

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>
To: <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>

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 <http://www.stroudwatervillage.org> and
<http://www.livinginportland.org/stroudwater.htm>

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/StroudwaterVillageAssociation>