



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cell tower would set precedent

To the editor:

The Acton Planning Board is considering the granting of a special permit to Omnipoint (T-mobile) to erect a cell tower on church property at the corner of Newtown Road and Arlington Street — a strictly residential area. If permitted this would be the first cell tower in a residential area of the town of Acton, thus establishing a significant precedent. The meeting on this matter is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at the Acton Library.

Various laws and regulations suggest that telecommunications companies have wide latitude in where they may locate cell towers. The Planning Board should consider these points. However, it seems to us that the Planning Board must also consider that protecting the character of neighborhoods is a more basic and higher principle than the other points to be weighed.

Should Omnipoint obtain the special permit they are seeking, this precedent could lead to cell towers on Patriots Hill, on Kennedy Lane, in Indian Village, in East Acton and in all other residential areas of Acton.

We think you should be concerned.

If you are concerned please come to the Sept. 26 meeting. If you cannot attend contact a member of the Planning Board to voice your concern. Members phone numbers and e-mail addresses can be obtained from the town planner's office at the Town Hall.

Jim and Cathy Monahan

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