Ann Machado - RE: Statement from Stroudwater Village Association regarding Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland

From:	Bret Yarrison dyarrison@gmail.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/3/2015 1:58 PM
Subject:	RE: Statement from Stroudwater Village Association regarding Verizon Wireless Conditional
	Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland
CC:	<edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov></edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>

Ann,

I'd like to second the motion from the SVA with regards to the Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application on/of 1877 Congress Street.

We have a lot of zoning and development changes going on in our area and I'd like to see things slow down and allow the residents to review these requests.

Thank you,

Bret Yarrison - 35 Penrith Rd.

Ann Machado - Verizon sale

From:	raeleneg <raeleneg@maine.rr.com></raeleneg@maine.rr.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/4/2015 6:30 AM
Subject:	Verizon sale
CC:	Charlton Smith <charltonsmith@mac.com>, Charlton Smith <charltonsmith@me< th=""></charltonsmith@me<></charltonsmith@mac.com>

Hi,

Sorry but I saw this late.

I am against this Verizon site abutting our neighborhood. I told Carl Smith it would be like a plane taking off. Almost. Not good.

Two of the 5 people who abutt this site have their homes on the market as we speak. This will de-value their properties significantly.

Surely Verizon can find another non-residential site? This is VERY bad for our neighborhood, Anne.

Raelene Gardner & Bill Bartholomew 22 Heritage Court 775-0375

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

Ann Machado

From: bill bartholomew <bartholomewbill@yahoo.com>
To: "amachado@portlandmaine.gov" <amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: 12/4/2015 10:02 AM

Dear Mrs. Machado,

Rivers Edge Development. I think it is a mistake to allow a Generator station to abut the assoc. land as it will produce unwanted noise and noxious fumes. Let them go elsewhere.

Bill Bartholomew 22 Heritage Court

Ann Machado - Verizon equipment building adjacent to River Edge Drive

From:	Phil Haskell <pjhaskell@aol.com></pjhaskell@aol.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/6/2015 8:49 PM
Subject:	Verizon equipment building adjacent to River Edge Drive

I agree with the SFHA position. Philip J. Haskell-16 Captains Landing, Portland Maine

Ann Machado - Objection to the Verizon equipment facility adjacent to Rivers Edge Drive

From:	Amelia Hassler <ameliahassler@gmail.com></ameliahassler@gmail.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/6/2015 9:44 PM
Subject:	Objection to the Verizon equipment facility adjacent to Rivers Edge Drive

Hi Ann,

My name is Amelia Hassler and I purchased a home at 93 River's Edge Drive a little over a year ago. I'm writing with great concern about the proposed zoning change for the Verizon equipment facility. I wanted to formally express my opposition to the possibility of allowing Verizon to build a large commercial facility in such close proximity to our residential neighborhood.

When I bought into this neighborhood just over a year ago, I carefully researched the zoning of the directly adjacent areas, specifically looking for whether or not the residential / natural woodland surroundings would remain intact (hence the property value and aesthetic of the neighborhood would remain intact). Unlike some of my neighbors who bought 10 or more years ago, I paid top dollar for my property... and I'm deeply concerned that the looming presence of such a large industrial commercial facility so close to our own residential properties will significantly reduce the property values, causing me to lose money on such large personal investment.

This is such a special quiet beautiful neighborhood of Portland that has a unique protected feel to it, and I'm greatly saddened and worried that this proposed equipment facility will have an adverse impact for all of us who live here. The idea of a big 'for profit' company swooping in and being able to change the rules, and in doing so disrupt the quality and value of our personal properties, is deeply upsetting.

I've had nothing but positive experiences in the past with your zoning board and the city of Portland in general... so I appeal to you to <u>please</u> not allow commercial use of this land... to not allow big businesses like Verizon to intrude on the protected residential neighborhoods of Portland (where the impact to the individual is deeply felt).

Thank you for your time and your understanding.

Sincerely,

Amelia Hassler 93 Rivers Edge Drive

Ann Machado - Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application - 1877 Congress Street

From:	Dan Peaco <dpeaco@daymarkea.com></dpeaco@daymarkea.com>
To:	"amachado@portlandmaine.gov" <amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/10/2015 8:27 AM
Subject:	Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application - 1877 Congress Street
CC:	"edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov" <edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>, "estrimli</edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>

Ann Machado,

My wife Lindley and I are homeowners in the Stroudwater Farms development. We have recently become aware of the October 21, 2015 Conditional Use Application submitted by Verizon Wireless to the Zoning Board of Appeals. I understand this application was on the agenda of a recent meeting of the Board and is pending a decision at an upcoming meeting. The proposed facility is on a lot at 1877 Congress Street.

We are one of four property owners in Stroudwater farms that directly abut the 4 acre property that is the location for the proposed Verizon Wireless facility. Our lot is identified in the depiction of the premises included in Attachment 1-A of the Application.

It is my understanding that you have already received some comments from Michael Rodgers (our neighbor and also a direct abutter to the property) and that Gerard Kiladjian (also a direct abutter) attended the recent Board meeting. Ed Resnisky is the fourth direct abutter in our development.

At this point, we are still learning about the proposed plan. We are interested in being included in any communications or notices that the Zoning Board of Appeals issues with respect to this matter. We are also concerned and interested in receiving the feedback on the questions that have been raised by Michael Rodgers and others thus far. I also understand that other homeowners in the Stroudwater Farms have raised concerns to your attention, as well.

We will be seeking additional information in the coming days and will offer our further comments and concerns once we have a better understanding of the proposal.

Thank you,

Daniel E. Peaco

58 River's Edge Drive PORTLAND, ME 04102

HOME: (207) 773-2449 CELL: (617) 283-8163 dpeaco@maine.rr.com

Ann Machado - Concerns relating to Verizon's October 20, 2015, Conditional Use Appeal Application for 1877 Congress Street, Portland

From:	Michael Rogers <michael.rogers66@gmail.com></michael.rogers66@gmail.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov>, <edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimlin< th=""></estrimlin<></edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/8/2015 11:11 AM
Subject:	Concerns relating to Verizon's October 20, 2015, Conditional Use Appeal Application for
-	1877 Congress Street, Portland

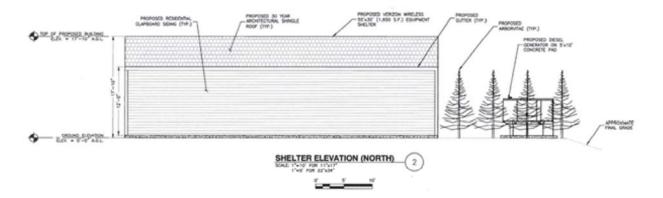
Dear Portland Zoning Board of Appeals:

I am an abutter to 1877 Congress Street, Portland, Maine. I live at 66 River's Edge Drive (Lot 9) in the Stroudwater Farm subdivision. I have the following concerns relating to Verizon's Conditional Use Appeal application dated October 20, 2015.

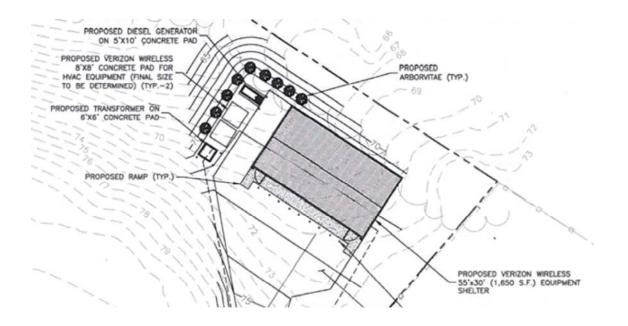
1) The following is the last of Portland's three standards for a Conditional Use:

- c. The design and operation of the proposed use, including but not limited to landscaping, screening, sign, loading, deliveries, trash or waste generation, arrangement of structures, and materials storage will not have a substantially greater effect/impact on surrounding properties than those associated with surrounding uses or other allowable uses in the zone.
- RESPONSE: The proposed Facility has been designed to fit into the existing landscape of the site. The equipment shelter has been designed with an architectural shingle roof and residential clapboard siding to fit in with the surrounding neighborhood. There will be no signs, loading, deliveries, trash, waste generation, or materials stored at the facility.

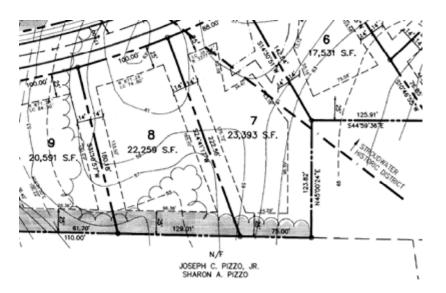
The Facility plans show a final elevation just below 18' above grade.



As planned, the center of the grade for the Facility would be 71' above grade. Adding the building's 18' elevation, depicts the center of the Facility would rise about 89' above sea level.



Consider the grade levels of the abutting neighbors (proposed location is in the lower right corner of this plan - N/F Pizzo):



The following are the average grades of the abutting lots in comparison to the Facility's highest point:

Lot 6 63' Facility is 29% higher Lot 7 60' Facility is 33% higher Lot 8 59' Facility is 34% higher Lot 9 55' Facility is 38% higher

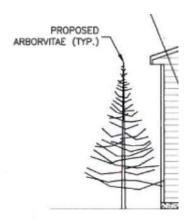
Lots 6 and 7 are most adversely affected given their close proximity. Is it necessary for the building to be so tall? Could the building be partially constructed below grade to lessen its height and thereby better "fit in to the surrounding neighborhood" as quoted from the application?

Given its plan, how can the Facility truly "fit in to the existing landscape of the site"?

Rather than fitting in, it would dominate the site. Its flora is slow growing and nowhere near 18' in height in unison. The statement, "fit in to the existing landscape of the site", is a non-sequitur.

2) The application indicates arborvitae will be planted, yet did not submit a landscaping plan.

The following is all I gleaned from the application.



Wouldn't it be reasonable to at least proffer the following?

ypes of arbovitae (ideally, there should be a mix, as there are five species of which two are indigenous to North America)

Jumber of trees

ocation of said trees (optimally they would be staggered)

lanting distance between trees

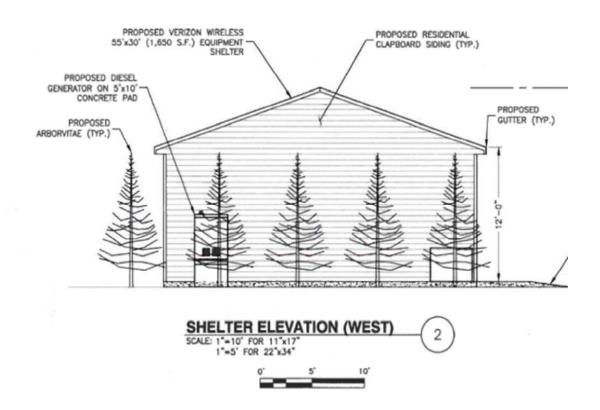
rade level of trees

eight of trees upon planting

low much of the Facility's north and west side will be obscured with the trees

Tony Muench is a local landscape architect and an expert on designing a landscaping plan to meet the needs of all stakeholders. I highly recommend Tony.

3) Why is the diesel generator planned for the west side of the Facility?



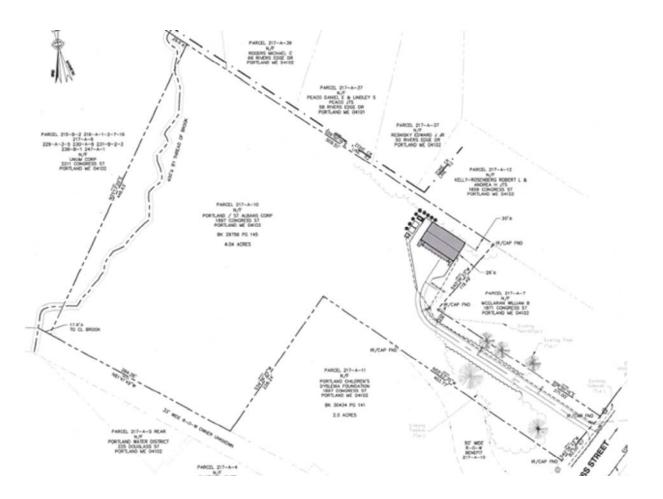
I would think Verizon would want to be a good neighbor and keep the generator away from its immediate neighbors. This plan fails that.

Are there any specifications for the decibel level of the generator?

The elevations should clearly state the clapboard siding would be vinyl.

Why are gutters needed? Properly insulated buildings don't need gutters. Storm water can easily be collected below grade with perimeter drainage and directed a designated area. Further, gutters require constant maintenance.

4) Verizon wants to acquire 4 acres yet seeks to shoehorn the Facility in one small corner of the property closest to its Stroudwater Farm neighbors and another Congress Street abutter.



Is there a reason for its location? Is this the optimal location given the lower grade of the site so as to be less conspicuous? The center of the 4-acre lot appears to be at least 15' higher so the proposed site may be the best spot, but I do not have sufficient data to form an opinion.

) What plans does Verizon have for the remaining land not planned currently for development?

uld Verizon consider setting adding the undeveloped land to remain deeded "forever wild"? Perhaps the land could be donated to Portland Trails and used for passive recreation. Speaking only for myself, I believe it would allay the concerns of many of my neighbors if Verizon set aside the remaining land as "green space" and not propagate additional commercial buildings.

do not want to replicate what occurred on nearby Cobb Avenue in Stroudwater when a rental car facility was approved and constructed in 2012.





After three years, the 6' stockade fence and immature and sparsely planted arborvitae offer no meaningful blocking of the commercial enterprise abutting the residential zone.

7) Have you considered designing the Facility to appear like an old barn?

The present design of the Facility is not inspiring. The planned vinyl sided warehouse offers NO architectural appeal in one of Portland's oldest neighborhoods. Instead of the monolithic plastic building with no break (windows) in its design, perhaps a clapboard (or shingle) building shaped and

stained like an old barn would be more appropriate, visually pleasing and more fitting for the lot, given it is just outside the Stroudwater Historic District.

I am a real estate agent and have also designed and built single-family homes and commercial buildings. I am a native of Stroudwater, trustee of the Stroudwater Village Association (SVA) and resident of Stroudwater Farm. My letter does not represent the position of anyone but me.

<u>Residents are naturally concerned for the further erosion of the character of residential life here in</u> <u>Stroudwater.</u>

Notice of Verizon's intentions occurred so quickly around the holidays it has made it difficult for my fellow Stroudwater residents to properly evaluate the application.

If Verizon truly wants to be a "good neighbor", then I recommend Verizon reach out to the SVA and convene a neighborhood meeting inviting Stroudwater residents and Portland Trails. Verizon would present their proposed plan and listen to the concerns of Stroudwater residents and hopefully reach an agreement meeting the needs of all stakeholders prior to the Portland Zoning Board consider their presently incomplete application for conditional use appeal approval.

Thank you.

Regards,

Michael Rogers, MBA, Realtor

Ann Machado - Zoning change outer Congress St

From:	raeleneg <raeleneg@maine.rr.com></raeleneg@maine.rr.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/8/2015 5:58 AM
Subject:	Zoning change outer Congress St
CC:	Charlton Smith <charltonsmith@me.com></charltonsmith@me.com>

Hi Ann,

It just occurred to me that there is commercial zoning less than a mile from the Elks Club and from the Masonic building, just past Unum.

Why are these projects not looking into that as an option? Lot less hassle. Of course it's more money but that's because it's zoned commercial.

Also if these projects go thru, we are setting a precedent for the rest of the Stroudwater area in the future.

These are not isolated incidents. Zoning is zoning.

Also, Ann, the Verizon Issue involves wetlands. They may have to build closer to Congress St than they told us.

Thank you.

Raelene Gardner Rivers Edge Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

Ann Machado - Proposed re-zoning of Congress Street

From:	"Galardo, Barbara (Portland, ME)" <bgalardo@fairpoint.com></bgalardo@fairpoint.com>
To:	"amachado@portlandmaine.gov" <amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/7/2015 4:36 PM
Subject:	Proposed re-zoning of Congress Street

Ann,

I understand that a zoning request has been made to accommodate a storage unit for Verizon on outer Congress Street and that the position of the Verizon building may affect the property values of the residential homes on River's Edge Drive. Please postpone the approval of the request until the homeowners on River's Edge can determine if there is any negative affect of the re-zoning request.

Thank you

Barbara Galardo 88 River's Edge Dr. Portland, ME 04102

This e-mail message and its attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipients. They may contain confidential information, legally privileged information or other information subject to legal restrictions. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please do not read, copy, use or disclose this message or its attachments, notify the sender by replying to this message and delete or destroy all copies of this message and attachments in all media.

Ann Machado - Rebuttal: Verizon 1877 Congress St Generator Proposal

From:	"Raelene Gardner" <raeleneg@maine.rr.com></raeleneg@maine.rr.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/4/2015 4:11 PM Rebuttal: Verizon 1877 Congress St Generator Proposal <stroudwatervillageassociation@gmail.com>, "'Charlton Smith''' <charltons< th=""></charltons<></stroudwatervillageassociation@gmail.com>

Hi again, Ann,

I sent you an email against this proposal on Dec3.

Again, I think this project will devalue all the homes that abut the proposed Verizon generator site.

That generator will be like a plane taking off.

We all know what a small generator sounds like;

I can only imagine the noise a generator of that size will produce.

This will adversely affect property values in the ten's of thousands, I'm afraid.

I wouldn't buy a house next to one . . .

May I recommend that any evaluation, review or consideration of this project include an onsite visit to an existing Verizon generator?

I would like for an SVA and/or River's Edge member to be in attendance.

where are other sites located in Maine?

Surely this generator does not need to be in the midst of a residential area?

Once it is built, it will be too late . . .

Thank you,

Raelene Gardner

(207) 775-0375 h

(207) 408-1626 c

mailto:raeleneg@maine.rr.com

Ann Machado - Fwd: Re: Zoning change outer Congress St

From:	raeleneg <raeleneg@maine.rr.com></raeleneg@maine.rr.com>
To:	Charlton Smith <charltonsmith@mac.com>, Ann Machado <amachado@portlandma< th=""></amachado@portlandma<></charltonsmith@mac.com>
Date:	12/10/2015 4:32 PM
Subject:	Fwd: Re: Zoning change outer Congress St
CC:	BILL'S <bartholomewbill@yahoo.com>, <lpeaco@maine.rr.com></lpeaco@maine.rr.com></bartholomewbill@yahoo.com>

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

------ Original message ------From: raeleneg Date:12/10/2015 3:27 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Ann Machado Cc: Charlton Smith ,Charlton Smith ,"dkoloski@mba2002.hbs.edu" ,lizfreeman@maine.rr.com,Robert & Susan Close ,lpeaco@maine.rr.com Subject: Re: Zoning change outer Congress St

Thank you Ann.

Also, please add the rest of my concerns:

1. My biggest concern is the negative effect on our property values. Our neighborhood values have held steady. This will impact the abutting properties significantly. I would not pay \$400,000 for a house that had that in the back yard. Would you?

2. The noise is a major factor. We need to visit an existing site to know the real impact and decibel level.

3. there are wetlands on that property, where the proposed footprint is. It seems unrealistic they would build on wetlands.

4. Carcinogenic Fumes from the generator.

How can you prevent that from a diesel generator?

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

Ann Machado - Re: Objection to the Verizon equipment facility adjacent to Rivers Edge Drive

From:	Amelia Hassler <ameliahassler@gmail.com></ameliahassler@gmail.com>
To:	Ann Machado <amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/10/2015 7:28 PM
Subject:	Re: Objection to the Verizon equipment facility adjacent to Rivers Edge Drive

Hi Ann,

Thanks so much for your response. There has been a lot of research and dialogue in the neighborhood since I sent you my email. And as I learn more about the proposed placement of the building on the site map (closest proximity to the neighborhood and highest most visible elevation possible) it leaves me with even greater concerns about how big and imposing a presence it will have (not just for the direct abutters but for all of us). Truly a terrible eye sore in a beautiful natural space. I'm deeply distressed.

Thanks again for your response!

Amelia

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 10, 2015, at 2:39 PM, Ann Machado <<u>AMACHADO@portlandmaine.gov</u>> wrote:

Amelia -

I have passed your email on to the applicant, Verizon so they can address your concerns at the next meeting. The Board will also be receiving your email before the meeting. When we know the date of the next meeting, we will notify you. This email has also become part of the permanent record of the appeal.

Ann Machado

Ann Machado Zoning Administrator Planning & Urban Development Portland, Maine (207) 874-8709 >>> Amelia Hassler <<u>ameliahassler@gmail.com</u>> 12/6/2015 9:44 PM >>> Hi Ann,

My name is Amelia Hassler and I purchased a home at 93 River's Edge Drive a little over a year ago. I'm writing with great concern about the proposed zoning change for the Verizon equipment facility. I wanted to formally express my opposition to the possibility of allowing Verizon to build a large commercial facility in such close proximity to our residential

neighborhood.

When I bought into this neighborhood just over a year ago, I carefully researched the zoning of the directly adjacent areas, specifically looking for whether or not the residential / natural woodland surroundings would remain intact (hence the property value and aesthetic of the neighborhood would remain intact). Unlike some of my neighbors who bought 10 or more years ago, I paid top dollar for my property... and I'm deeply concerned that the looming presence of such a large industrial commercial facility so close to our own residential properties will significantly reduce the property values, causing me to lose money on such large personal investment.

This is such a special quiet beautiful neighborhood of Portland that has a unique protected feel to it, and I'm greatly saddened and worried that this proposed equipment facility will have an adverse impact for all of us who live here. The idea of a big 'for profit' company swooping in and being able to change the rules, and in doing so disrupt the quality and value of our personal properties, is deeply upsetting.

I've had nothing but positive experiences in the past with your zoning board and the city of Portland in general... so I appeal to you to <u>please</u> not allow commercial use of this land... to not allow big businesses like Verizon to intrude on the protected residential neighborhoods of Portland (where the impact to the individual is deeply felt).

Thank you for your time and your understanding.

Sincerely,

Amelia Hassler 93 Rivers Edge Drive

Ann Machado - Concerns RE: Verizon's October 20, 2015, Conditional Use Appeal Application for 1877 Congress Street, Portland

From:	"Raelene Gardner" <raeleneg@maine.rr.com></raeleneg@maine.rr.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov>, <edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimlin< th=""></estrimlin<></edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/20/2015 9:16 AM
Subject:	Concerns RE: Verizon's October 20, 2015, Conditional Use Appeal Application for 1877
-	Congress Street, Portland
CC:	"'Charlton Smith'" <charltonsmith@mac.com>, <stroudwatervillageassociati< th=""></stroudwatervillageassociati<></charltonsmith@mac.com>

Hi again Ann,

I sent you the email below on Dec10 and never received a confirmation from you.

I did receive a confirmation for a previous email re: concerns about the Verizon zoning appeal on Congress St.

Not sure why you would not receive this one or if I am only allowed one "concern" letter.

Please add the rest of my concerns below:

1. My biggest concern is the negative effect on our property values.

Our neighborhood values have held steady. This will impact the abutting properties significantly.

I would not pay \$400,000 for a house that had that in the back yard. Would you?

2. The noise is a major factor. We need to visit an existing site to know the real impact and decibel level.

3. there are wetlands on that property, where the proposed footprint is. It seems unrealistic they could build on wetlands.

4. Carcinogenic Fumes from the generator.

Thank you,

Raelene Gardner

(207) 775-0375 h

(207) 408-1626 c

mailto:raeleneg@maine.rr.com

Ann Machado - RE: Date for ZBA meeting for Verizon equipment shelter

From:	"Galardo, Barbara (Portland, ME)" <bgalardo@fairpoint.com></bgalardo@fairpoint.com>
To:	AMACHADO@portlandmaine.gov
Date:	12/28/2015 8:12 AM
Subject:	RE: Date for ZBA meeting for Verizon equipment shelter

Unless someone can provide another definition of "Utility" per the City or State, Verizon is not a Utility Provider. Therefore, they cannot build a "substation". Please see the definition of a Public Utility and a Telephone Utility per the Maine Statutes that govern telecommunications below. Verizon sold its "public utility" to FairPoint, Inc. in March 2008. (Lots of Folks still refer to FairPoint as Verizon). In addition to the rules cited below, the Maine Public Utility Commission website does not show Verizon as a Maine Telephone Utility.

Title 35-A: PUBLIC UTILITIES Part 1 Chapter 1

§102. Definitions

13. Public utility. "Public utility" includes every gas utility, natural gas pipeline utility, transmission and distribution utility, telephone utility, water utility and ferry, as those terms are defined in this section, and each of those utilities is declared to be a public utility. "Public utility" does not include the operation of a radio paging service, as that term is defined in this section, or mobile telecommunications services unless only one entity or an affiliated interest of that entity, as defined in section 707, subsection 1, paragraph A, exclusively controls the use of the radio frequency spectrum assigned by the Federal Communications Commission to provide mobile service to the service area. "Public utility" includes a smart grid coordinator as defined in section 3143, subsection 1, paragraph B.

19. Telephone utility. "Telephone utility" includes every person, its lessees, trustees, receivers or trustees appointed by any court, that provides telephone service for compensation inside this State. "Telephone utility" also includes a dark fiber provider. "Telephone utility" does not include any person or entity that is excluded from the definition of "public utility" as defined in subsection 13, subject to the provisions of subsection 13, paragraphs A to C.

Barbara Galardo

From: Ann Machado [mailto:AMACHADO@portlandmaine.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 8:36 AM
To: pjhaskell@aol.com; dpeaco@daymarkea.com; Galardo, Barbara (Portland, ME); amelaihassler@gmail.com; byarrison@gmail.com; michael.rogers66@gmail.com; Stroudwater Village Association Board of Trustees; bartholomewbill@yahoo.com
Subject: Date for ZBA meeting for Verizon equipment shelter

I just wanted to let you know that Verizon is planning to come back before the Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, January 21, 2016.

Ann Machado

Ann Machado Zoning Administrator Planning & Urban Development Portland, Maine (207) 874-8709

This e-mail message and its attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipients. They may contain confidential information, legally privileged information or other information subject to legal restrictions. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please do not read, copy, use or disclose this message or its attachments, notify the sender by replying to this message and delete or destroy all copies of this message and attachments in all media.

Ann Machado - Statement from Stroudwater Village Association regarding Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland

From:	Stroudwater Village Association Board of Trustees
	<stroudwatervillageassociation@gmail.com></stroudwatervillageassociation@gmail.com>
To:	<amachado@portlandmaine.gov></amachado@portlandmaine.gov>
Date:	12/3/2015 12:26 PM
Subject:	Statement from Stroudwater Village Association regarding Verizon Wireless Conditional Use
	Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland
CC:	Edward Suslovic <edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov></edsuslovic@portlandmaine.gov>

Hello Ann, the SVA may not be able to send a representative in person tonight, so please read this statement into the record from the SVA.

Thank you!

-Dan Koloski, SVA President

TO: Ann Machado on behalf of Zoning Board of Appeals, City of Portland

CC: Councilor Ed Suslovic

FROM: Stroudwater Village Association

RE: Statement from Stroudwater Village Association regarding Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland

DATE: 12/3/2015

The SVA requests that the vote on the Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland be tabled until at least January 2015 so that our residents have time to evaluate the proposal, both on its own and in the context of other proposed nearby activity in the neighborhood.

It's important to note that the SVA did not receive any notice of this meeting, but was in fact alerted to it by watchful residents only on Monday November 30. As such, we have not had time to adequately collect feedback from residents.

Questions specific to the proposal that we would like to discuss with the applicant include:

* Proximity of the building to residences in the River's Edge neighborhood.

* Expected amount of noise and light from the generator facility (related to the previous point)

* Ensuring the rest of the parcel remains green space and/or residential development, and that this is not a prelude to a zoning conversion request or cell tower proposal

In terms of the larger context, as the Zoning office is aware, the neighborhood is currently involved in an active discussion about the proposed re-zoning of the nearby Elks Club property from residential R-2 to commercial O-P. We have repeatedly requested that the city work with us to think about the bigger picture for the neighborhood before making these kinds of changes, especially in light of the housing shortage in Portland (although not a zoning conversion, this proposal would also remove potential housing stock from the inventory). As such, we would like to make sure that this specific proposal is evaluated in the context of the other discussions happening in the neighborhood.

The bottom line is that this proposal would benefit from some more time to evaluate, and so the SVA requests that the vote on the Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Application, 1877 Congress Street, Portland be tabled until at least January 2015 so that our residents have time to evaluate the proposal, both on its own and in the context of other proposed nearby activity in the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Stroudwater Village Association is a Maine Non-Profit corporation. All residents of Stroudwater are members and invited to participate in all of our activities.

Find us on the web at <u>http://www.stroudwatervillage.org</u> and <u>http://www.livinginportland.org/stroudwater.htm</u> Find us on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/StroudwaterVillageAssociation</u>