



neighborhood council  
el consejo del vecindario de glassell park

*Our Voice to the City*  
*Nuestra voz a la Ciudad*

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**GLASSELL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Glassell Park Community & Senior Center

3750 N. Verdugo Road  
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**GLASSELL PARK  
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**RE: Wireless Tower at 3017 San Fernando Road**  
**FILE: ZA-2014-0427-ZV**

Dear Councilman O’Farrell

ACTION OF THE GLASSELL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL LAND USE AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

At its meeting of January 15, 2015 the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council Economic Development and Land Use Committee adopted a motion regarding the replacement of a wireless tower and increase in antennas at the above location in Council District 13; and at its meeting on January 20, 2015 the full Board of the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council approved the committee’s recommendation/motion.

The motion requests the Councilman to:

1. Assert jurisdiction for the project under Charter Section 245 from the East Los Angeles Area Planning Commission.
2. Direct the wireless provider, AT&T, as their representative stated in the Commission hearing, to bring detailed drawings of the proposed water tower to the Committee that specifies materials, colors, architectural details, etc.
3. Add a condition that terminates the approval 10 years from the effective date of the Determination; at that time a new variance may be filed.

ACTION OF THE GLASSELL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

At its meeting of January 20, 2015 the Stakeholders adopted a motion to request the Councilman to perform the same three actions listed above. Because the Stakeholders did not have a copy of the motion adopted by the Committee before the meeting, and because there are statutory time limits for Charter 245 actions, the Stakeholders instead adopted a **verbal motion** requesting the three items.

Background

Glassell Park has several wireless towers one of which was recently the subject of intense negotiations before a solution acceptable to the wireless provider and community was reached (ZA-2011-2241). This tower became an iconic “community marker” located approximately 800 feet across the freeway from the proposed tower. Both towers were first presented to the community as mono-pine designs and for which with no other designs

were feasible.

The proposed tower was approved instead with the condition that it be covered in an “architectural edifice” instead of designed as a mono-pine. Condition 8 of the approval directs the applicant to submit the design for the “architectural edifice” to the Council office who in turn “may seek participation from the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council on this matter.”

Neighbors appealed the Determination but not approval of the tower. The three issues of the appeal were: 1) to include an abstract “angel” design in the Determination’s menu of potential designs; 2) that requirements of co-location efforts provide more information as to a site’s infeasibility and include more than the two sites analyzed; 3) the increase in number of antennas in the replacement tower be documented. The Determination did not describe the number of existing antennas so the percentage or intensification of the site is unknown.

#### East Los Angeles Area Planning Commission Action

The Commission denied all three of the appellant’s requests. At the hearing the applicant verbally promised to send and discuss designs with the neighborhood council, but there were no written requirements or actions that they do so. The Neighborhood Council feels that the insertion of a condition in writing, from the City Council under 245 jurisdiction, carries more authority than a verbal promise.

#### Tower Location and Planning Regulations

The location for the replacement tower is within the Fletcher Square Community Design Overlay Zone with zoning implementation ordinance 178,578 (adopted 1/7/07) that prohibits wireless antennas. The tower’s approval was for in perpetuity. Because of this contradiction appellants further requested that a sunset clause be added to the approval.

#### Further Justification of 245 Council Action

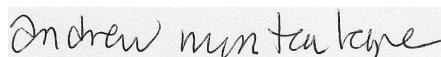
Adding a sunset clause expands the scope of the appeal beyond the original three issues that may not be legal if the appellants were to further appeal the Determination.

Also, the issue of some appellants’s membership in the Neighborhood Council complicates the legality of further appeals. Neighborhood Councils cannot appeal City actions yet the approval suggests that the City Council District refer review of designs to the neighborhood council.

Therefore 245 Charter section action is the clearest direction in which to proceed.

We await and appreciate your response to the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council’s request and ask you to bear in mind the statutory deadlines for asserting 245 action.

Sincerely,



ANDREW MONTEALEGRE  
Chair Economic Development and Planning/Land Use Committee



MOLLY LYNN TAYLOR  
Chair, Glassell Park Neighborhood Council