



## RESOLUTION 2019-040

### CALLING FOR FEDERAL STUDY REGARDING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF 5G TECHNOLOGY

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Communications Commission, hereinafter referred to as the FCC, is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to evaluate the effects of emissions from FCC-regulated transmitters on the quality of the human environment; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 1, 1996, the FCC adopted the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements' recommended Maximum Permissible Exposure limits for field strength and power density for transmitters operating at frequencies of 300 kHz to 100 GHz; and

**WHEREAS**, the FCC in 2015 last updated guidelines for human exposure to radio frequency, hereinafter referred to as RF, electromagnetic fields from wireless facilities, based primarily on recommendations of other federal agencies after reviews of prior scientific literature related to RF biological effects, primarily from the 1990s; and

**WHEREAS**, currently no federally-mandated RF exposure standards exist; and

**WHEREAS**, the FCC relies upon federal agencies with health and safety expertise, such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which have assigned roles in federal law for monitoring and investigating issues related to RF exposure; and

**WHEREAS**, the FCC has jurisdiction over non-federal wireless facilities, authorizing and licensing all non-federal devices, transmitters and facilities that generate RF radiation; and

**WHEREAS**, federal law preempts state and local governments, including the City of Sherwood, from considering health concerns in the regulation and placement of wireless facilities, so long as such facilities otherwise comply with applicable federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Government Accounting Office in 2001 prepared a report of its investigation into safety concerns related to mobile phones, and concluded that further research into wireless technology is needed, recommending the FDA take the lead in monitoring research results; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2017, 180 scientists and doctors from 36 countries sent an appeal to the European Commission recommending a moratorium on the roll-out of 5G until potential hazards for human health and the environment had been fully investigated by scientists independent from industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the results of the world's largest study on the link between RF radiation associated with 2G and 3G cell phones and cancer were released on November 1, 2018 by the National Toxicology Program, an inter-agency program: within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and found evidence of cancerous heart tumors, as well as some evidence of cancerous brain tumors, in male rats exposed to high levels of RF radiation like that used in 2G and 3G cell phones. However, researchers have cautioned that findings "do not apply to 4G or 5G technologies;" and

**WHEREAS**, on December 3, 2018, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal and Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo co-authored a letter to FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr that requested the FCC and relevant health agencies provide them studies informing the FCC's 5G safety determination, and while they did receive a letter from the FCC on December 17, 2018, it had no mention of 5G safety testing; and

**WHEREAS**, Sherwood citizens have expressed concerns about the foregoing to the City Council, and the City Council shares these concerns.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SHERWOOD RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The Sherwood City Council hereby requests the FCC to work in cooperation with the FDA and other relevant federal agencies to revisit and update studies on potential health concerns arising from RF wireless emissions, and in particular relating to 5G technology.

**Section 2.** The Sherwood City Council further requests that the FCC make findings from such studies publicly available in a timely manner.

**Section 3.** This Resolution shall be effective upon its approval and adoption.

**Duly passed by the City Council this 7<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019.**

  
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Tim Rosener, Council President

Attest:

  
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Sylvia Murphy, MMC, City Recorder