

**From:** [Lane, Victoria](#)  
**To:** [Lane, Victoria](#)  
**Subject:** CUP #1277 FW: AT&T Cell Tower Placement (CPU1277) : Resident Communication  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 2, 2024 2:46:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-ugydd1uu](#)

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**From:** Andrew Lesa <[Andrew.Lesa@epicwireless.net](mailto:Andrew.Lesa@epicwireless.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 2, 2024 1:59 PM  
**To:** Bennyhoff, Jeff <[BennyhoffJ@cityofmerced.org](mailto:BennyhoffJ@cityofmerced.org)>  
**Cc:** MILESI, BRYANT A <[bm3620@att.com](mailto:bm3620@att.com)>; OLSON, NELS L <[no3526@att.com](mailto:no3526@att.com)>; Ashley Smith <[Ashley.Smith@epicwireless.net](mailto:Ashley.Smith@epicwireless.net)>; MCCLOSKEY, DANIEL <[dm442k@att.com](mailto:dm442k@att.com)>; Carl Jones <[Carl.Jones@epicwireless.net](mailto:Carl.Jones@epicwireless.net)>; Quintero, Frank <[QUINTEROF@cityofmerced.org](mailto:QUINTEROF@cityofmerced.org)>; Lee, Jessie <[leej@cityofmerced.org](mailto:leej@cityofmerced.org)>; McBride, Scott <[McBrideS@cityofmerced.org](mailto:McBrideS@cityofmerced.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: AT&T Cell Tower Placement (CPU1277) : Resident Communication

Good Afternoon Mr. Bennyhoff:

AT&T forwarded your communication requesting additional information regarding the AT&T proposed cell facility at 1717 E Olive Ave (CUP#1277). My office, under the lead of Carl Jones (copied), has been working on this project in an effort to address a lack of coverage in the City of Merced.

AT&T's goal is to fill a significant gap in coverage and improve cell service to this area of the City of Merced. My office, on behalf of AT&T, evaluated many properties to find the least intrusive means to fill the significant gap in coverage. Those alternative sites were detailed in the "Alternative Sites Analysis" provided to the Planning Department with our formal CUP application submittal.

I can confirm the City did NOT direct my office or AT&T to propose a new cell facility at the current location. This location was determined after substantial research. As you know, cell facilities must meet strict placement and design guidelines outlined in City Ordinances as well as meet the coverage objective of AT&T. Additionally, the site must have a willing landlord, adequate space for construction and access, a clean title, and pose no negative environmental impacts. It was only after proper due diligence that the proposed site location was identified as the best and least intrusive means to fill this significant gap in coverage.

Carl Jones will be attending and representing AT&T during tomorrow evening's meeting. Please let me know if you have any additional questions we can help address.

Thank you.

Andrew Lesa, Vice President - Operations

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**From:** Bennyhoff, Jeff <[BennyhoffJ@cityofmerced.org](mailto:BennyhoffJ@cityofmerced.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 2, 2024 11:26 AM  
**To:** MILESI, BRYANT A <[bm3620@att.com](mailto:bm3620@att.com)>  
**Cc:** McBride, Scott <[McBrideS@cityofmerced.org](mailto:McBrideS@cityofmerced.org)>; Quintero, Frank <[QUINTEROF@cityofmerced.org](mailto:QUINTEROF@cityofmerced.org)>; Lee, Jessie <[leej@cityofmerced.org](mailto:leej@cityofmerced.org)>  
**Subject:** AT&T Cell Tower Placement (CPU1277) : Resident Communication

Bryant,

We had several resident complains last night at our Council Meetings about AT&T plans for construction of a cell tower in the community located at 1717 E Olive Ave (CUP#1277). The resident's stated AT&T was told by the City to place the tower at this location. We don't believe this is an accurate statement and we want to make sure residents have clear communication over how the location of this tower is decided. We would like to find out additional information before July 3<sup>rd</sup> planning commission as this item is on the agenda. Please let me know if you can get us additional information or have a conversation over this item. I have attached the AT&T Alternative Site Analysis document for reference from this agenda item. As I do not directly deal with cell towers within the I.T. Department, I am cc'ing the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and Jessie Lee, who is bringing this item before the planning commission.

Planning commission Item : <https://cityofmerced.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6735179&GUID=04E57C71-88F4-4E14-83BD-1AF782EAEF48&Options=&Search=>

Jeff Bennyhoff



**Director of Information Technology**

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**Bryant Milesi**

**AT&T Director - External Affairs**

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