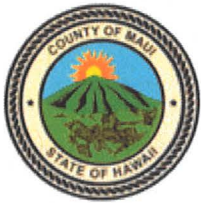


APT Committee

From: Kelly King
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:40 PM
To: APT Committee
Subject: FW: CTIA Letter-Next General Wireless Networks and 5G Technology
Attachments: pastedImage.png; 01182021_MauiCounty_King.pdf

With Aloha,



Office of Councilmember Kelly Takaya King

South Maui Residency
Office: 808.270.7108
200 South High Street, 8th Fl
Wailuku HI 96793
mauicounty.us

From: Melody Dacanay <mdacanay@808cch.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 12:17 PM
To: Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>
Subject: CTIA Letter-Next General Wireless Networks and 5G Technology

Aloha Council Member King,

On behalf of CTIA, we wanted to forward their attached letter to you providing information pertaining to the next generation of wireless networks, and to clarify the record on the technology commonly referred to as 5G. 5G, or fifth generation, represents a huge leap forward in wireless technology, promising economic and social benefits in Maui County and across America.

Mahalo in advance for your immediate attention on this matter.

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MELODY BUTAY DACANAY

Office Manager

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Capitol
Consultants
of Hawaii



January 18, 2021

Honorable Kelly T. King
Council Member, Maui County Council
Kalana O Maui Building
200 South High St. Eighth Floor
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Council Member King,

On behalf of CTIA, the trade association for the wireless communications industry, I write to provide information pertaining to the next generation of wireless networks, and to clarify the record on the technology commonly referred to as 5G. 5G, or fifth generation, represents a huge leap forward in wireless technology, promising economic and social benefits in Maui County and across America.

The Coronavirus pandemic ("COVID-19") has had a staggering impact on jobs, industries, and communities across America. COVID-19 exposed the need for increased connectivity in nearly every sector of our economy. Specifically, this public health emergency has highlighted just how important it is for wireless communications to be reliable, fast and prepared to handle increased demand.

Strong wireless networks enable distance learning for students separated from teachers; telehealth for patients and health care providers; employees to work from home; small businesses to shift operations online; older adults to stay in touch with family and combat social isolation; public safety personnel to utilize the best resources for their, and our safety; and so much more. As state and local officials continue to take action in response to COVID-19, it is important that our path forward is one that, among other things, supports expanded and improved wireless services, which in turn facilitates improved livelihoods and increased economic opportunities.

Today's wireless networks are expanding and improving to accommodate increased wireless demand and the latest devices. The industry is comprehensively updating its macro cell towers to accommodate 5G technologies, as well as deploying small wireless facilities, also referred to as small cells, on existing structures like utility poles, streetlights and traffic signal poles. These investments enable the industry to keep up with current data demand, rollout new technologies and support the development of robust 5G networks. A standardized



framework that maintains local control, while ensuring timely ability to upgrade existing facilities and access to infrastructure in the public rights-of-way based on clear timelines and reasonable permitting costs in conformance with state and federal law, is critical to promoting this important wireless infrastructure deployment.

5G will reach far beyond our smartphones to enable next-generation, wireless-powered innovations in telehealth, remote learning and more. It will transform major industries, including finance, tourism, healthcare, and education. It will support a new wave of smart city innovation, enhancing public safety, transportation, and smart grid technology.

However, there is no shortage of misinformation about 5G. The consensus among health experts, including the American Cancer Society, the World Health Organization, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, is that the weight of scientific evidence shows no known adverse health effects to humans from exposure to wireless antennas or devices. Additionally, the Hawaii State Department of Health has published a fact sheet on the issue as well.¹

- “... there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF signals from base stations [cell towers] and wireless networks cause adverse health effects.” – World Health Organization²
- “Based on our ongoing evaluation of this issue, the totality of the available scientific evidence continues to not support adverse health effects in humans caused by exposures at or under the current radiofrequency energy exposure limits.” – The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)³
- “... although many studies have examined the potential health effects of non-ionizing radiation from radar, microwave ovens, cell phones, and other sources, there is currently no consistent evidence that non-ionizing radiation increases cancer risk in humans.”—National Cancer Institute⁴

¹ See: <https://health.hawaii.gov/irhb/files/2019/10/RF5GFactSheet2019-10.pdf>, last accessed 01/18/2021.

² World Health Organization, “Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health,” <https://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/facts/fs304/en/>, last accessed 01/06/2021.

³ FDA Statement, Statement from Jeffrey Shuren, M.D., J.D., Director of the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health on the National Toxicology Program’s report on radiofrequency energy exposure, Nov. 1, 2018, <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm624809.htm>, last accessed 1/06/2021.

⁴ National Cancer Institute, “Cell Phones and Cancer Risk” Factsheet (2019), <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/radiation/cell-phones-fact-sheet>, last accessed 01/06/2021.



- In December 2019, the FCC unanimously reaffirmed its existing limits for radio frequency exposure – which includes 5G technology – noting, “After reviewing the extensive record submitted in response to that inquiry, we find no appropriate basis for and thus decline to propose amendments to our existing limits at this time.”⁵

In addition, regulation based on the alleged health effects of 5G wireless facilities is expressly prohibited under federal law. As outlined in Section 332(C)(7)(B)(iv) of the Telecommunications Act, “No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the [FCC]’s regulations concerning such emissions.”

It is also important to note the enormous economic benefits localities will experience due to 5G deployments. The deployment of 5G technology will serve as an economic catalyst, which Accenture has found will provide tremendous economic benefits within communities across the United States. Accenture estimates that wireless operators will invest as much as \$275 billion nationwide over seven years creating up to three million jobs and adding approximately \$500 billion to the U.S. GDP through direct and indirect potential benefits.⁶ In that regard, wireless infrastructure deployment, driven entirely by private sector investment, can and will serve as an important economic boost and improvement of quality of life to local communities nationwide.

To localize the impact of wireless for Hawaii: there are now more wireless devices than there are people in Hawaii.⁷ In addition, more than half of Hawaii residents live in wireless-only households.⁸ To meet the needs of these customers, including the residents of Maui County, wireless networks need to be updated to meet existing demand and to be ready for the next generation of wireless services.

⁵ See <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-19-126A1.pdf>, last accessed 01/06/2021.

⁶ “How 5G Can Help Municipalities Become Vibrant Smart Cities,” Accenture Strategy, Jan 12, 2017, https://newsroom.accenture.com/content/1101/files/Accenture_5G-Municipalities-Become-Smart-Cities.pdf, last accessed 01/06/2021.

⁷ FCC, Voice Telephone Services Report: Status as of June 30, 2017, at <https://www.fcc.gov/voice-telephone-services-report>, last accessed 01/06/2021.

⁸ CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/Wireless_state_201912-508.pdf, last accessed 01/06/2021.



In closing, CTIA appreciates the Maui County Council's attention to wireless infrastructure deployment. We welcome the opportunity to continue working with the County in pursuing policies that benefit residents, visitors and businesses alike.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bethanne Cooley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bethanne Cooley
Assistant Vice President
State Legislative Affairs