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TO: ZLR Committee
FROM: Majid Allan
DATE: February 9, 2017
RE: Update on status of CUP #2343 for a new 195' cell tower in section 1 of Christiana

US Cellular submitted CUP #2343 to construct a new 195' self-support lattice communication tower at the eastern end of Lagoon Drive in section 1 of the town of Christiana. US Cellular had previously intended to install its antennas atop the village of Cambridge water tower. However, the company abandoned that plan after a structural engineering analysis found that the existing water tower railing is inadequate to support its equipment.

The application was postponed at the May 24, 2016 ZLR public hearing due to public opposition from residents living in a subdivision located approximately ¼ mile to the east. Opponents expressed a number of concerns, including that the location would diminish the natural beauty of the area, no other alternative sites were investigated, and the proposal could negatively impact the use and enjoyment of the Cambridge Wildlife and Fishing Area.

US Cellular has since entered into negotiations with the village of Cambridge to consider options to use the village water tower property, including structural improvements to the water tower railing, or possibly constructing a monopole tower adjacent to the water tower. According to the village administrator, those negotiations are ongoing and close to resolution. If the negotiations are successful, CUP #2343 will be formally withdrawn.

Staff will continue to monitor the progress of the negotiations and report back to the committee with another update as soon as a resolution is achieved.