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14 April 2010

Harold Helsley, Commissioner  
Los Angeles County Department Of Regional Planning  
320 West Temple Street, 13th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Helsley:

There's new information on the matter to be heard on appeal at Regional Planning (RP) on 21 April 2010. Specifically:

1. T-Mobile (TM) doesn't need the proposed cell tower. TM's own website says their coverage here is already good to excellent with no holes.
2. TM's proposed tower is obsolete. All the carriers are rolling out brand new femtocell technology, with units sold forecast to reach 41 million by 2013.

Each of these pieces of information should be a showstopper — reason enough for RP to deny a permit for the proposed cell tower. I've written the Hearing Officer with sources and proof on both points and enclose copies for you.

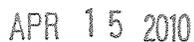
The cost to the community, if RP lets T-Mobile build the tower, will be blight, damaged property values, and more risk to an active landslide one house away from the tower site.

Because of the hilly/mountainous terrain here, to the extent that there's a value in building new towers, they should be multi-carrier towers (TM has only 10% market share) on higher, better sites than TM proposes. Neither TM nor RP is the right one to lead such regional planning of cell voice/data coverage. I've written the CPUC asking them to look at our coverage here with a view toward developing better approaches than TMs.

Please consider attending the Hearing to help insure that we're dealt with fairly. My one experience with Regional Planning and its corrupt official, Emmet Taylor, left me with the disappointing impression that Regional Planning routinely approves most proposed development and says whatever it takes to make people like me go away.

Please call me if you think it would be useful to discuss any of the issues.

Yours truly,



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4 April 2010

Attn: Hearing Officer  
Project No. R2008-01980-(3)  
Los Angeles County Regional Planning  
320 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Project No. R2008-01980-(3)**

Dear Hearing Officer:

Further to my letter to you dated 2 April 2010 regarding the referenced project, attached are two screenshots from T-Mobile's website.

The screenshots show T-Mobile's coverage in our area as:

For Voice Coverage: "Excellent," Very Good," and "Good."

For Data Coverage: "Fast Mobile Web," and "Mobile Web."

Both with zero uncovered area for voice or data.

Just to be entirely clear, the source of the screenshot information is T-Mobile itself. You may verify that at <http://coverage.t-mobile.com/default.aspx>.

The clear conclusion to be drawn from this information is that there's no problem with T-Mobile's voice and data coverage in our neighborhood, hence no need now for the cell tower proposed by T-Mobile. To the extent such a need develops, there is plenty of time to come up with A Better Plan as outlined in my letter to you dated 2 April 2010.

I again ask that you deny the referenced land use proposal to be heard on appeal on 21 April 2010 and ask you to lead the way toward a better plan.

Thanks for listening.

Sincerely,

Dundas I. Flaherty

Home > Coverage > Personal Coverage Check

## Personal Coverage Check

Check if T-Mobile coverage is right for you with Personal Coverage Check

Street

City  State  Zip

**Voice Coverage**
**Data Coverage**

Prepaid and FlexPay coverage map >

Learn more about T-Mobile's expanded coverage >

**Signal Strength**

Excellent	Very Good	Good
Moderate	Partner	None

Based on outdoor coverage - indoor and in-car coverage can vary.  
[Click here for detailed descriptions](#)

Zoom In

Zoom Out

Please zoom in to see street level coverage details for the areas where you live, work, and play.

Print

**Map Legend**

- Address Location
- T-Mobile HotSpot  Display
- Roaming HotSpot (Additional charges apply)

[Find a T-Mobile HotSpot >](#)

**MAP INFORMATION:** Maps approximate anticipated coverage outdoors, which varies by location, may include limited or no coverage areas, and do not guarantee service availability. Within coverage areas, network changes, traffic volume, outages, technical limitations, signal strength, your equipment, obstructions, weather and other conditions may interfere with service quality and availability. Portions of the maps include networks operated by our roaming partners; we are not responsible for their performance. 3G Coverage requires a 3G device. Devices not purchased from T-Mobile or an authorized dealer may not work on our network. T-Mobile to T-Mobile calls are directly dialed between T-Mobile devices while on the T-Mobile USA network (and not roaming in the US or internationally), voicemail and other T-Mobile service numbers not included. Roaming: Nationwide roaming refers to usage while on a roaming partner's network within coverage area; currently not available for webConnect™ data plans. International roaming incurs additional charges and refers to usage outside of the US. 850 Roaming Coverage requires a multi-band device. Certain devices and features will not work when roaming. Ask a sales representative or visit [www.t-mobile.com/morecoverage](http://www.t-mobile.com/morecoverage) for more information. If you travel outside of coverage areas, your device will not work.

Home > Coverage > Personal Coverage Check

### Personal Coverage Check

Check if T-Mobile coverage is right for you with Personal Coverage Check

Street

City  State  Zip

**Voice Coverage** | **Data Coverage**

Prepaid and FlexPay coverage map >

Learn more about T-Mobile's expanded coverage >

**Network Speed**

Very Fast Mobile Web | Fast Mobile Web | Mobile Web

Partner Web | None

[Click here for detailed descriptions](#)

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Zoom In

Zoom Out

Please zoom in to see street level coverage details for the areas where you live, work, and play.

**Map Legend**

- X Address Location
- T-Mobile HotSpot  Display
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8 April 2010

Attn: Hearing Officer  
Project No. R2008-01980-(3)  
Los Angeles County Regional Planning  
320 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Project No. R2008-01980-(3)**

Dear Hearing Officer:

Further to my letter to you dated 2 April 2010 regarding the referenced project, there's a new technology being rolled out by all the major US cell phone carriers that obsoletes the technology embodied in T-Mobile's proposed antenna installation on Shoreheights Dr.

The new technology is a femtocell, an in-home device connecting to broadband service in the home. Here we get good broadband service from Charter Cable for \$30/month. Carriers provide cell service to the femtocell via broadband Internet. The femtocell serves multiple cell phones within the home. AT&T describes its femtocell offering at:  
<http://www.wireless.att.com/learn/why/3gmicrocell/>

Yesterday's *New York Times* had an article (hyperlink below) on femtocells suggesting that femtocell prices will fall to \$49 from one carrier, that carriers may eventually give them away, and that the following numbers of femtocells will be shipped:

. This year	571,000
. 2011	1.9 million
. 2013	40 Million

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/07/technology/07cell.html?scp=4&sq=richtel&st=cse>

I understand that the Hearing Officer said at the first hearing that femtocells are too expensive and dismissed them as an alternative than the proposed tower for that reason. That view was probably wrong when expressed, and it's certainly wrong now. T-Mobile could give free femtocells at all 500 homes on our hill at its cost of perhaps \$30 each for a total of \$15,000, plainly less than the cell tower it proposes would cost, provide better service, and would spare us property value losses exceeding \$1 million.

Please deny the CUP tentatively approved for the proposed tower. It is unnecessary with T-Mobile's advertised good-to-excellent current service, and it's technologically obsolete, with femtocell and other evolving technology offering better, cheaper service. Don't degrade our neighborhood and cause other problems described in my earlier letters to you by letting T-Mobile build out poor, obsolete technology when better solutions are at hand/imminently on the way.

Sincerely,