

VILLAGE OF WAITE HILL

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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Dear Fellow Residents:

At the beginning of the month we brought to your attention in *The Village Voice* the fact that Verizon had approached Waite Hill about installing a cell tower or other cellular facility to improve reception for residents. At that time we gave a summary of where things stood and the reasons why we were investigating the matter. We also indicated that no commitments had been made to Verizon or anybody else about such a facility, that we would continue to investigate the matter, and that there would be no decisions before conducting a public forum for interested parties to express their views. We also invited you to give your thoughts, views, objections and comments.

Over the past month, there has been an active dialogue on the issue throughout the community. Many of you have called, emailed and attended Council meetings to voice your opinions. We have heard from residents who favor a cell facility and others who are opposed, with the loudest voices understandably being those residents in closest proximity to the proposed location. We appreciate all of you who responded to our request. We would not have asked for your views if we were not interested in them. For our part, we simply continued to investigate the matter and our alternatives so that a considered analysis could be had. Many of our questions were answered to our satisfaction. Others were not.

As I wrote in *The Village Voice*, staying abreast of the times as communication technologies continue to move from hardware-based platforms to wireless platforms can be challenging when these advancements are weighed against the desire to preserve the pastoral nature of our Village. These competing considerations had previously been confronted by the administrations and councils of Hunting Valley, Gates Mills, Kirtland Hills and Moreland Hills, each of whom decided to proceed with cell facilities, Hunting Valley leading the way with four. While we looked for guidance at how those communities dealt with the issue, we have also been mindful that what was good for them may or may not be right for us.

Council and I have never lost sight of the fact that apart from our responsibility to investigate this cellular facility opportunity, it is also our duty to act in a manner consistent with the wishes of our residents. The cell facility is not and has never been a done deal as some have incorrectly suggested. We like you are residents of the Village and we consistently strive to conduct Village business in a manner consistent with the Village's best interests. In this case we still have questions and concerns that have not been satisfactorily resolved. So between our lingering questions and the feedback we have received over the past month, we have decided to abandon further consideration and cease further activity on a cell tower in Waite Hill Village.

Very truly yours,

Bob Ranallo

Robert A. Ranallo

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