

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.dccchamber.org

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1213 K Street NW Washington, DC 20005

October 16, 2002

Re: Zoning Commission Case
No. 01- 02 Text Amendment –
Regulation of Antennas, Antenna
Towers and Monopoles

Carol Mitten, Chair
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Chairman Mitten:

The District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce is writing this letter to express our concern about Proposed Text Amendments relating to the siting of wireless antennas. The D.C. Chamber represents more than 1100 District-based businesses -- corporate citizens who provide jobs and services and pay taxes in our city's neighborhoods and its downtown. Our members are committed to the city's prosperity and quality of life.

Wireless voice and data communication services are extremely important to the District's business community. Our businesses depend on wireless communications (through cell phones, Blackberries or laptops) to conduct business and stay connected with their customers. Wireless services are used by the full spectrum of businesses, from taxi drivers to the hospitality industry to finance. Moreover, District residents, our customers, also increasingly rely on wireless services. Over 66% of District residents are wireless subscribers. Some people are even completely replacing their landline phones with wireless phones. And the new Convention Center will bring to the city millions of visitors who will depend on wireless services to stay connected with their firms, jobs, and families.

The lack of seamless wireless coverage interferes with our ability to communicate. The wireless industry can build the facilities needed to accommodate the growth in wireless usage. And this can be accomplished

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

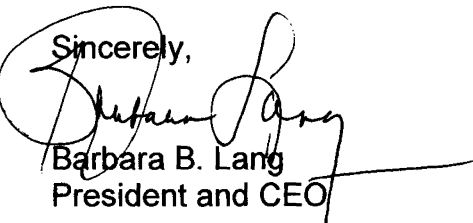
Case 01-02

Exhibit 113

without unsightly intrusions on our cityscape. The Proposed Text Amendments, however, will inhibit wireless carriers' ability to provide the coverage and capacity business and citizens alike are requesting. The proposals are unduly restrictive and would stifle the very communication that our businesses and residents desire. We believe it would be a shame to enact overly burdensome rules affecting wireless communications in reaction to an unrelated event (the Tenleytown broadcast tower) that did not even involve wireless carriers.

For all these reasons, the DC Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Commission not adopt the Proposed Text Amendments. Furthermore, should the Commission decide that there is a need for additional regulation, we request that the regulations adopt a balanced approach that specifically takes into consideration the needs of wireless users, both within the business community and the general populace, to have access to seamless wireless service.

Sincerely,



Barbara B. Lang
President and CEO