

CASA DE MEXICANO – COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

Dear Neighbor,

We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are unprecedented times, but we are confident we will all get through this crisis together.

As you may have heard, with the approval by the City of Los Angeles, Verizon has begun construction of its wireless facility (cell site) to be located in the parking lot at Casa del Mexicano. Casa del Mexicano is owned by the East Los Angeles Community Corporation (ELACC), which entered into an agreement with Verizon for the project in September 2015. We are taking this opportunity to give you an update on our commitment to your community, as well as some additional background on the project.

We're dedicated to being good corporate citizens. One of the ways we demonstrate our commitment is by supporting community organizations around the world -- and locally, here in Los Angeles and East Los Angeles.

In response to COVID-19, Verizon partnered with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to provide internet connectivity across the city for students who don't have internet access at home. We also immediately engaged with a variety of local non-profits to provide needed food and other assistance in response to the "stay at home" mandate. Some of the organizations we have supported include: Weingart East Los Angeles YMCA in Boyle Heights, Labor Community Services, LA Food Bank, Urban Partners LA, LA Promise Fund and others. In 2019, Verizon supported STEM education and other programs including Weingart East Los Angeles YMCA, Hollenbeck Youth Center, Adventist Health White Memorial Foundation, TELACU, LA Plaza De Cultura Y Artes and the East LA Community Youth Center, among others across the city.

The Verizon cell site at Casa de Mexicano will provide enhanced and expanded cellular network coverage to the East Los Angeles community. The current City of LA "Safer at Home" order has highlighted the growing need for a robust network that keeps students connected to their school work, employees connected to their jobs and small businesses connected to their customers. In addition, it's now more important than ever that residents can connect reliably with police, fire and healthcare providers where and when they need it most.

By way of background, this cell site project has been in process since 2014 and it's been the subject of several public hearings and community meetings. In response to concerns expressed at these meetings, Verizon has redesigned the cell site and revised plans to protect and enhance the garden area. The project has undergone all appropriate reviews by City of Los Angeles agencies and has received the required permit approvals to begin construction. Below is a brief timeline:

- October 28, 2014 – Project submitted to City of LA for zoning approval
- January 28, 2015 – Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council (BHNC) Board Meeting, the community approved the initial design and project
- August 25, 2015 – Public Hearing – (East Los Angeles) Associate Zoning Administrator meeting attended by approximately 20 people from the community, primary issue raised by local City Council office and community was the proposed design look of the original project
- April 4, 2017 – In response to design concerns, Verizon redesigned the proposed project to a new clock tower design and Zoning Administrator issued Approval
- June 27, 2019 – ELACC held a community meeting, with Boyle Heights Residents & Gardeners (BHRG), where design as well as health & safety questions answered



- Aug. 23, 2019 – ELACC posted on their website that due to construction, the community garden would be impacted and this concern was raised to Verizon
- Sept. 27, 2019 - In response, Verizon redesigned the project to address this concern and provided Verizon’s response to ELACC to post on their website
- December, 2019 – Verizon met with the leadership of the BHNC to review the redesign, the BHNC agreed to convene a meeting with the community to discuss the revised plan that would enhance the community garden
- March 7, 2020 – The BHNC held a community meeting for Verizon to provide a status update on the revised plan for the community garden and address health & safety concerns
- April, 2020 – Preliminary construction commenced

Concerning Radio Frequency (“RF”) safety, please be assured that Verizon’s telecommunications equipment and networks comply with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) radiofrequency (RF) safety standards. The FCC developed these standards in consultation with numerous other federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The standards have wide safety margins and are designed to protect everyone, including children. The FCC adopted the standards after examining the RF research that scientists in the US and around the world have conducted for decades. The research continues to this day, and agencies continue to monitor it. Based on that research, federal agencies have concluded that equipment and networks that comply with the safety standards pose no known health risks. In December 2019, the FCC, after a lengthy proceeding, affirmed these safety standards and concluded that these standards continue to be appropriate. The decision was unanimous and bipartisan. You can obtain further information about the safety of RF emissions from wireless network equipment and devices on the FCC’s website, which you can access via this link: <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety/rf-faqs.html>.

We hope this has provided helpful background on the project at Casa del Mexicano and our investment in local communities. We invite you to check out <http://improveyourwireless.com/boyleheights> for additional background on the project and regular status updates.

Thank you,

Verizon