

Request to Appear Before  
The Durham City Council  
At the Work Session

Date:

Session Date: January 10, 2013

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Phone Number:  Fax Number:

Organization Represented:

**Topic:** Statement of presentation you wish to make and statement of action you wish Council to take.

Mayor Bell and City Council: January, 2013

The good neighbors of 751 request permission to be on the agenda of City Council's Citizen Matters Work Session on January 10<sup>th</sup>. It is very important to discuss recent changes to Durham's Unified Development Ordinance regarding "discretionary vs. mandatory" provisions, particularly regarding Wireless Communication Facilities. Good Neighbors of 751 have been dealing with the cell phone tower issue starting in October, 2011 with the attempt to relocate the Sprint Southpoint Cell Tower on US 751 because of our concern for public safety, which issue we brought to your attention on November 8, 2012. We need direction from you now regarding the changes of the UDO approved by the Durham Planning Commission Dec.11th.

Three southern Durham neighborhoods plus other citizens protested the fast track approval of the WCF's November 8<sup>th</sup> and asked for more clear directives and regulations that protect the Durham residents and homeowners as proposed cell phone towers penetrate residential zones. Specifically, we are very concerned about safety with towers being located near high pressure natural gas lines or other active utilities. We were very grateful for your recommendation last month to Planning Commission to review the UDO toward citizens having more influence to protect their communities concerning towers while allowing corporations to continue to supply innovation. However, we need to discuss the recent changes to the Ordinance concerning WCF's which appear to go solidly in the opposite direction of both "citizens input and state law." We are asking you for clarification for the record. On January 2, 2012, we discussed some of these changes in a casual gathering with Planning Director Steve Medlin and Michael Stock who both graciously gave several members of Good Neighbors of 751 their time to comment on changes in the UDO regarding the removal of the DRB. Since Council has the ultimate responsibility to approve or modify the UDO we feel it's appropriate at this moment to be on the same page with Council and your administrative arm so that we may all understand the text of the UDO and what it now signifies...as well, we will hand out specific suggestions we feel should be incorporated in that document. Thank You.

Donna Rudolph, 8002 Somerdale Dr, Durham NC 27713, 919 484 9075

Dorothy Fehrenbacher, 4 Oakwind Ct., Durham NC 27713, 919 237 3248

**Attach additional sheets if necessary:**

 File Attachment

Have you communicated with the Department Director associated with this matter?  Yes  No

**Presentation:** Will you be presenting a power point presentation or a video?  Yes  No

**\*Please note that you are permitted 3 minutes to speak and make your presentation.**

This form must be submitted to the Agenda Coordinator by **Monday at 5:00 p.m.** ten calendar days prior to the City Council Work Session meeting at which you wish to speak. Once this form is submitted, no further reminder will be given. Citizens may call the Agenda Coordinator's Office at 919-560-4222 to confirm receipt of this form.