 916 Union in a dense historic residential neighborhood next to a tall residential building and surrounded by very close multi-story residential buildings.

The City guidelines for Wireless facilities state that they should be located on city property, on commercial property, or in less dense residential areas. This location is exactly what is not recommended. The photos below show the close conditions at this residential property.

Right - 916 Union and 900 Union

Left - View from a bedroom window to 916 Union. 900 Union's attic level and roof level are above this.

Note the dense neighborhood with buildings of many heights.

900 Union is immediately adjacent to 916 Union and approximately the same height.

Dish and Qualtek have revised the plans for the large antenna installation on 916 Union. I do appreciate the improvements which include pulling the antennas back from the property line, so that the area of highest radiation danger is on the 916 Union roof instead of on my property.

Still, I and all the people who live here at 900 Union, the former Garratt Mansion, are very concerned about this project and with the way that Dish and Qualtek are not fully answering our safety concerns or properly responding to City comments and questions sent to them on 8/4/22.

1. Their RF-EME report does not adequately describe radiation levels at my home or at neighbors' homes.

Comment 1 – City Planning 8/4

[Where can I find the emissions modeling and safety language to address neighbor and tenant safety concerns especially for buildings adjacent on Clinton Ave - how are they protected within 26' of building and how are upper floor tenants protected? I did not receive the revised RF-EME report.](#)

- The revised RF-EME report does not show my building which is directly adjacent to 916 Union and the same height.
 - The chart on page 2 for adjacent building heights does not include our tall building.
 - The diagrams for radiation at adjacent buildings do not show my main building or any building over 28 feet. My building is approx. 44 feet tall, and other neighboring buildings are three stories.

- Those diagrams in the revised RF-EME report have little information and no numerical values for expected radiation. They do not address the radiation levels at my attic which is sometimes occupied, or my rooftop, which is large and flat, or for any other neighboring buildings.
 - My building houses several upper floor bedrooms at the level of these large antennas. People work at home and will be in front of the proposed large antennas 24/7. What is the radiation load over time in that situation? We have received no information regarding this. This is important to us. This is the reason that these are not meant to be located in dense residential areas.
 - The tenants of 916 Union deserve exact numerical information regarding radiation, humming, and noise possibly affecting them. We have none.
2. There are six large antennas proposed. The technical reports appear to cover radiation from only three.
- The first version of the RF-EME report states that radiation from all six proposed antennas is described in the document. The final version states that only three antennas are described. (See note on chart on page 2 in each report). The radiation numbers are the same in both. Which report is wrong?
 - Since the radiation generated near the antennas is reported to be 816.83% of the FCC's general public limit (that's a lot...), if the real number is double, wow...
 - We must have information on all six antennas now even if only three are installed at first because challenging an increase in size of the installation later will clearly be very, very difficult.
3. The "Alternative Site Analysis" shows no alternative locations other than Alameda Hospital, and its location ring is different in each version with no explanation.

Comment 2 – City Planning

Please revise the Site Analysis to elaborate on the process. Describe why the location ring was selected; add language that there are no collocation opportunities or viable city owned or commercial sites.

- The location ring changes between versions. There is no discussion of reasons for its size or location.
- The analysis only notes that Alameda Hospital turned them down. No other alternative sites are mentioned at all.
- Dish notes that this is a highly dense residential area and then ignores the issue, stating only... "We must have a flat roof and enough space to put the equipment. We also must have enough height for the antennas to transmit." BUT
- The latest plan shows the equipment in a compact space (which is good), and there are many buildings with that much roof space.
- The search area shows several other flat roofs, many of which do not have tall buildings next door to them.
- There are other, better collocation opportunities.

Consider the people living in this dense historic neighborhood.

Include numerical radiation information for all buildings and occupants over time spent in front of your equipment.

Install the equipment as far as possible from people.

Please choose a different, more appropriate location for this large wireless facility.

City Planning – please help. This location does not meet City guidelines, and the documentation is incomplete and inaccurate. Please require Dish/Qualtek to truly investigate other locations and to find a more appropriate one.

Adrienne Lakadat
900 Union St.
Alameda

[EXTERNAL] 916 Union Cell Antennas

Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>

Reply

Tue 6/28/2022 8:08 PM

To:

Deirdre McCartney

You forwarded this message on 6/29/2022 2:43 PM

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 12/25/2022 8:08 PM

Action Items

Hi Deirdre -

We talked yesterday, and I thought I would be ok with this project. However, now I plan to send this in as a comment and objection to this project. Please let me know if I am somehow incorrect.

Thanks! - Adrienne Lakadat

I was not planning to object to this project, but after briefly looking at these documents, I object.

Since my house is next to the apartment building, I'm a bit concerned about shadow on my yard and about cell tower radiation.

1. Radiation: I have been convinced that cell towers are not that bad. However, in the first paragraph of the report attached to this project, it states, "As presented in the sections below, based on worst-case predictive modeling, the worst-case emitted power density may **exceed the FCC's general public limit within approximately 26 feet of DISH's** proposed antennas at the main roof level." Well, my property is within 15 feet of the antennas, and a family member's sleeping room is well within the 26-foot danger zone.

2. Shade and view: **The plans and elevations submitted to the city do not match.** The plans show antennas only 10' from the building edge, but in the elevation, where you can better visualize height, the antenna enclosures appear to be over 20 feet from the edge, making them seem less imposing. This is misleading. Really, not ok.

Also, the enclosures are 13 feet high although the antennas are only 6 feet high. Necessary?

Please revise the location of these antennas so that 1. excessive radiation does not enter my property and 2. so that the height is as low as possible and as far from the building edge as possible. Also, revise the plans and elevations so that they match each other accurately and neighbors can properly see the location and size of the enclosures.

[EXTERNAL] 916 Union St.

Reid Family <anthrospeak@yahoo.com>

Reply

Today, 10:16 AM

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 1/1/2023 10:16 AM

Hi Deirdre,

We have continued to review the documents related to the proposal submitted by 916 Union St., and along with several neighbors, object to the proposed project.

Please note the following concerns—

1. Distance from antennae to neighbors is too close. Please ensure that any antennas are pushed back at least 26' from the edge of the building. My neighbor's house is three stories, and essentially at the same horizontal level of the proposed antennas. Our property and living spaces fall within the 26' range as well.

An important part about the radius of RF-EME exposure is mentioned in the report:

"Based on the FCC criteria, the worst-case emitted power density may exceed the FCC's general public limit within approximately 26 feet of Dish Wireless's proposed antennas at the main roof level. Modeling also indicates that the worst-case emitted power density may exceed the FCC's occupational limit within approximately 3 feet of Dish Wireless's proposed antennas at the main roof level."

2. The proposal "collocation" does not qualify for upsizing without proper review. As mentioned in a previous email, the proposal is not for replacement of a larger antenna in the same exact location. Instead, the project seeks to increase the size and scope of new and much larger structures in additional locations on the rooftop.

3. Cooling fans are too loud.

The proposed antennas require cooling fans to run 24/7, causing noise disturbance in the immediate area. Because our property is directly adjacent to the tall apartment building, and our patio is very small, the sound carries like an echo. We already hear fans during the summer months from time to time, and these are of low power. The significant fans that would be needed to cool the proposed antennas would be much more powerful, louder and create a "humming" sound, negatively affecting the neighborhood. The constant humming sound may also adversely affect the birds that nest in our trees.

4. Environmental Review required.

Because the building is over 45 years old, adding additional height and structure to a building of this age requires an environmental review. Several of the surrounding properties are also on the municipal historical buildings study list, that have the potential to qualify for the California Register and the National Register of Historic Places. In fact, the neighborhood, "Leonardville", known for its Victorian era homes built by noted architect, Joseph Leonard, would likely qualify as a "Historic District". One of the adjacent buildings, 900 Union St., is one of the largest and most historical buildings in the city, an architectural treasure.

5. Climate Action concern.

The project proposes to bring in an additional 200 AMP service to the property. The significant increased use of electricity is also in direct conflict with the Smart City Master Plan, that directs the city to seek avenues to reduce electricity consumption. The Master Plan suggests smaller antennas to be placed throughout the city for more appropriately scaled connectivity.

6. A project of this size is already placed nearby at St. Joseph's Basilica. There is no need to place these large towers so close to similar cell towers. Furthermore, this neighborhood in particular is much more densely populated with residents than the Basilica block.

7. Residents/Tenants at 916 Union St. were not notified.

The resident manager and tenants of the building did not receive notification of the project.

8. The proposed structures are much too large and would visually disrupt the neighborhood. Other neighbors have already noted that those structures would cast shadows on their yards as well.

Thank you for this opportunity to note our concerns. Please take these into consideration.

Thank you—
Reid Family (4 residents)
1811 Clinton Ave.

Reply
Delete
Junk

Fw: [EXTERNAL] DENY !!!!!!! Enormous Catastrophic Antenna's Proposal on Union Street !

Planning

Reply

Today, 9:29 AM

Deirdre McCartney
916 Union St

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 1/1/2023 9:29 AM

From: Dianne Clark <dianneclark2013@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 4, 2022 7:22 PM
To: Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DENY !!!!!!! Enormous Catastrophic Antenna's Proposal on Union Street !

View from my Living/Work window at 900 Union St

showing 2 of the 3 proposed 6-foot-tall Antennas and 10-foot by 4-foot by 13-foot-tall Enclosures

I live at 900 Union Street, next door to 916 Union Street.
Both buildings are historic buildings eligible for the National Registry of Historic Buildings.
Both buildings are of similar height and are part of a historic neighborhood.
This proposal involves a sudden large-scale alteration of the visual landscape, the air quality, and not to mention the emitting or relating to the emission of ionizing radiation or particles distributed throughout our residential neighborhood filled with babies and Senior Citizens. These Enormous structures are just not an appropriate fit for the building or the neighborhood.
As you can see from the photo above, my room looks out directly at the location of the proposed Large Wireless Installation and the huge 13-foot-tall enclosures, one of which will

house large 6-foot-tall antennas aimed directly at me. I am in this room working from Home all day.

This is both detrimental to our neighborhood and will gradually have a pernicious unsafe and unsightly influence over our way of life in Alameda !

Because these buildings are historic structures, this project is not required to be approved.

As you can see from the picture, the pre-existing small pole with a little equipment on it is almost invisible and has very small equipment on it. This new project is not in scale and does not meet guidelines of the FCC.

Deny this application.

Thank you

Dianne Clark - Neighbor

July 2, 2022

Re: PLN22-0271

Dear Deirdre McCartney,

I live next door to 916 Union Street and the fence between our properties is 48 inches from the apartments' outer wall. Please do not allow the erection of a 5G cell tower so close to my house, my neighbors' house, or the living quarters of the apartment dwellers at the same address.

I have read some of the project documents that are available online as well as some of the documents from neighbors of the apartment house and I feel that something is not right with this plan.

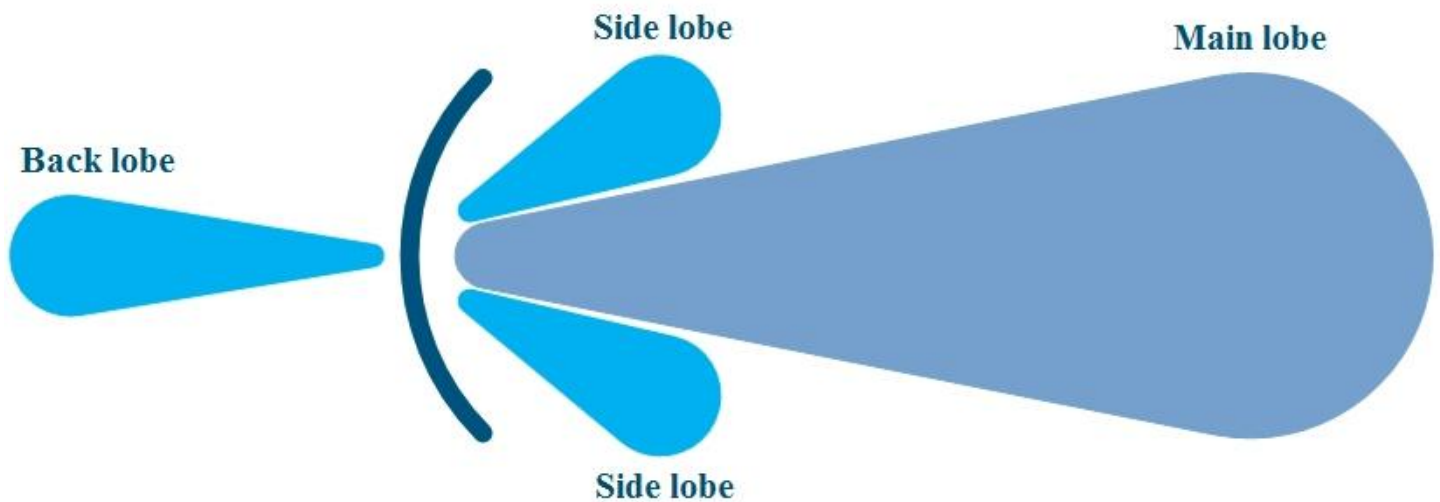
The safety of the people living in the area surrounding the proposed location of three new structures on the roof of the apartment at 916 Union Street has not been properly addressed.

In my attempt to understand the concept of "horizontal radiation" I found a website devoted to education in the subject of wireless networking:

*****academy.infinetwireless.com/en/online-education/wireless-networking-fundamentals/3

I base my concerns on their statement: "*Obvious maxima of the radiation pattern are called **lobes**. In real life it is difficult to realize an antenna directed only to the required side: usually, radiation within the main lobe will be accompanied by supplementary - side and back lobes.*"

and their accompanying diagram:



The minimum 26 feet radius of the sphere mentioned in the report includes my bedrooms and the work shed I use daily. It is not safe to have the radiation from the three proposed structures entering my property.

The second issue I have is the question of whether this is a new or modified structure. A new structure would require a more detailed and careful study, but a modification seems to allow for "just a little change" with authorizations grandfathered in because it is just a "Modification".

That's like giving your teenager a VW bug as a very first car and suddenly it is "modified" into a Corvette or a V-8 hot rod.

The difference between the existing tower and three 4 by 10-foot caged assortment of equipment is significant enough to require a full environmental review.

Please, Deirdre McCartney and staff, reject the proposed design application PLN22-0271 and help the residents of Alameda and the companies that service it to come to a solution that will benefit the citizens of our city. Thank you.

Regards,

James Lee
1806 San Jose Ave.
Alameda, CA 94501
Jimlee337@aol.com

[EXTERNAL] 5G Cell Towers at 916 Union in Alameda CA 94501

Kathleen Waters <wtrskathleen@aol.com>

Reply

Thu 6/30, 11:00 PM

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 12/27/2022 11:00 PM

Thank you for reading and considering my email.

I am a working senior citizen living at [916 Union Street \(Apt 312--top floor corner unit\) in Alameda CA 94501](#).

I have enjoyed living here as a renter since September 2007 (nearly 15 years).

I am in the top floor, corner unit #312--on the street side, on the third floor of the building.

*

Though this building was built in the 1930s, it very likely meets basic, minimum building/apartment housing standards for Alameda, however recognize it also is about 90 years old. Built into my hallway wall, in my unit, I have an actual old wall phone that came with this apartment unit and connected to a central operator. Believe it or not, I have heard an odd, random split second ring come from the phone about once every couple years.

*

Recently I became aware of a project proposal submitted to your office for approval: City of Alameda Planning, Building and Transportation Department
PLN 222-0271 or PLN 22-0271 (sorry-not sure of the correct project number)

*

Over the years, I have worked in several engineering companies as a Human Resource Manager and am aware there are always many engineering challenges with any related building related projects.

I am contacting you, in dismay, because I have been made aware that three(3) 5G tall mobile network towers are going to be placed on the roof of this building and one is directly over part of my 3rd top floor apartment.

*

I am sure that you are incorrectly being advised that these towers will Not be problematic for the health/welfare of any tenants on the 3rd floor, in this building or for surrounding neighbors in 2 and 3 story houses.

*

Though the negative issues for humans closely exposed to 5g level fields have not yet been finally confirmed as negative and the current recognized negative effect theoretically begins at 6g (at least at this time) RF fields definitely can damage human tissues per the scientific/medical communities.

*

I and several neighbors are very concerned about this 24 hours per day/7 days per week health risk.

In particular, after reviewing the plans (though I am not an engineer), it appears I will be living right under one of the antennas not to mention with in feet of the other 2 antennas and equipment.

*

There must be other viable locations in Alameda that are not in a densely populated housing area (within a block of Grand and the historic Gold Coast) and on top of an historic apartment house with 30+ units filled with human bodies subject to RF fields.

*

Kathleen Waters

1-510-995-8342

916 Union Street Apt 312

Alameda CA 94501

[EXTERNAL] Objection/Comment re: 916 Union Proposed New Antennas

Planning

Reply

Fri 7/1, 5:53 AM

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 12/28/2022 5:53 AM

From: Marilyn Hesser <marilynhesser@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2022 4:10 PM

To: Planning

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection/Comment re: 916 Union Proposed New Antennas

I am an 81 year old senior woman and I live at 900 Union St, adjacent to 916 Union. My house is one of two buildings on this property, and this house is only **10 feet from 916 Union.**

My bedroom is on the second floor, 10 feet from 916 Union. The report on Electro-magnetic radiation that is attached to this project makes it clear that **I am within the zone of dangerous radiation levels, above the levels allowed by the FCC.**

The application is inaccurate and should be rejected because it does not take into account how close my home is to the new installation.

Also, these new antennas are NOT being added to an existing tower. They are new, and they are being added close to the edge of an apartment building - only 10 feet from the edge of a building that is not much higher than my house.

The EMF report says there should be a barrier 32 feet around the antenna closest to me. The apartment owners can't do that because **32 feet runs onto our property and through my home.**

Please reject this. Even if parts of the application have been previously approved (as the City planner tells us they have been), that was done before comments and **without required information such as the existence of my home.**

Marilyn Hesser

900 Union St

Adjacent neighbor

[EXTERNAL] OBJECTION: 916 Union Street Cell Antenna Project

Matt Reid <anthrospeak@gmail.com>

Thu 6/30, 4:40 PM

Thank you, Deirdre.

Can you please confirm whether or not the residents (tenants) in the apartment building at 916 Union were properly notified?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 30, 2022, at 4:10 PM, Deirdre McCartney <DMcCartney@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Hello Matt,

I wanted to acknowledge that I have received your email and phone message, and I also talked to your wife, Carmen today regarding the proposed antennas. Yes, we are closed Friday, and Monday is a holiday, but the decision date is end of day Tuesday, so there will be time to review your letter. Thank you for your comments.

Best regards,

Deirdre McCartney,
Planning Division
Planning, Building + Transportation
City of Alameda
510 747-6814 dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

Deirdre McCartney

Thu 6/30, 4:10 PM

Hello Matt, I wanted to acknowledge that I have received your email and phone message, and I also talked to your wife, Carmen today regarding the proposed antennas. Yes, we are closed Friday, and Monday is a holiday, but the decision date is end of day Tuesday,

Deirdre McCartney

Thu 6/30, 3:52 PM

Deirdre McCartney, Planning Division
Planning, Building + Transportation
City of Alameda
510 747-6814 dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

anthrospeak <anthrospeak@gmail.com>

Reply

Thu 6/30, 3:36 PM

Planning;

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 12/27/2022 3:36 PM

To Whom it may concern:

My home is adjacent to 916 Union, and I am writing in opposition to the proposed “Eligible Facilities Request” (EFR) at 916 Union St in Alameda. The letter attached to the permit application from Derek Turner, the RE-EME Jurisdictional Report, and the plans themselves, raise three concerns.

1) This is a **new** structure, not a modification to an existing structure.

a. The “current structure” cited by applicant is a small antenna placed at the center of the rooftop. The proposal is for three separate structures, separated from the original antenna. Given the relative footprint, volume, and capacity of the proposed structures, terming them a “modification” to the existing structure would be like adding a toaster to a toothpick and terming the toaster a “modification to the toothpick”.

b. The relevant FCC Regulations (47 CFR § 1.6100 - Wireless Facility Modifications) – indicate that an EFR must involve either “Collocation of new transmission equipment, removal of transmission equipment, or replacement of transmission equipment.” Collocation is further defined as:

Collocation, consistent with 1.1320(d) and the Nationwide Programmatic Agreement (NPA) for the Collocation of Wireless Antennas, appendix B of this part, section I.B, means -

(1) Mounting or installing an antenna facility on a pre-existing structure; and/or

*(2) Modifying a structure for the purpose of mounting or installing an antenna facility on that structure.**

i. Applicant cannot feasibly mount the new equipment onto the pre-existing structure ((1) above) , nor is there a proposal nor permit which treats the entire apartment building as a structure to which the new equipment will be added ((2) above) . Therefore it is impossible to collocate new equipment at the site of the existing equipment, so new structures are needed.

c. Therefore since this is a new structure, it requires full review and isn’t exempt as the applicant suggests.

2) **Safety is not fully addressed.**

a. From the jurisdictional report we learn that “the worst-case emitted power density may exceed the FCC’s general public limit within approximately 26 feet of DISH’s proposed antennas”. Drawing a 26’ sphere around the proposed locations, we cross 1-2 floors of inhabited apartments, and a bedroom and office where I spend approximately 16 hours a day. Neighbors’ bedrooms also fall within this sphere.

b. As if to intuit the above point, the jurisdictional report makes this claim:

- i. Antennas are constructed to concentrate energy towards the horizon, with as little energy as possible scattered towards the ground
 - c. **No data is supplied whatsoever** as to the efficacy of the proposed hardware to scatter energy (emitted power density) in a horizontal manner, preventing it from being scattered across a downward slope into living units.
- 3) The proposed three structures will **defeat the concealment elements** of the eligible support structure.
- a. This is part v of FCC 47 CFR § 1.6100.b.7
 - b. Again, the eligible support structure is the current thin antenna. Thus, any additionally visible elements from the street level constitute defeats of the eligible support structure's concealment elements.
 - c. Applicant cherry-picks angles for street-level photos, and even so
 - d. Page 3 of the design doc (Northeast view from San Jose Avenue) demonstrates quite clearly that the concealment elements will be violated.

For these reasons, I strongly object to the proposed cell tower infrastructure, and respectfully ask the Planning Department to reject this application.

Sincerely,
Matt Reid

* source - <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/47/1.6100>

Planning

Reply

Wed 9/28/2022 11:08 AM

To:

Deirdre McCartney;

Nancy McPeak

You forwarded this message on 9/28/2022 11:20 AM

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 3/27/2023 11:08 AM

Public comment/written correspondence for the Design Review at 916 Union PLN22-0271.

Thanks,
Jennifer

From: Sally Rudloff <sallyrudloff1828@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 11:02 AM

To: Planning; Sally Rudloff

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Proposal to install 5G cell tower in a residential neighborhood

Dear Planning board members,

Dish Wireless plans to install Large Wireless 5G Antennas on the roof of the apartment building at 916 Union.

This location is close to my house/units and it appears that it needs more study before being voted on by the Planning Board.

I also know the neighbor, who owns and lives at 900 Union Street, has some concerns about the unanswered questions by Dish, and our Planning Director/Board.

I suggest that the Planning Board defer this item, until a later date when the conflicting items have been resolved. It seems to me that in my reading of what is allowed in residential neighborhoods, cell towers are supposed to be located somewhere else away from residences. I do not think that this location is conducive to a healthy environment. Please demand that Dish Wireless look elsewhere for placement of these cell towers. Also the State of California has specific guidelines in place to the safe installation of cell towers in order to mitigate their effect on residents.

You should have received a letter from the owner, Adriane Lakadat.

Thank you,

Sally Rudloff

homeowner at 1828 Clinton Avenue

Sally Anne Rudloff, SRES

DRE # 00968085

Bayside-Real Estate

1812 Santa Clara Avenue

Alameda, CA 94501

(510) 301-8418

2012 NAR Good Neighbor Award Winner

[EXTERNAL] Cell Towers on Union St.

Planning

Reply

Today, 9:23 AM

Deirdre McCartney

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 1/1/2023 9:23 AM

From: Smc <mikich1111@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 4, 2022 12:44 AM
To: Planning
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Cell Towers on Union St.

Hi Planning department,

Several of my neighbours have brought to my attention the proposed cell towers on Union street. Is it really necessary to have such large towers in the area? Is it safe?

Regards,

Suzanne Conway

<https://aca-prod.accela.com/ALAMEDA/Cap/CapDetail.aspx?Module=Planning&TabName=Planning&capID1=22ENT&capID2=00000&capID3=00092&agencyCode=ALAMEDA&IsToShowInspection=>

[EXTERNAL] Re: 916 Union St.--- Fire Escape via the Building's Roof location of Fire Ladders attached to the outside of the building.

Deirdre McCartney

Today, 2:41 PM

Deirdre McCartney, Planner Planning, Building + Transportation City of Alameda 510 747-6814
dmccartney@alamedaca.gov

Kathleen Waters <wtrskathleen@aol.com>

Reply

Mon 9/19/2022 2:31 PM

To:

anthrospeak@yahoo.com;
Deirdre McCartney;
dturner@qualtekwireless.com;
alakadat@gmail.com;
tasses1972@yahoo.com;
JimLee337@aol.com;
Karen@karenmanuel.com;
carolandnorman@gmail.com;
marilynnesser@gmail.com;
dianneclark2013@gmail.com;
kabacam@pacbell.net;
stephanielee1@comcast.net;
Mikich1111@gmail.com

You forwarded this message on 9/19/2022 2:41 PM

Label: Expunge after 180 days (6 months) Expires: 3/18/2023 2:31 PM

Action Items

Thanks Everyone

I have happily lived at 916 Union for about 14 years in a 1 bedroom apartment on the 3rd floor --corner unit.

Please note/address any possible considerations/changes in the building's roof that would effect the use of the 3(three) metal ladder fire escapes attached to the outside of the building.

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Currently, the 3 metal, ladder-like fire stairs on the outside of the building are (accessible at the end of hallways and lead to both the street level and onto the roof.

Obviously, in the event of a fire the front or back sets of hallway stairs may or may not be available for all tenants to leave the building or firemen to enter. In the case of 3rd floor tenants, like myself, we may need to Go Up to the Roof to Exit down an outside metal fire ladder on the outside of the building. Please be sure No part of a structure on the roof would impede our path to the roof top metal stair fires escape ladders attached to the outside of the building.

Kathleen

-----Original Message-----

From: Reid Family <anthrospeak@yahoo.com>

To: Deirdre McCartney <DMcCartney@alamedaca.gov>; Derek Turner <dturner@qualtekwireless.com>; Adrienne Lakadat <alakadat@gmail.com>; tasses1972@yahoo.com; JimLee337@aol.com; Karen Manuel <Karen@karenmanuel.com>; carolandnorman@gmail.com; Marilyn Hesser <marilynhesser@gmail.com>; dianneclark2013@gmail.com; Kathleen Watters <wtrskathleen@aol.com>; kabacam@pacbell.net; Stephanie Lee <stephanielee1@comcast.net>; Mikich1111@gmail.com

Sent: Mon, Sep 19, 2022 10:31 am

Subject: 916 Union St.

Dear Ms. McCartney and Qualtek,

Re: 916 Union St.

Please also address the following concerns—

1. What is the current wireless coverage in the area? Has a “drive test” been conducted? What are the results?
2. Please indicate an effort to seek other locations (ie: least intrusive) that are not immediately adjacent to residential living spaces within a narrow radius of 36’.
3. Please address increased fire risk and analysis vis-a-vis older building construction, rooftop materials etc.
4. Please update RF engineer report to include all future proposed antennas at the site, and exhibits that show the location and boundaries of areas with RF exposures in excess if the controlled/occupational limit (as the term is defined by the FCC). Currently, it appears the proposed RF levels are higher than recommended safety requirements as submitted.
5. Since this is considered a “large wireless facility” what other safety implications does this have on the immediate residents, and what are the engineering standards associated with such a facility?

Thank you,

Matt and Carmen Reid