

Verizon Antenna Alert

On Thursday, March 22, the City of Scottsdale Development Review Board met and approved the architectural elements of the Verizon antenna installation. Councilman Tony Nelssen chairs the Board and was the lone dissenting vote – not good news since Nelssen will vote on this matter again when it goes before the City Council.

Nelssen raised concerns regarding the original approval of the Stonegate Equestrian Park (case #30 DR 99). In a City Council update on 2/19/99, an unnamed city staffer summarized the plan: “Developed portion of the park is approximately 6 acres of the park’s 23 acres. *Remaining acreage to stay undisturbed desert.*”

A homeowner living east of the power corridor, backed by NESPOA (Northeast Scottsdale Property Owners Association), interprets this to mean that no other development will ever be permitted within the park. The public file indicates no stipulations to that effect, no property restrictions to that effect, and no contractual obligations to that effect. NESPOA and the opposing homeowner have suggested alternative sites that reduce the effectiveness of the antenna and would impact up to one third of our community. With the entire argument hanging on such a tenuous rationale, we can only conclude that the purpose of their opposition is to limit cell phone service in Stonegate.

I believe that it is imperative that Stonegate homeowners clearly voice their support or opposition to this proposal. Below are the email addresses of Mayor Manross and the City Council members. When you send them your opinion, please address a copy to Stonegate (larryp@stonegate-scottsdale.com) so that we can have a complete file on the position that the community would like us to take. The statements made by NESPOA and the opposing homeowner are simply not accurate and, if left unchallenged, could influence the City Council’s decision and the outcome of the Verizon application. If you have questions or comments for Verizon’s Kevin Howell, you can call him at (480) 212-7620 or email him at khowell@digitalskylines.com.

When this is scheduled to go before City Council, we’ll let you know the date and time. We hope you will attend to voice your position.

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