

The 5G Small Cell Local Zoning Primer



The good news is there are many things that towns and cities can do to protect themselves against the uncontrolled proliferation of small cell antennas. And no village or town or city has to start from scratch in developing a new code or fixing an old one.

A list of municipalities that have reasonably good codes, as well as a sample code, can be found on our website at www.AmericansForResponsibleTech.org/codes.

We encourage you to share these with your local officials before it's too late. You'll find that a little education about what other communities are doing to control 5G can go a long way!



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In most communities, there are zoning laws that determine how and where houses, stores, industrial buildings and even cell towers can be built...

Zoning laws are proposed, discussed and eventually passed by your local elected officials.

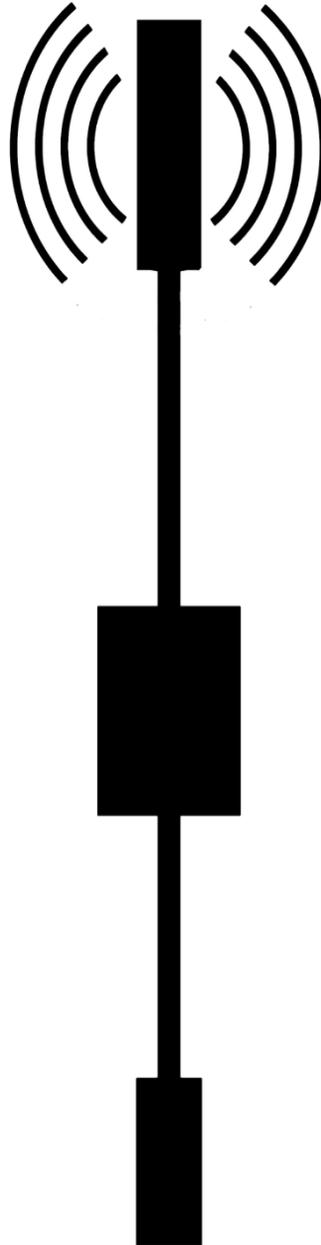


Zoning laws are always being updated in response to new technologies, changes in the building industry or requests from the community. They are supposed to maintain a balance between the interests of property owners and the interests of the surrounding neighbors.



Most communities have special zoning laws for cell towers, or what they call "wireless telecommunications facilities," but not all communities have gotten around to changing their codes to accommodate the "small cell" antennas that are part of the new 5G network.

Using an outdated wireless code to address 5G deployments is a big mistake!



If your local legislators don't enact protections specific to small cell antennas BEFORE the wireless companies apply for permits, those permits will be subject to whatever code is in place at the time. Once the application is made, it's too late to change the code.



So if your town doesn't yet have a special code to control the deployment of the new 5G technology, or if no applications have been made yet, there's no time to waste. ***Your town needs an updated code!***



There are some basic rules your town or city has to follow - state and federal laws that govern local zoning of telecommunications infrastructure.