

McLean Citizens Association



The Voice of McLean for Over 100 Years

McLean Citizens Association Resolution Verizon Wireless Installation at 1451 Chain Bridge Road (Special Exception 2232-D-16-37) January 4, 2017

Whereas, in order to improve cellphone service and coverage in the central McLean area, Verizon Wireless (“Verizon”) is seeking to replace an existing 39-foot telephone pole currently owned by Dominion Virginia at 1451 Chain Bridge Road (on the road in front of the Total Wine shopping center) with a new telephone pole of at least 52 feet that would also have a Verizon cellphone antenna enclosure on top of the pole; and

Whereas, since the proposed increase in the height of the pole from 39 feet to 52 feet translates to a 33% increase in height (not including the antenna enclosure, which would increase the actual height), the proposal exceeds the 25% increase that the Planning Commission normally treats as a Features Shown matter, and therefore requires that a 2232 public hearing be held by the Planning Commission; and

Whereas, the Planning Commission postponed the originally scheduled hearing date in this matter so that Verizon could obtain comments and input from relevant community organizations including the McLean Citizens Association (“MCA”) and the McLean Planning Committee (“MPC”); and

Whereas, Verizon made a presentation to the Planning & Zoning Committee of MCA on November 29, 2016, at which several questions were raised regarding Verizon’s proposal, particularly with respect to how this proposal would impact the on-going efforts to underground all utilities in the McLean CBC as well as with respect to Verizon’s consideration of possible alternate locations; and

Whereas, MCA believes that this proposal might also complicate efforts to underground utilities in the McLean CBC in view of the recently announced “Main Street” re-development project; and

Whereas, MCA notes that, following a meeting with Verizon held on December 21, 2016, MPC has adopted a Resolution opposing this application as inconsistent with the efforts to underground utilities in the McLean CBC; and

Whereas, in addition to being inconsistent with the undergrounding objective, it is the view of MCA that Verizon has failed to present sufficient technical data or to otherwise adequately explain why alternate locations for its cellphone antenna would not provide equivalent service and coverage;

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the McLean Citizens Association **opposes** Verizon's application, subject to further consideration if and when Verizon submits additional information regarding alternate locations.

Approved by the MCA Board of Directors

January 4, 2017

McLean Citizens Association, P.O. Box 273, McLean, Virginia 22101

cc: John Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor
John Ulfelder, Dranesville District Planning Commissioner
Benjamin Wiles, Dranesville District Supervisor's Staff
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