City of San Diego Planning Group Resolution Responsible Wireless Facilities Planning

San Diego's new 2004 Wireless Communication Facility Policy and associated Ordinance revisions provide improvements regarding the approval process for Wireless Communication Facilities. The Ordinance does, however, have a number of areas deserving examination and improvement. These improvements will facilitate the overall goal of allowing the deployment of wireless services that consumers/residents desire while respecting the local community's desire with respect to physical facilities.

We believe the spirit of the ordinance is to provide clear guidelines on the location of all Wireless Communications Facilities, in a variable fashion corresponding to zoning, and with corresponding approval processes. The ordinance requires a stringent process for residential neighborhoods, and we desire that the spirit of the ordinance be respected.

We believe there is a need to look at the cumulative impact of <u>all</u> Wireless Communication Facilities on the community and to provide policy that is consistent throughout. We believe the policy and ordinance need to be modified to achieve these goals, and we request the following items be addressed in the City of San Diego's ordinance and formally request that these protections be included through modifications to the ordinance. The policy should be clear on these points, and any informal policies should be spelled out in the ordinance.

- 1. The Ordinance should clearly state that it covers all Wireless Communication Facilities for all wireless services. Thus, all facilities that may impact the community (whether operated on a commercial basis or by a government agency and regardless of whether they require an FCC license) should require the same approval process.
- 2. Community area wireless plans should be accepted by the City Planning Department and Wireless Communication Facility applications in conformance with such plans should be approved through a process 1 approval. In addition, there should be a reduction in application fees for sites in conformance with these plans.
- 3. For residential neighborhoods, installation of antennas on traffic signals is preferred when the only reasonable alternative would be a street light or utility pole near a residence.
- 4. There should be a reasonable setback requirement (100-200 ft) from residential property lines, regardless of whether the Wireless Communication Facility is within a residential zone, within a Public Right of Way (PROW), or other location. Wireless Communication Facilities not conforming to this setback requirement should require a process 4 approval.
- 5. Wireless Communication Facilities should be allowed within parks with a process 3 approval, where an existing vertical element is used or one that integrates with existing elements, where above ground space of less than 25 square feet is required, and where a reasonable setback requirement (100-200 ft) from residential property lines is met.

These modifications should make the ordinance more consistent with the overall goals, and provide a clear and consistent process that respects the individual communities and the current zoning. In addition, we hope the process can be made more cooperative and less confrontational resulting in efficiencies for all parties.

Signed, Planning Group: _____ Date: _____ By: _____

Title:					