

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

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RELATED TO ITEM #3

While local planning agencies should have the authority to regulate the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers and other personal wireless services facilities, such agencies should be positioned to do so based on the most protective standards and guidelines that address the health impacts of this infrastructure.

However, diverging guidelines have been promulgated for limiting human exposure to radio-frequency radiation worldwide, leading to a persistent and publicly expressed lack of confidence in radiofrequency-exposure standards. The rationales adopted by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers are divergent, and the Federal Communication Commission’s adopted limits are substantially less protective than the standards of many of the individual nations within Europe, Asia and other regions of the world.

As our communities become increasingly more reliant on wireless technology, it is incumbent upon this Board to call for the continued analysis and critique of the health impacts of telecommunications towers.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

Instruct the County’s legislative advocates to actively seek and support federal legislation that would direct the Federal Communications Commission to pursue a comprehensive global analysis of best practices and scientific evidence in order to update their existing standards and to adequately measure the health impacts of telecommunications towers.

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____