## HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 249 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1400 Houston, Texas 77056

October 21, 2019

## **VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Vence Salvato
Harris County Engineering
Manager - Commercial Minor Development Permits
Vence.salvato@hcpid.org

Re: Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 249 (the "District") – Objection to Proposed Variance Request

Dear Mr. Salvato:

It has recently come to the attention of the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board") that a request for variance has been made by Verizon Wireless to the Harris County Commissioners Court (the "County") for a cellular communication facility structure to be placed in the public right-of-way along a portion of Lexington Road (the "Variance Request"). The Board has asked us, on behalf of the District, to forward this correspondence to you expressing the District's strong objection to the Variance Request, and to ask that it be denied. The Tract and Project information (as provided on the applicable "Notice of Variance Request" sign located on Lexington Road) is as follows:

Tract: Old Town Spring SC1-25639, Lexington Road #A,

Spring, Harris County, TX 77373

In the Mary C Bulrice Survey, Abstract No. 129

Project: # 1806180068

The Tract is located in the Lexington Road right-of-way, which bisects the Spring Lakes residential subdivision, and which is within the boundaries of the District. The original developer of Spring Lakes went to great lengths to ensure that no power lines to service the neighborhood were visible on this portion of Lexington Road. Extensive negotiations with the power company were undertaken to ensure that power lines within the subdivision were buried under ground to the maximum degree possible, and all others were placed in the least visible locations. The absence of facilities like the one being requested is an important characteristic of the Spring Lakes subdivision to all of its residents.

Additionally, the District owns the property adjacent to the Tract, and has invested heavily in the enhancement of the landscaping and overall aesthetics of Lexington Road Boulevard, in an attempt to maintain and enhance the developer's original vision for an unobstructed landscaped roadway. Lexington Road through the District is a central feature of the Spring Lakes community and its aesthetic appeal should not be compromised by the proposed cellular facility.

It should also be pointed out that the placement of a structure so close to the road in this location could be dangerous, and potentially deadly. Lexington Road is quite a long stretch of roadway, and the speed limit is 45mph. There have been a number of serious accidents along this section of road over the years, and the likelihood of such accidents would only increase with the addition of this structure.

Lastly, there are numerous other locations, north and south of the proposed location, which are more suitable for the placement of this type of structure. Alternatively, Verizon could also place the structure in locations where the power lines that currently feed the subdivision exist, so that it would be less disruptive to the aesthetic of the area, and less dangerous for its residents.

Accordingly, the Board respectfully requests that the County not grant the Variance Request. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at (713) 623-4531. The Board appreciates your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Respectfull

hristy der T. Ski der Attorneys for the District

cc: Board of Directors
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 249

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