

**City Council
Work Session**

**with Principal Reginald McNeill
Eleanor Roosevelt High School**

**8 p.m., Wednesday
January 4, 2017**

**Community Center
Multipurpose Room**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Update on Activities at Roosevelt**
- 3. Security Concerns – Greenbriar**
- 4. Cell Tower proposal**

December 20, 2016

Dear Parents,

Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) is partnering with the Greenbelt City Police Department in order to address crime in the area, maintain a safe school environment and increase the overall quality of life for residents of the surrounding communities.

We are working to reduce the problems encountered by residents living in areas neighboring ERHS that are related to students skipping classes and then loitering in hallways, smoking and engaged in other unwanted activities during the school day. Many of these incidents are occurring just before school starts and then periodically throughout the school day. These issues have been occurring for some time.

We want to inform you that if your child is found on the premises of a surrounding neighborhood during the school day without authorization, they will be subject to disciplinary actions here at ERHS. Also, if they are found by a Police Officer, students may be subject to being charged with trespassing. Please advise your children not to enter or congregate in any of these nearby communities adjacent to ERHS during school hours without permission.

An additional safety concern is that of students being dropped off in traffic along Greenbelt Road. We understand that this may be convenient. However, it is very dangerous to students and parents as well as the local traffic. ERHS and the Greenbelt Police are concerned for the safety of students. **Please be advised that traffic enforcement efforts will be scheduled, to include the issuing of citations, to those stopping on Greenbelt Road and dropping off students.** Please refrain from letting students out of your vehicle on Greenbelt Road.

Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated. Let's all do our part in contributing to the safety and education of our children. Only together can we create a quality environment for both ERHS students and the nearby residents of ERHS. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Reginald McNeill, Principal
Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Major Thomas Kemp
Interim Greenbelt Chief of Police

Michael McLaughlin

From: Michael McLaughlin
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 9:18 AM
To: Judith Davis; Council; David Moran; 'Reginald McNeill'
Cc: 'Cindy Murray'; Thomas Kemp; 'Celia Craze'; Terri Hruby; 'jcummings@cviinc.com'
Subject: RE: {ERHS PTSA} Fwd: Cell phone tower info

Thanks!

Council – this item will be placed on your January 4 work session agenda with Mr. McNeill

Acting Chief Kemp – fyi – please have forwarded to SRO Wooten

Thanks
Mike

Michael McLaughlin
City Manager
City of Greenbelt
301-474-8000

From: Judith Davis
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 11:13 PM
To: Council; Michael McLaughlin; David Moran
Subject: Fwd: {ERHS PTSA} Fwd: Cell phone tower info

FYI--- J

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mirna Quinteros-Grady <lupi.grady@pgcps.org>
Date: December 19, 2016 at 8:12:39 PM EST
To: Emmett Jordan <evjordan@gmail.com>, Judith Davis <jdavis@greenbeltmd.gov>, David Moran <dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov>
Subject: Fwd: {ERHS PTSA} Fwd: Cell phone tower info

Good evening,

As I am a parent of Roosevelt, I receive the PTSA e-mails. I received an e-mail on Friday confirming that Milestone Communications. I had an opportunity to follow-up with Dr. Watts that received the communication on Friday but was out of the office.

Please note that the January PTSA meeting (Tuesday 17) will include a discussion of the proposed cell phone tower at ERHS. The current proposal is for it to be located by the entrance/exit on Greenbelt Rd, and it will include a sign with the school's name on it.

Below is the information that the company doing the work sent out to PTSA.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Goldsmith** <david@milestonecorp.com>
Date: Thu, Dec 15, 2016 at 4:20 PM
Subject: Roosevelt High School
To: "annegreenbelt@gmail.com" <annegreenbelt@gmail.com>
Cc: "rmcneill@pgcps.org" <rmcneill@pgcps.org>, Kristen Stelzer
<kristen@milestonecorp.com>

Hello Ms. Gardner,

Hope you are doing well this afternoon. As you may have heard, Milestone is proposing the placement of a telecommunication facility on the campus at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. I wanted to provide some additional information and see if the PTSA has any questions related to the planned telecom facility (cell tower). Of course we would like the dialogue to continue and we welcome feedback.

The placement of this tower is needed for enhanced high speed broadband wireless connectivity in and around the area of the school. Recently, we met with Principal Dr. Adams and the school facility officer to select the location for the facility at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. All such facilities on Prince George's County School System (PGCSS) properties are locked, fenced and secure. This facility is planned as approximately 2500 square feet in size and the marquee structure will be approximately 105 feet in height. T-Mobile is the anchor tenant and will be located on the top of the marquee structure and inside the fenced compound

We will be following the established School and County rules related to the placement of a telecom facility at a school. To this end we are planning to send out an initial notice letter per the County rules to the required properties, likely later in January, explaining about the project and process and inviting feedback and questions. And noting that we will be having a community meeting after school starts back up after the holiday break. Then later this spring we expect to file an application with the County's Telecommunications Transmission Facility Coordinating Committee (TTFCC). They are in charge and must review all request for new telecom facilities or the placement of telecom antennas on existing structures. Here is the link to their website. The site and its leadership are also a good resource on the topic. Thereafter, we will send out a second letter to the County's required property owners as well as an expanded list of additional homeowners to remind and notify about the upcoming community meeting. And we would welcome assisting the PTSA and/or school in providing information about the meeting that the school or PTSA can deliver through its normal communication channels (email, web posting, backpack letter, etc.).

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/DPIE/Services/BoardsCommissions/TTFCC/Pages/default.aspx>

The question about health is a good and a very common one. Please see below. I have copied and pasted some statements (and the links to the pages) by some key health and/or governmental organizations on the topic of telecom facilities and power levels/emissions. All kinds of information certainly can be found on the internet. However, we have found that these leading organizations are strong and credible sources on the topic. Of course feel free to review these organizations and others on the topic. The bottom line is that the power levels of wireless telecom facilities are very, very low and thus typically hundreds to thousands of times below the Federal Government (FCC) limits. And the FCC limits even have a 50 time safety factor on top of the guidelines. The amounts of levels from telecom facilities are less on the ground where we walk and live then levels we receive from many common house hold items like cordless phones, microwave ovens, baby monitors, and Wi-Fi routers. And in fact the Federal Government when it passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 noted that they had reviewed the health implications and the Act noted that local governments cannot turn down a telecom facility application solely based on health when the applicant will meet the FCC emission limits, like we will do here. {See Section 704(a) of the 1996 Act, which expressly preempts state and local government regulation of the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the FCC's regulations concerning such emissions. 47 U.S.C. §332(c)(7)(B)(iv).}

ARE CELLULAR AND OTHER RADIO TOWERS LOCATED NEAR HOMES OR SCHOOLS SAFE FOR RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS?

As discussed above, radiofrequency emissions from antennas used for cellular and PCS transmissions result in exposure levels on the ground that are typically thousands of times below safety limits. These safety limits were adopted by the FCC based on the recommendations of expert organizations and endorsed by agencies of the Federal Government responsible for health and safety. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that such towers could constitute a potential health hazard to nearby residents or students.

Other antennas, such as those used for radio and television broadcast transmissions, use power levels that are generally much higher than those used for cellular and PCS antennas. Therefore, in some cases there could be a potential for higher levels of exposure to persons on the ground. However, all broadcast stations are required to demonstrate compliance with FCC safety guidelines, and ambient exposures to nearby persons from such stations are typically well below FCC safety limits. (Back to Index)

<https://www.fcc.gov/engineering-technology/electromagnetic-compatibility-division/radio-frequency-safety/faq/rf-safety#Q15>

World Health Organization-

From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short- or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF signals produced by base stations. Since wireless networks produce generally lower RF signals than base stations, no adverse health effects are expected from exposure to them.

Conclusions

Considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF signals from base stations and wireless networks cause adverse health effects.

<http://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/facts/fs304/en/>

American Cancer Society-

Public exposure to radio waves from cell phone tower antennas is slight for several reasons. The power levels are relatively low, the antennas are mounted high above ground level, and the signals are transmitted intermittently, rather than constantly.

At ground level near typical cellular base stations, the amount of RF energy is thousands of times less than the limits for safe exposure set by the US Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and other regulatory authorities. It is very unlikely that a person could be exposed to RF levels in excess of these limits just by being near a cell phone tower.

<http://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancercauses/othercarcinogens/athome/cellular-phone-towers>

The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** states:

“At very high levels, RF energy is dangerous. It can heat the body's tissues rapidly. However, such high levels are found only near certain equipment, such as powerful long-distance transmitters. Cellphones and wireless networks produce RF, but not at levels that cause significant heating. In addition, RF energy decreases quickly over distance. At ground level, exposure to RF from sources like cellphone towers is usually very low.

Above quote is from the American Cancer Society website too-
see <http://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancercauses/othercarcinogens/athome/cellular-phone-towers>

To date, Milestone and PGCPSS have partnered on about half a dozen school properties the past 3+ years, including Oxon Hill MS, Flowers HS, Green Valley Academy, Carroll MS, Kenmoor MS, Madison HS and Tasker MS. The facilities are up and operating and thus providing enhanced wireless connectivity in a safe fashion and one that does not impact school operations and is providing an ongoing significant revenue stream to the school system to assist with growing educational costs and services.

Thank you very much for your time and I look forward to additional communication throughout the School and County review process,

David Goldsmith

Development Associate

Milestone Communications

12110 Sunset Hills Road Suite 100

Reston, Virginia 20140

(703) 268-5093 (Office)

(704) 641-1476 (Cell)

www.MilestoneCommunications.com

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Renew your PTSA membership at www.erhsptsa.weebly.com. Join online with a credit card, or print a membership form and mail it to ERHS PTSA at 7601 Hanover Pkwy., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Please note that this email list is for announcements only, and only designated PTSA officers have permission to post to the list. If you have an announcement that you would like to see posted, please send it to erhsptsaweb@gmail.com. Any PTSA member may post to the PTSA discussion list at <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/erhs-ptsa-discussion>

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "ERHS PTSA Communications" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to erhs-ptsa-communications+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To post to this group, send email to erhs-ptsa-communications@googlegroups.com.

Visit this group at <https://groups.google.com/group/erhs-ptsa-communications>.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

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**CITY OF GREENBELT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Tuesday, October 25, 2016. Meeting was held in the Council Room and presided over by Veronica Martin-Alston. Meeting started at 6:45pm.

PRESENT

ACE Members: Sudhanshu Sinha, Don Rich, Kate McElhenny, Elsie Waynes, Melinda Brady, Veronica Martin-Alston, Leta Mach, Rosalind Ceasar.

PTA Executive

ERHS - Aisha Blaine-Bey (Vice-President)

MES - Shirley Tucker (President), Wanda Howard (Vice-President)

DKFI – Halima Jenkins (President)

GMS – Melinda Brady (Treasurer)

SHL - Moneque Chamberlain Wells (Secretary), Matthew Wells (Treasurer)

Other : Julie Depenbrock (Reporter, GNR), Charlene Mahoney (Vice-Chair, College Park EAC)

ABSENT:

ACE Members: Susan Breon, Jon Gardner, Janet Mirsky, Ema Smith


PTA Presidents: GES, TPA

MEETING WITH PTA PRESIDENTS

After introductions, Veronica, with input from other members, gave an overview of ACE, the grants program, school clubs and awards ceremonies.

Reports from Schools

ERHS – Aisha reported that ERHS has a Teacher’s Appreciation Breakfast coming up soon - they have two other appreciation programs later in the year. She said in light of the county’s decision not to pay for AP testing, the PTSA has decided to fund it this year.

 She also informed members that on January 10th the PTSA will hold a meeting to discuss parents’ concern about a cell phone tower being sited at the school. She said the PTSA communicates with parents through its monthly newsletter, emails and text messages.

MES – Shirley and Wanda told members that Magnolia has a Parent-Teacher Advisory Council (PTAC) with an all-new set of officers. They said the PTAC is not part of a larger umbrella organization so this allows them to not charge membership fees. They believe this will encourage parents to join - they had a better turn-out for their 2nd meeting than the 1st.

They reported that they have already completed a fundraising yard sale and are currently working on a Pumpkin-Grans fundraiser. In November, they will hold a family picture day and their crowning event of the year will be the June Family Fun Day.

They had questions about how to obtain liability insurance coverage.

GMS - Melinda told members that there was a break in the PTA because of failure to find new officers at the end of the last school year and so a new board attempted to reconstitute in