

# City of Takoma Park, Maryland

## Office of the City Council

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Marjorie Williams  
Chair of the Transmission Facilities Coordination Group  
Montgomery County Department of Technology Services  
Office of Broadband Programs - Community Technology

Dear TFCG Chair Williams,

The Takoma Park City Council has been made aware of a cell tower application currently before the Transmission Facilities Coordination Group (TFCG) that reveals concerning information about the cumulative Radio Frequency (RF) Emissions on the roof of the Park Ritchie Apartment building located in Takoma Park.

Per the 12<sup>th</sup> page of the new [Verizon application](#) (page 1 of the consultant report):

*“At the nearest walking/working surfaces to the Verizon antennas, the maximum power density generated by the Verizon antennas is approximately 2,598.45 percent of the FCC’s general public limit (519.69 percent of the FCC’s occupational limit).*

*The composite exposure level from all carriers on this site is approximately 2,598.55 percent of the FCC’s general public limit (519.71 percent of the FCC’s occupational limit) at the nearest walking/working surface to each antenna.” (Emphasis added)*

While the consultant report includes a section on mitigation/site control options – such as caution signs and barriers that “may consist of rope, chain, or fencing” – we remain concerned about what appears to be an alarming exceedance of the FCC limits. We are concerned that the recommended mitigations may not be sufficient to protect workers or anyone else who accesses the roof. Further, it is not clear the extent to which residents living on or near the top floor of the building are possibly being exposed to RF emissions that exceed acceptable limits.

Irrespective of the current application, we urge the TFCG to seek clarification about the potential dangers posed by the existing cumulative RF emissions and what action can be taken to address them, whether by the County or another entity. Regarding the current application, we urge the TFCG to ensure they have this clarification before considering or approving the application and potentially making the existing situation even worse.

Sincerely,

The Takoma Park City Council

Kate Stewart, Mayor  
Peter Kovar, Ward 1  
Cindy Dyballa, Ward 2  
Kacy Kostiuik, Ward 3  
Terry Seamens, Ward 4  
Jarrett Smith, Ward 5  
Talisha Searcy, Ward 6

CC: Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich  
Members of the Montgomery County Council