

CSFN NEWSLETTER

Is Faster Always Better?

by George Wooding



A new generation of faster, more intense, untested, and potentially dangerous radio frequency radiation (RFR) waves are about to bombard San Franciscans.

5G technology uses high-energy millimeter-wave ionizing radiation that is dangerous, because it can break chemical bonds.

Fifth-generation wireless (5G) is the latest iteration of cellular technology, engineered to greatly increase the speed and responsiveness of wireless networks for technological devices.

Placement of antennas is “ministerial”; therefore, residents do not need to be notified of the placement of antennas.

In addition to delivering faster connections and greater capacity, a very important advantage of 5G is the fast response time referred to as “latency.” *Latency* is the time devices take to respond to each other over a wireless network. 3G networks had a typical response time of 100 milliseconds, 4G is around 30 milliseconds, and 5G will be as low as one millisecond.

The 5G infrastructure is still a *work-in-progress*, using standards that have yet to be finalized. However, you can roughly assume 5G to be around 10 to 100 times faster than your present-day cellular connection.

San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors (BOS), the Department of Public Works, and San Francisco’s City Attorney were hoodwinked — by large telecommunications companies and an overreaching interpretation by the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) declaratory ruling 18-133 — into giving up all local control over the implementation 5G wireless.

After a large contingent of concerned citizens testified at the October 22 BOS meeting against the installation of 5G technology, Supervisors Aaron Peskin (D3), Gordon Mar (D4), and Ahsha Safai (D11) decided to hold a future hearing on the environmental and health impacts of 5G technology.



5G antennas can be placed within six feet of a private residence.

In July 2019 the City Attorney was approached by telecommunications companies indicating that San Francisco needed to comply with the new FCC Order 18-133 to streamline deployment of small cell towers (4G/5G). Under the recommendation of the City Attorney, the *Personal Wireless Service Facilities Site Permits Ordinance, File No. 190-19* was then discussed at the BOS San Francisco Land Use Committee chaired by

Supervisor Peskin. This new ordinance was then brought as an agenda item to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors (BOS) on the consent calendar, which passed unanimously. The BOS asked

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that the Department of Public Works (DPW) write permitting rules to the amend Ordinance 190-19.

The DPW's new amendments include:

- Hundreds, to thousands, of new 5G antennas will be attached to telephone poles or placed in street-level metal cabinets. 5G has an extremely short, intense frequency broadcast signal which necessitates an abundance of antennas.
- Telephone poles can have up to four 5G antennas placed on them.
- 5G antennas can be placed within six feet of a private residence.
- Placement of antennas is “ministerial”; therefore, residents do not need to be notified of the placement of antennas.
- San Francisco has given up the right of “conditional use permits,” and has forfeited its right of oversight and review. It requires only a ministerial permit to approve small cell towers in the right of way, not the current conditional use permit that is fully vetted.
- There will be no antenna setbacks for schools or homes.
- The DPW will place as many 5G antennas as possible in the first 90 days.
- Close Proximity Microwave Radiation Antennas (CPMRA) can be installed on PG&E utility poles in public right-of-way's. These CPMRA installations are NOT “small” at all, and will destroy property values, create visual blight, and completely change the character of our neighborhoods.

The FCC Declaratory Ruling and Third Report 18-133 is being misused and abused by the FCC and President Donald Trump to 1) Illegally steal San Francisco's Conditional Use Permit protections, and 2) Speed up the impacts local regulation permits for siting of wireless telecommunications facilities and cell towers.

San Francisco Ordinance 190-19 will greatly accelerate deployment of small 5G cell antennas on sites in the public right of way. It took effect January 14, 2019. The League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, among many others, feel this declaratory ruling by the FCC is a huge overreach of Federal authority over municipalities.

These cell antennas/towers can be batched so dozens of antennas can be automatically approved at once. There is an increasing sentiment that this FCC Ruling should be overturned to give cities back what little authority they had in the placement of cell tower sites per the Telecommunications Act of 1996. That Act requires proof that there is a significant gap in coverage and that the least intrusive methods should be used. Those provisions were removed from the FCC's ruling.

In September 2018, FCC Order 18-133 restricted the fees cities can charge Sprint and other telecom companies for siting of wireless towers and other infrastructure in their communities. Several lawsuits challenging the FCC's action have been consolidated before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Case No. 19-70146). Opening briefs were filed on June 10, 2019. Final briefs were scheduled to be filed by September 18.

In addition to restricting fees that cities can charge for building new wireless networks, Order 18-133 limited the time allowed for review of the proposed construction. The FCC imposed a so-called "shot clock" on cities and towns. If the local government has not acted within as few as 60 days on a construction permit, the project is deemed approved.

In March 2018, the FCC eliminated environmental and historical review for siting of certain cell towers and other wireless facilities. On August 9, 2019 the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the FCC's action finding that the Commission's attempted explanations for eliminating environmental and historical review "did not meet the standard of reasoned decision-making."

While the FCC has limited the review by others, the Commission at the same time has refused to update its own health and environmental guidelines. The Commission's guidelines date from the 1990's. In 2012, the General Accountability Office found that the existing guidelines may not reflect current knowledge and recommended that the FCC formally re-assess its guidelines.

The FCC's guidelines address only one aspect of potential harm from electromagnetic radiation: Heat. The current guidelines do not address other ways in which exposure to increasing electromagnetic radiation from wireless communications can harm human health, as well as the natural systems around us upon which all life depends.

Despite the many health and environmental studies that demonstrate 5G networks create a host of health problems, President Donald Trump has pushed the FCC to establish 5G as fast as possible.

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai responded, “I want to thank you again, Mr. President, for your leadership on 5G. Your White House has advanced your vision in many ways, from international treaty negotiations to much-needed regulatory reforms. I appreciate all these efforts, and in the same spirit, this FCC will help build a great and lasting legacy of American success on 5G.”

Pertaining to health and environmental matters, the FCC has become a rogue agency. Now that it is politicized, the agency only cares about network speed. To achieve the RFR speeds necessary for 5G to work, the FCC is forcing municipalities around the country into converting to 5G.

Many cities have decided not to use 5G technology after a recent \$30 million research examination by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) concluded there is clear evidence that male rats exposed to high levels of radio frequency radiation (RFR) like that used in 2G and 3G cell phones developed cancerous heart tumors, according to its [final reports](#).

Imagine how the rats would have fared being tested using 5G cell phones.

There was also some evidence of tumors in the brain and adrenal glands of exposed male rats. For female rats, and male and female mice, the evidence was equivocal as to whether cancers observed were associated with exposure to RFR. The final reports represent the consensus of NTP and a panel of external scientific experts who reviewed the studies in March 2018.

The NTP concluded: *“Fiber optics are the best and only solution. They are energy efficient, less vulnerable to shut down due to Electro Magnetic Pulse (EMP) or hacking, and do not create hazardous RF emissions that cause damage to health and the environment.”*

Cindy Lee Russell, MD stated San Francisco should take the following actions regarding 5G technology:

- Delay action on the San Francisco Personal Wireless Service Facilities Amendment of Department of Public Works Code for Small Cell Towers, Ordinance No. 190-19. This has been accomplished.
- Instead of passing the 190-19 amendment, bring this back to the Board of Supervisors and have a full public hearing of this very complex subject matter This has been accomplished.

- Review other ordinances that local cities have recently passed, such as Los Altos that have listened to its citizens and have incorporated reasonable setbacks and provisions that they consider legal.

I agree. Faster isn't always better.

San Francisco needs to do a better job protecting the health and safety of its residents and environment.

Please email the BOS and tell them that you are against the installation of the 5G antennas (Ordinance 190-19), and demand another hearing be held as soon as possible.

By George Wooding,
CSFN President emeritus



From the Desk of the CSFN President BALLOT MEASURES; THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Earlier this month CSFN voted on six ballot measures. This month we will hear a report on the March 2020 election that we must discuss and vote upon tonight. Why are there so many ballot measures? The June 2020 ballot was moved up to be in alignment with the California Presidential Primaries (boo, hiss!) The deadline for Proponent, Opponent or Paid ballot arguments comes in Mid-December, after our Holiday Dinner (we don't do a regular meeting in December). Thus, we are here gathered once more...

We know that there will be a General Obligation Bond, or GOB, for \$628.5 called the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond (ESER). \$153.5 million of the ESER Bond money will be spent to build

the Auxiliary Water Supply System (AWSS) to better protect the Westside of San Francisco. City College of San Francisco will place a \$800 Million GOB on the ballot to complete its performing arts center, fix \$450 million in deferred maintenance costs and build necessary structures.

There are two competing measures for SF MENTAL HEALTH, one from the Mayor and one from the Supervisors, They may work out their differences for one unified one, or one may be pulled by its sponsor by the end of this month. Next year we will vote on a state initiative which seeks to overturn our ban on the cash bail system for all California (sponsored by the Bail Bondsmen). Two competing March 2020 Ordinances have also been introduced by the Mayor and the Supervisors which pretend to place limits on office development. They want to place higher limits on the annual amount of commercial square footage. These two ordinances may also be merged

Our system has been used by opponents to existing ordinances, and by legislators who cannot agree on a proposed ordinance so pass the buck the voters. It puts pipe dreams in print, as in the Declaration of Policy for SF to buy Alcatraz. All you need to do is collect enough signatures: there are signature gatherers for hire if the task is daunting to you. If you are the Mayor, the BOS, the Ethics Commission, the Port, the PUC or the SFUSD, you have your options too. Partly as a result, three years ago we had two dozen ballot measures to deal with! Who got us into this mess?

Blame Hiram Johnson and the early fathers of California, and the Progressive movement of the 1900s. Direct Democracy was their push, though Initiative, Referendum and Recall options for the electorate to suggest or approve a law, or to remove an official (w/wo cause). There have been abuses (eg, some would say, a judge recalled over one sentence), but for the most part the system has worked as intended, for the furtherance of our democracy. So, embrace the good ones, vote down the bad ones, shun the ugly ones, and celebrate the diversity.

Charles Head,
President of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods



**CSFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 / 6:30 PM / Northern Station

- 6:00 pm Sign in and refreshments.
- 6:30 pm I **Call to Order / Ascertain Quorum**
- A. Introduction of Delegates and Guests
 - B. Host SHARP or Charles Head
- 6:40 pm II **PROGRAM**
- A. Christopher Bowman provides analysis of election.
 - B. G&E ballot measures discussed for March 3, 2020 Primary Election.
- 7:40 pm **Officers Reports**
- A. President
 - B. Vice President
 - C. Recording Secretary
 - D. Corresponding Secretary
 - E. Treasurer
- 8:15 pm III **Committee Action Items**
- A. Executive
 - B. Bylaws
 - C. Government and Elections
 - D. Land Use and Housing
 - E. Open Space
 - D. Newsletter
 - E. Holiday Dinner
 - F. Media and Outreach
- 8:45 pm IV **Approval of October 2019 Minutes**
- 8:50 pm VI **Unfinished Business**
- A. Committee report of Bylaw Amendments. 2/3 attendance mandatory
 - B. The Conversation Continues to Improve CSFN
- 9:00 pm VII **New Business**
- A. January Program includes Robert Feinbaum discusses SB 50 with an emphasis on transit rich definitions.
 - B. Eugene Lew to discuss Dom-i-City a new planning concept in February.
- 9:15 pm VIII **Adjourn**
- Glenn Rogers, Vice President CSFN



CSFN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, October 27, 2019 / 5:40 PM / Northern Station

Present: Charles Head, Glenn Rogers,, Claire Zvanski, Cindy Beckman, Maurice Franco. Excused absence: Gregory Scott:, Richard Frisbie

- 5:40 pm I **Call to Order** / Ascertain Quorum / Quorum Met
- 5:41 pm II **Officers Reports**
 - A. Executive: Email problems discussed and work on Ocean view Library.
 - B. President: Witnessed numerous planning meetings.
 - C. Recording Secretary: See report.
 - D. Corresponding Secretary: No report.
 - E. Treasurer: Absent.
- 5:50 pm III **Committee Action Items**
 - A. Open Space: PG&E problems described. Despite the fact the City has offered to buy PG&E, a discussion about PG&E is discouraged as a topic in Open Space.
 - B. Head described a building’s height being reduced from 100 floors to 30 floors.
 - C. Land Use and Transportation: See Minutes
 - D. Government and Elections: Included in LUTC.
 - E. Newsletter: Eliza has made big improvements.
 - F. Holiday Dinner: Claire to do spreadsheet, barrel for toys to be present and distributed to children by SFFD. Cutoff for prime rib order is November 18, 2019.
 - G. Bylaws: 2/3 membership to approve new Bylaws.
- 6:21 pm IV **Approve October 2019 General Assembly Minutes**
 - A. Approved as amended.
- 6:25 pm V **Unfinished Business**
 - A. Logo improvement with more modern font, Chair to present a logo concept for LinkedIn.
 - B. November meeting: Bowman provides analysis of election, G&E ballot measures for March 3, 2020 Primary Election.
- 6:42 pm VI **New Business**
 - A. 5G article in newsletter.
 - B. Future programs: Robert Feinbaum with SAVEMUNI in January and Eugene Lew to discuss Dom-i-City a new planning concept in February.
 - C. Editor to format newsletter only.
 - D. Soft NL deadline 3rd of the month
- 7:00 pm VII **Adjourn**
Glenn Rogers, Vice President CSFN



**CSFN LAND USE COMMITTEE and TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2019**

I 4:30 Call to order. Boken, Head, Franco and Mari present.

II Local Transportation Issues (SFMTA, SFCTA and BOS)

A) SFMTA 10/1 - New Director hiring, 3333 California TDM 10/15 - Better Market Street, New Director hiring. B) SFCTA – 10/8 and 10/22 DTX, 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program C) BOS Transportation Issues D) Save MUNI – Work program. Mari stated Chase Center Muni service for event ticket holders only. Chase Center needs Embarcadero shuttle.

II State Land Use Issues

Legislature on recess. Questions remain re SB330 on how to define # of meetings.

IV Local Land Use Issues

Planning Commission 10/24 - Water Supply Planning (Continued from 8/29/19 and again to November 7, 2019.). Boken commented re 500,000 new residents and if sufficient water supply. 10/31 - Meeting cancelled. 11/7 - Code Clean-Up 2019, Exemption from Density Limits for Affordable Housing and Unauthorized Units, Retained Elements Special Topic Design Guidelines. 11/21 - Racial and Social Equity Action Plan. 11/28 - Meeting cancelled. No specific follow up by LU&TC for 11/7 and 11/21 items.

V BOS Land Use Issues

10/21 3333 California Development. Boken testified in support of community alternatives including support of senior housing instead of office space, in opposition to onsite retail and in opposition to 7 – 15 year development window. Scheduled for full BOS on 11/5.

VI Neighborhood Issues

None.

VII Committee Actions

Head at PC re Jobs/Housing Linkage and at BOS via SFGovTV. Prop M office levels soon reached. Not need more office space but need more housing. Haney says fees need to go up significantly but Mayor does not agree. Head questioned if tech companies donating land or paying fees. Head commented re Trader Joe's at Fulton and Laguna in Hayes Valley heard at PC and BOS. There is guarantee to hire community workers, provide affordable food and community benefits. Head and Wooding had meetings at SHARP with Smith of SFHAC and Lew re Dom-i-City. Per Head there are 1 – 3 plot plans with lot line to lot line and no back yards Mini PUD. Mari stated issues with setbacks. Head said could be placed in mid block. Homeowners exchange demolished home for condo unit in development. Could have 3 bedroom condo with concierge, security and maintenance. Developments could be 4 – 6 stories. Boken cited Planned Unit Development as basis for concept. Boken concerned about possible harassment of homeowners to sell for PUD. Dom-i-City described by Lew as Paris in the Sunset. Boken at WTPCC presentation. Head stated that LEW will be scheduled for either January or February GA.

Head commented on PC meeting where PC voted 5 – 0 against developer with project near Transbay. Earlier joint meeting with PC and RPD re project were concerned re funds for 2 Chinatown parks.

Boken attended following meetings: 9 /26 - Edgehill Mountain Pre-App, 9/26 - SF Human Rights Commission re Transit Equity, 10/2 - GWPNA, 10/3 - SFMTA CAC, 10/9 - D4 Sunset Blvd Master Plan, 10/10 - D4 Homelessness, 10/15 - Transit and Inter-City Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), 10/17 - Muni Reliability Working Group Context and Region Subcommittee. Boken stated social equity at SFMTA to start with low income and people of color then address seniors. 10/20 - Plan Bay Area 2050 Pop-Up Event SSF, 10/21 - BOS LUTC 3333 California, 10/21 - Capital Planning Committee, 10/22 - SFPUC CAC Water Subcommittee, 10/24 - Planning Commission – Water Supply (Item continued.) 10/24 - Human Rights Commission – Transit Equity follow up.

VIII New Business

LUTC resolution re ESER 2020 Bond. Will be sent to LU&TC by Chair via email.

IX Chair's Message

Boken commented on confidentiality of CSFN membership information. In future, requested emails which include recipients with no established relationship with CSFN be sent using bcc.

X 5:30 Adjourn.

Eileen boken,
Chair LUTC

EXCOMM. - HOW TO REACH US:

President:	Charles Head, charlesnhead@hotmail.com
Vice President:	Glenn Rogers, alderlandscape@comcast.net
Recording Secretary:	Charles Head, charlesnhead@hotmail.com
Corresponding Secretary:	Cindy Beckman, MarinaFlats@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Greg Scott, lgscpa@icloud.com
Member at Large:	Richard Frisbie, frfbeagle@gmail.com
Member at Large:	Maurice Franco, maurice1950@comcast.net



Bylaws Committee Report Amendments November 2019

Committee: Claire Zvanski, Chair; Al Harris, Mary Harris, Leo Martinez, Charles Head (ex officio)

The following are the committee recommendations:

1. **amend:** VI. Elections. B. Term. 3. No person shall hold more than ~~two offices~~ **one office** at a time. [Robert's Rules suggests that this is most prudent.]
2. **No deletions or changes:** IV. Officers: If any position becomes or remains vacant, it can be filled per the bylaws when candidates become available. Each has a valid and necessary function. It is allowable for some of the functions of vacant positions to be assigned to other officers until the position(s) become filled.
3. **delete:** V. Executive Committee: C. Meetings. ~~The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the chair to:~~ [The bylaws committee believes the Executive Committee should meet monthly to fulfill the functions of the committee as spelled out in the bylaws. The primary function to plan the agendas and programs for the meetings **should** come from committee members, be discussed within the committee and the committee should agree on the agendas, topics and programs. The bylaws are clear that this is **a committee function** and not the role of the chair to be solely responsible for programs, etc. Members of the Coalition should be encouraged to propose programs and topics. Feedback and participation from Coalition members is needed and encouraged.]
4. VII. D. Quorum: ...~~at least one-third of the member organizations.~~ [This is currently seven (7) and the committee agreed that this is a prudent number; **no changes recommended.**]
5. **amend:** VII. E. Notice: Notice of meetings and agendas shall be mailed **or sent electronically** to the member organizations...
6. **amend:** VII. G. Policy Procedure. 2. The support of a minimum of one-third of the member organizations is required for adoption. ~~The chair shall determine if the vote shall be taken by roll call~~ **or standing/hand vote.** [the point is expediency without sacrificing representation.]
7. **add:** VIII. Committees. **F. Committee chairs may allow electronic participation by committee members provided all can hear/see each other during the meeting. The Executive Committee and the General Assembly are excluded.**
8. **amend:** XI. Amendments... B. Upon receipt of such a request for consideration, the President shall refer the proposed amendment to ~~the~~ **the bylaws** committee for study and evaluation. [this is in keeping with the purpose and function of the bylaws committee]



**Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods
Invites You to Our
Annual Holiday Celebration and Dinner
Patio Español Restaurant, 2850 Alemany Boulevard**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019
No-host Cocktails 6 PM
Seating for Dinner 7 PM**

**Keynote speaker: Heather Knight Journalist with SF Chronicle
Honorees: Retiring Sheriff Vicki Hennessy
Retired Fire Chief: Joanne Hayes-White
Special Recognition: Stop Crime S. F.**

**Include entrée choice with check:
Prime Rib (advance orders)
Paella,
Chicken with Sherry Sauce
Pasta Primavera**

**Individual tickets: \$75
Sponsor: \$150 (1)
Half Table: \$650 (5)
Full Table: \$975 (10)**

**Send checks along and choice of entrée to: Coalition for SF Neighborhoods
PO Box 320098, SF, CA 94132**



Member Renewal

Name of Organization _____

Mailing Address _____ SF 941 _____ Contact E-mail _____

Current Officers

Name	Office	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

CSFN Delegate

Name	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

If your organization has alternate CSFN delegates:

Name	Address (with ZIP)	Email Address	Phone

NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST - Each member is entitled to receive two copies of CSFN's monthly newsletter Neighborhood Views as part of their membership fee. The first copy goes to the delegate and the second to a person designated by the organization. A member of an organization's Board of Directors may subscribe to the CSFN newsletter at a rate of \$10 per year. Other persons may subscribe at \$15 per year. If you prefer to view the newsletter online or download it from the website www.csfn.net/newsletter check the box below and leave the following lines blank. Additional paid copies: use the back of this page. Include address and zip codes.

- Email us the newsletter to following email address(es): _____
- Do **not** send us a hard copy.
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Name	Office	Address (with ZIP)	Phone

DUES, DONATIONS AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CSFN Annual Membership dues are \$45. Organizations wishing to include an additional donation to CSFN are encouraged to do so. Please add \$10 for each additional newsletter subscription for your organization's board members and \$15 for other members. Make check payable to CSFN and mail to CSFN POBox 320098 SF CA 94132.

Annual Membership Dues: \$45.	_____
Newsletter Subscriptions: @ \$10.	_____
Newsletter Subscriptions: @ \$15.	_____
Additional Donation	_____
Total to CSFN	_____
Thank You!	

CSFN Membership Certification

CSFN Bylaws (Article II, Section A-G) require each voting member organization to certify that it has a membership of 35 or more in order to maintain voting privileges. Organizations not having the required membership are encouraged to join or retain membership as associate members without voting privileges.

Member Organization (35 or more members) _____

Associate (non-voting) Member Organization _____

Certifying Signature _____

Address if not listed above _____

CSFN Annual Membership Fee is Due in January. If not received by March 1, voting rights will be withdrawn.