

Randy Casale, Mayor
City of Beacon
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www.cityofbeacon.org

Senator Sue Serino
117 Town Park Lane
1st Floor
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

March 8, 2018

Dear Senator Serino,

I am writing to you to express my strong opposition to Article VII, Part F of the Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation ("TED") budget proposal. This legislation would amend the General Municipal Law to add a new Article 13-E entitled "Small Wireless Facilities Deployment", which would severely restrict local governments' authority to regulate wireless facilities by granting wireless service providers unfettered rights of access to the municipal right-of-way (ROW) and mandating a one-size-fits-all application procedure for wireless facilities installed in ROW.

This legislation would have serious adverse impacts on municipalities by eliminating the public safeguards currently in place to ensure installations are appropriate to the municipality; by threatening public safety by allowing minimally regulated telecommunications facilities to be installed in the ROW without adequate municipal review and approval; by preventing cities from being compensated adequately for use by a private entity; by discouraging other intermunicipal broadband projects, joint use agreements and connectivity collaboration; and by forcing municipalities to rush infrastructure approvals that may not be safe or appropriate.

Allowing telecommunications companies to install their equipment without municipal review jeopardizes the safety of public rights-of-way and the pedestrians and motorists that use them. Forcing local governments to give up their authority to protect public rights-of-way and preventing cities from receiving a fair return for rented space on municipally owned infrastructure is simply indefensible. For all these reasons and more, I must share with you my vigorous opposition to this legislation and urge that you reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

Randy Casale

Mayor, City of Beacon

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Assemblyman Frank Skartados
154 North Plank Road
Suite 2
Newburgh, NY 12550

March 8, 2018

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Sincerely,

Randy Casale

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