



City Councillor - Ward 17 • Davenport

January 2nd, 2009

Norm Kelly, Chair
Planning and Growth Management Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

RE: AMENDMENT TO PG22.4 – TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER PROTOCOL

Dear Councillor Kelly:

I am writing regarding item PG22.4 on the next Planning and Growth Management Committee Agenda. I will be unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict but I would like to have an amendment moved in my absence which Staff are supportive of and which is in line with previous Council decisions on this matter.

In particular, I am referring to the minimum required notice distance when a new tower is proposed. The letter from the Ministry recommends tweaking Council's protocol to bring it in line with what they will legally enforce, and states that they will not enforce the 400 metre notice distance requested by Council. In the absence of clear, acceptable direction from the City Industry Canada will enforce a notice requirement of 3 times the height of the tower, which is not large enough in my opinion, particularly considering the fact that many of these towers are under 10 metres in height.

I would therefore ask that the recommendations of the report be amended by adding:

2) The City of Toronto Telecommunication Tower Protocol be amended to require notice to be sent to residents within 120 metres of the proposed tower or 3 times the height of the tower (whichever is greater), and that this be communicated to Industry Canada and their concurrence be requested.

This distance is consistent with and justifiable as the standard Committee of Adjustment notification distance. This distance is also a reasonable middle-ground between the unnecessarily small "3 times the height of the tower" radius suggested by Industry Canada, which would be too small in the case of smaller towers, and the 400 metres advocated by City Council previously which was unacceptable to Industry Canada.

This is an issue which I been active on for a number of years, and which I am proud to have initially brought forward. I have spoken to our City Staff who are supportive of this type of proposal.

Sincerely,



Cesar Palacio
Toronto City Councillor
Ward 17 – Davenport
c. Merle MacDonald, City Clerk's Office