May 21, 2008

Pasadena City Council
Bill Bogaard, Mayor
Bernard Melekian, Interim City Manager
Richard Bruckner, Director of Planning and Development
Ed Tech Committee
Martin Pastucha, Director of Public Works
Christopher O. Vicino, Acting Chief of Police
Jennifer Paige-Saeki, Senior Planner, Planning Division
City of Pasadena
175 N. Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91109

RE: Recommendations for Individual Omni-Directional or Whip Antennas on High City Street Light Fixtures for all Wi-Fi, WiMax, Cellular Telephone, Wireless Antenna Installations in Pasadena, Opposing Further Monopole or Rooftop Installations (see attached photo)

Dear City Councilmembers, Mayor, City Manager, Planning Director, Ed Tech Committee, Public Works Director, Interim Chief of Police, Environmental Advisory Commission, Transportation Advisory Commission, Historic Preservation Commission:

I am writing, as Chair of the Pasadena Neighborhood Coalition, to request that the City of Pasadena consider the use of omni-directional or whip antennas on existing tall street light fixtures for all wireless installations in the future, for existing and developing technologies, whether it be Wi-Fi, WiMax, Cellular Telephone, or any other sort of wireless installations, rather than erecting any additional monopoles or rooftop facilities for wireless devices and systems.

From our attendance at several city sponsored meetings, such as a recent Ed Tech Committee meeting and a district wide town hall meeting where the options for antenna facilities were discussed by city staff, we have noticed a great possibility for shared and distributed locations for wireless systems and operators using city owned tall street light fixtures. Councilmember Gordo, Chair of the Ed Tech Committee, made the enlightened suggestion to Public Works staff to look into establishing Wi-Fi or WiMax hotspots in the city to be used by Public Works and the Pasadena Police Department. We have concluded that the same thing could be done for all other wireless installations and wireless operators in the city through facilities mounted on city owned high light fixtures, with lower RF radiation, but more locations, allowing for a multitude of locations and for a multitude of uses, with the city collecting all revenues for installation, maintenance and rental. Also, pole top installations at all intersections, for the use of emergency services to override the signal light function, could be incorporated in this citywide effort.

Freestanding monopoles and most rooftop installations usually are ugly and have caused great community-wide concern due to their appearance and possible long range health effects and effects on property values. By spreading out a multitude of low RF-emanating small omnidirectional or whip antennas, it will be possible to lessen the aesthetic and other concerns (see attached photo) while opening up a large revenue stream for the city which could be used for a multitude of needed purposes such as the acquisition of open space or the support of the local school system and the local library system.

06/02/2008 6.B. & 9.A.1. Does it not make sense to use existing city owned facilities of high light fixtures for unobtrusive but effective antenna locations for all wireless applications, existing and future, with the city receiving the considerable revenue for these installations? This is a great opportunity the city should not miss!

We of the Pasadena Neighborhood Coalition and other open space groups would like to see no more building of monopoles or rooftop facilities and implementing city owned small wireless antenna installations. Please let us know how we might accomplish our vision.

These are suggestions for new strategies in helping create a livable and sustainable city for the 21st Century. We believe this idea will also help us deliver wireless services to all residents and city departments which will make Pasadena the leader in technological innovation and green environmental technologies.

We addressed this issue at the Pasadena Neighborhood Coalition meeting on April 24, 2008. We will also bring up this issue at the next opportunity at city council and the general meetings of the Bungalow Heaven Neighborhood Association, Historic Highlands Neighborhood Association, Washington Square Neighborhood Association, Garfield Heights Neighborhood Association, El Rio Lake Neighborhood Association, Orange Heights Neighborhood Association, Dundee Heights Neighborhood Association and other associations.

I welcome your comments, and would be happy to discuss our request with you or a member of your staff. You can reach me at (626) 345-9920 or email at rhsjd@hotmail.com.

Very truly yours,

R. Henry Sherrod Chair, Pasadena Neighborhood Coalition

Cc: Oak Knoll Neighborhood Association, Normandie Heights Neighborhood Association, Washington Square Neighborhood Association, Bungalow Heaven Neighborhood Association, Historic Highlands Neighborhood Association, Garfield Heights Neighborhood Association, El Rio Lake Neighborhood Association, Orange Heights Neighborhood Association, Dundee Heights Neighborhood Association, Brigden Ranch Neighborhood Association, Upper Hastings Ranch Neighborhood Association, East Eaton Wash Neighborhood Association, Altadena Town Council Land Use Committee, Neighborhood Connections, PUSD Board of Education, Environmental Advisory Commission, Transportation Advisory Commission and Historic Preservation Commission

