

**Summary of Issues and Concern
Related to Neighborhoods and Property: SAFETY
Identified by CCAC, May 15 Meeting**

(DRAFT, prepared 6/7/2011, appended to general Summary of Issues and Concerns which was distributed at CCAC meeting 5/25/2011)

Safety

The area of safety comprises three areas: Structural Design, Abandoned Towers, and Security (of premises)

Structural Design

*The existing code specifies that the structural design of WCSS is “per (Florida) building code.” (NB: It has been represented to the CCAC that requirements for structural design cannot exceed those of the Florida Building Code).

**Questions and Issues about “structural design” may be pertinent to considering “Setbacks” above.

Issues:

1. Do Florida Building Code requirements for WCSS reflect the best current technologies for structural design and are they consistent with national standards?

2. Are the required standards for structural design able to withstand “wind events” that may occur within Hillsborough County?

3. What are “crumple zones”? Are WCSS designed to fall within a specified radius? Why do estimates of “crumple zones” appear to vary from testimony to testimony? Is it possible for WCSS to fall the full height of the tower? How does this vary for different kinds of tower design (for instance, monopole, guyed tower, etc.)?

4. How many companies construct WCSS for Hillsborough County? Do they all conform to the same safety requirements?

5. Is it advisable to have “hurricane shelters” within the fall radius of a WCSS? Are WCSS designed to withstand hurricane-force winds and can such winds cause WCSS to fail?

6. What structural issues occur by virtue of adding more antennae to existing WCSS? What provisions for safety exist in the code when antennae are added?

7. What codes exist for the safe construction of “base station” equipment such as batteries, propane tanks, fences, etc.? What is a reasonable “set back” from such equipment for residential, school, and other properties?

8. What codes/provisions are in place for the inspection, maintenance, and code enforcement for WCSS?

9. What codes/provisions are in place for the inspection, maintenance, and code enforcement for “base station” equipment?

Abandoned Towers

*Existing code specifies towers are considered abandoned when they have not been in use for 12 months (and is removal required?).

No issues were raised with reference to abandoned towers, their inspection or removal.

Security

*Existing code specifies that WCSS be surrounded by chain link fence or wall with barbed wire not less than 8 ft. in height. Locked gate is required.

Issues:

1. Chain link may not be adequate (from discussion of Aesthetics, above).
2. How are facilities monitored for security compliance (gates have been seen unlocked)?
3. What is a reasonable distance to separate these facilities from children?