

Updated 26 May, 2021

It has come to our attention that a two-page flyer has been delivered to many homes in Rocky Ridge. While we are glad to get the attention, we are not affiliated with either the creation or distribution of this flyer. We do not take a position regarding the health and safety of cell towers one way or the other.

Synergy/Freedom has openly stated that they will *not* consider any arguments regarding health effects of the tower ie radiation, Wi-Fi waves, etc. That is completely off the table for discussion. Therefore, people should concentrate instead on the gaps in the process, lack of consultation at all levels, timelines of the project, etc. We included the link on the website (scroll further down the page) to the info package that was sent out by Synergy/Freedom.

The proposed phone mast raises larger community issues, some of which have been shared with us, about RRRHA. We do not have the authority to speak to any policies, procedures or administrative decisions of the HOA. If you have such concerns, the bylaws are available on rrrha.ca and you are welcome to make an appointment to view the meeting minutes in person at the Ranch Centre office. The administrator/manager Roshni Norum and the office staff have been willing to let members do this and we appreciate their co-operation. Any queries that result from viewing these documents should be addressed to Ms. Norum or the Board of Directors. However, if you are interested in calling a special meeting to discuss this and other issues in our community, please email us with your address to show that you are an encumbered RRRHA property and we will get the info to the relevant people.

In the meantime, the immediate priority is to get as many residents as possible to make their views heard by the deadline of June 3rd. After that date, the file is closed on citizen input. We also ask that people get the word out to as many neighbours as you can about this issue and encourage them to write to the relevant contacts.

Please remember that we are not a formal group and certainly not professional activists. We created this site (and the affiliated email address) to let people know what is going on. Like you, we were alarmed that this phone mast has been proposed in the location that it is. We don't know how this will all unfold but we can all try to make a positive difference. Hopefully this will lead to a renewed positive community spirit in Rocky Ridge.

Signed: Concerned Rocky Ridge Homeowners

Updated 25 May, 2021

For Immediate Release:

Response to the Rocky Ridge Board of Directors Statement Regarding the Freedom Mobile- Proposed Cell Tower Site

As a group of concerned homeowners, we thank you for recognizing and acknowledging that your decision to engage us into a contractual relationship with Freedom Mobile without properly informing or consulting with the membership is a **gross oversight and an abuse of your fiduciary responsibilities.**

In the statement released this past weekend, you mention that the Board of Directors decision to move ahead with the signing of the lease agreement in October 2020 came about “After many conversations and revisions including legal opinion”. To clarify, you are saying that the Board spent time talking over the details, revised it numerous times and then also spent money to have a lawyer give opinion on it, all the while not even considering that the members may wish to have a say in the matter?

Ward Sutherland, in a public comment on Facebook indicated that he was approached by Synergy (aka Freedom), as early as July 2020, who by way of preliminary notification informed him that they were in “**discussion with the Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association who were apparently willing to support a tower on their property.**”

The statement put out by the Board of Directors lists the approval process as outlined by Freedom Mobile. In all of the steps listed, **silence is considered acceptance of the proposal** and should we express concerns, any actual ability to slow things down is out of the homeowners hands and placed squarely on the ‘process’ and a hope that all deep seated concerns will be heard and not ignored.

This brings us to another serious concern which is that there has been no meaningful notification and we have been left out of the conversation regarding entering into this contract and the building of this proposed cell tower. The Board was approached as early as 2019. Ward Sutherland was notified in July 2020. For most homeowners the first they heard of the proposed cell tower was sometime after April 29, 2021. Your statement says Freedom Mobile sent 527 homeowners an information package by registered mail. **This is an untrue statement.** The information package referenced came in a bland envelope that said “Attention Occupant”. Many who received this mail thought at first glance that it was junk mail. Of those who did open it, many were taken aback as this was the first they were hearing about the proposed cell tower being built within 300m of their residential property.

It is also unclear as to when the details about the proposal were updated onto the website. Many did not notice such changes until close to the time of the Open House. No effort was made to encourage members to go to the website for this information. We understand that the issue of the cell tower proposal was brought up at the in-person only AGM this past October 29, 2020. This year has been unprecedented and unrelenting because of the global pandemic and the on again, off again health restrictions all Albertans were faced with (and still are). It is no wonder that many chose not to risk their health, by attending a sizeable indoor meeting which would enforce masking but not physical distancing. The Board of Directors made no effort to ensure there were alternatives in place, such as being able to attend electronically, which would allow any number of members to attend under such extenuating circumstances.

The Board of Directors must have known that many would be unable to attend the meeting and therefore would not be notified nor informed about the proposed cell tower. And yet, nothing went out to the membership updating them on what was discussed or shared at the AGM. Ratified AGM minutes are not typically released until after they have been approved at the next AGM, but the Board could have chosen to send out a summary or a draft copy of the minutes in an effort to be transparent and allow for people to have a say about what was happening.

Of course, transparency wasn't what the Board actually wanted, was it?

On October 13th, 2020, **only two weeks before the AGM** which would be the Board of Directors **first mention** of the proposed cell tower to members, a lease agreement with Shaw/ Freedom Mobile was signed into existence binding us to now move through this unwanted and undesirable process.

We are unwilling participants and demand that this entire process be stopped until such time as proper engagement with the membership can occur.

The Board has the responsibility to fix their mistake. The contract leaves no room for misinterpretation and yet you would have us believe that you truly did not recognize that signing the lease agreement is an indication of approval and acceptance for having a cell tower on the Rocky Ridge Ranch property. Further to that, the Board of Directors knowingly places the onus on the members to sway the actual decision makers in their final decision. This is unacceptable and we reject it entirely. The Board, in doing this, is shifting the responsibility which is a burden they alone must carry.

Dated: May 24th, 2021

Signed: Concerned Rocky Ridge Homeowners

Say NO to the Freedom Mobile Cell Tower on the Rocky Ridge Ranch property.



Without telling the residents it serves, the Homeowners Association for Rocky Ridge has entered an agreement with Freedom Mobile to build a **25M tall cell phone tower** in the parking lot of the Ranch building.

Although the City of Calgary recommends cell towers with heights of 15m-30m be placed at least 75m from dwellings (Telecommunication Siting Process, Section 7.6.B), this proposed site places the tower approx 56m from the Rocky Ridge Retirement Centre.

This is unacceptable.

Voice your disgust with the HOA and those listed below for the lack of communication, community engagement, and transparency regarding this issue. **This is a time sensitive issue and we must act NOW in order to prevent this unsightly, unwelcomed structure from entering our neighborhood.**

Voice your concerns!

Unhappy about the proposed location of the tower?

Please voice your concerns to ALL of the following authorities.

We will NOT achieve results unless our collective voices are heard.

Any concerns must be submitted by June 3rd, 2021, which is when public consultation regarding this project is closed.

□

David Weisgerber

**Sr. Planner, Technical Planning
City of Calgary
403 333-5398
david.weisgerber@calgary.ca**

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Ward Sutherland

**Councillor of Ward 1
City of Calgary
403 268-2430
ward.sutherland@calgary.ca**

□

Pat Kelly

**MP for Calgary Rocky Ridge
pat.kelly@parl.gc.ca
Constituency office: 403-282-7980
Ottawa office: 613-992-0826**

□

RRRHA

**Rocky Ridge Ranch
Homeowners Association
403-547-6633
board@rrrha.ca**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THE TOWER](#)

This will take you to the Freedom website which shows more in-depth details of the proposal and includes mock up photos of where the tower will be.