

RE: Crown Castle Towers request for approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow a 75-foot tall wireless telecommunications tower designed as a mono-eucalyptus to be installed behind the Yucca Loma FireStation (19235 Yucca Loma Road, APN 3088-431-29).

My name is Jeanne Lyles and I have resided at 13560 Coachella Road for the last 31 years, along with my husband, Glenn Lyles. We are both retired, having worked in the High Desert for many years. It is where we raised our son, Harry, who attended and graduated from schools in Apple Valley. This is our home and we care about our neighbors and community. We, along with many of our neighbors, vehemently oppose the construction of the proposed 75-foot wireless communications cell tower by Crown Castle Towers, LLC, a company based in Houston, Texas.

First, esthetically, the cell tower would dominate the view of our neighborhood. The rooftop apex of our home is 15-feet, with the maximum height of nearby homes at about 18-feet. So, a 75-foot tower would be 4 to 5 times taller than any of the houses near it. Who wants to buy a house in the Apple Valley with a view dominated by a 75-foot cell tower, disguised as a large fake tree!

A second point is, that on the same acre of the proposed cell tower site is the Fire Station's 65-foot tall hose drying tower, which is topped with 911 mini cell antennas. According to the Development Code, cell towers are to be a minimum of 1,500 feet apart, but only 750 feet apart on a "preferred site". So, adjacent homeowners not only have to view the Fire Station's 65-foot tan colored hose drying tower that has been there for many years, but at only 175 feet away (an encroachment of 575-feet), they have to put up with a new 75-foot mono-eucalyptus tree cell tower that is approximately 18-feet wide! How can this not affect the property values of nearby homes, whose views would be dominated not by one, but **two** towering structures!

Thirdly, the Code requires cell towers to have a minimum of 1,000-foot separation to adjacent single-family residents. This distance is reduced to only 500 feet for "preferred sites". But, Crown Castle Towers requests the Deviation Permit to allow the cell tower antenna to be a mere 137-feet from residential zoned property, an encroachment of 363-feet. According to the company's submitted cell tower diagrams, a microwave antenna will be part of the cell tower. Who would buy a home that has a microwave antenna only 137-feet from the property line, and only a few more feet from the living spaces and bedrooms? Keep in mind how much more time we have all spent in our homes since the COVID-19 pandemic caused the "shelter in place" orders from various governmental agencies. Who would want to be cooped up 24/7 anywhere close to a 75-foot cell tower, with a microwave antenna, considering the debatable health concerns of living near one?

Another deviation from the Development Code requested by Crown Castle Towers, that in order to allow space for the cell tower base, is to remove 2 parking spaces at the Fire Station. Plus, they want to restripe the remaining parking spaces so that 17 of the 26 remaining spaces are compact parking spaces, reducing the width from the required 9-feet in width to 8-feet in width. Any problem with this change in parking availability at the Fire Station cannot be dismissed as unimportant. The Fire Station parking availability is not only for community meetings, but is our local staging area for emergencies for who knows what will come next!

I also wish to express my concern, that due to the COVID-19 safety protocols, people are not able to be physically present at any of the meetings regarding this matter. Some people are too shy to speak publicly at a meeting, but would be willing to be physically present to support others in voicing opposition to the construction of a cell tower adjacent to our neighborhood. I saw this for myself at the February 19, 2020 meeting, when the public could still be in the chambers. Consider this fact and carefully read the emails and any letters from the people that have concerns about this proposed 75-foot cell tower in our neighborhood!

Remember, all of these requests to deviate from the Apple Valley Development Code is for Crown Castle Towers to make a PROFIT from renting out the antennas to different carriers. This is despite how it affects local residents, including my family, and our health concerns, our property values (our biggest financial asset), and the esthetics of our neighborhood.

Finally, as residents of Apple Valley, I and many others, support the Planning Commission's DENIAL of the proposed cell tower, and we ask that the members of the Town Council DENY the Crown Castle Towers appeal, with legal prejudice. So, when making your decision, please remember our town motto, "**A Better Way of Life**".

Thank you,
Jeanne Lyles
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Apple Valley, CA