

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

June 23, 2021

Joseph E. Skelly, Jr., Esq. Commissioner of the Superior Court Office of Corporation Council City of New Britain 27 West Main Street New Britain, CT 06051

RE: DOCKET NO. 503 - Arx Wireless Infrastructure, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 43 Osgood Avenue, New Britain, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Skelly:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the City of New Britain's correspondence dated May 28, 2021 concerning the above-referenced application. Thank you for taking the time to provide the Council with your comments.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50*l*(b), a copy of the application is required to be submitted to the City of New Britain, for review. Before reaching a final decision on an application, the Council carefully considers all of the facts contained in the evidentiary record that is developed by the Council, the applicant, parties and intervenors in the proceeding, and all of the concerns received from members of the public who speak at the public hearing or submit written statements to the Council.

In the event that the City of New Britain does not seek formal party or intervenor status under Connecticut General Statutes §16-50n, which provides full participation at the public hearing, including, but not limited to, cross examination of witnesses, parties and intervenors, your comments shall nevertheless become part of the official record in this proceeding in the form of a limited appearance defined under subsection (f) of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50n.

Therefore, copies of your correspondence will be distributed to all participants in the proceeding and will be administratively noticed in the record. Please note you can view all of the documents related to this proceeding on our website at portal.ct.gov/csc under the "Pending Matters" link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and agenda.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

s/Melanie A. Bachman

Melanie A. Bachman



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Executive Director

MAB/MP/lm

c: Council Members Service List, dated June 3, 2021



STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: APPLICATION BY ARX WIRELESS
INFRASTRUCTURE LLC FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED
FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
AT 43 OSGOOD AVENUE IN THE
CITY OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT

Date: May 28, 2021

DOCKET NO.

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN'S OBJECTION TO APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

The City of New Britain objects to the Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need filed by ARX Wireless Infrastructure LLC for a facility located at 43 Osgood Avenue in New Britain, Connecticut and filed with the Connecticut Siting Council on or about May 14, 2021.

The subject property consists of approximately 2.61 acres and previously housed the former Israel Putnam Elementary School, a masonry brick building constructed in 1905 with a total floor space of approximately 30,500 square feet.

The area where the subject property is zoned S-3 Single-Family and located in the middle of a residential development. Prior to its current use, the Israel Putnam School was located at 43 Osgood Avenue. While not listed on the National Register of Historic Places or

located in a historic district, the building was constructed one hundred and sixteen years ago in 1905 and should be accorded historical deference. This building would unquestionably qualify for historical status if that designation was requested.

The City views this property as having high potential for historic restoration and adaptive re-use, either for housing or as an assisted care facility, and we have been supportive of at least two such proposals in the past which did not come to fruition. While market conditions and financing have not been favorable for this to happen thus far, we fear that allowing the proposed cell tower on the property would effectively preclude any such adaptive-use from happening in the future, leaving us a derelict and underutilized property that would be unsightly and a blighting influence for the surrounding residential neighborhood.

In addition, to the historical aspect of the building, we also have concerns because this building is in the middle of a residential neighborhood. There are also issues such as the possibility for reduction of property values, potential harm from radiofrequency emissions, etc.

Based on the documentation provided by the Applicant, there are already eight (8) existing AT&T cell towers located within the 13.4 square miles of the City of New Britain. There has been no offer of proof which demonstrates that a significant public need exists in this area of the City of New Britain for improved wireless services and the proposed facility would clearly have a substantial adverse effect.

OFFICE OF CORPORATION COUNSEI CITY OF NEW BRITAIN 27 WEST MAIN STREET NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051 (860) 826-3420 FAX (860) 826-3397 JURIS NO. 42709

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

By Office of Corporation Counsel

Joseph E. Skelly,

Their Attorney

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that a copy of this Objection has been mailed on May 28, 2021 via certified mail to the following:

Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Arx Wireless Infrastructure LLC 110 Washington Avenue North Haven, CT 06473

Arx Wireless Infrastructure, LLC C/O David A. Ball, Esq. and Philip C. Pires, Esq. Cohen and Wolf, P.C. 1115 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

oseph E. Skelly,

Commissioner of the Superior Court

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