

Agenda Item

G.4) Receive the 2021 Annual Progress Report for the 2035 Novato General Plan and authorize staff to submit to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for filing

[Staff Report - General Plan Progress Report Attachment 1 - 2021 General Plan Progress Report](#)

1 Public Comment

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[Steve Glanz](#) at October 11, 2022 at 2:19pm PDT

Oppose

Before filing the 2021 Annual Progress Report for the 2035 Novato General Plan with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), consider these facts as a basis for amending the report.

The General Plan 2035 has a theme of "Sustainability." By definition, anything that impacts negatively on the environment is not sustainable, so this issue applies to Novato's General Plan 2035. Telecom equipment needs regular updating and replacing, and pollutes landfills. This is not sustainable compared to fiberoptic cable, a superior alternative.

The plan also discusses "public safety" and "fire mitigation," both of which are relevant to wireless transmission technology. Clearly, public safety is at risk from small cell Wireless Transmission Facilities (sWTFs). Fire risk is also relevant to public safety.

However, the progress report only addresses fire abatement in the context of development (item SH 3a) referring it out to the Novato Fire Protection District; and vegetation management (item SH 3d), referring it out to the Marin Wildfire Protection District.

Continuous RF/EMF radiation exposure is closely tied with increased terpene production in conifers. Terpenes are combustible organic compounds.

WTFs have been the cause of multiple fires across California. One reason is macro towers have smart meters in them without the fuse protection that analog meters have – causing internal electrical fires. Each cell tower is an electrical device. Water will not put out this type of fire until the power is cut.

Another reason to keep WTFs out of residential areas is to provide time for residents to evacuate. Every single WTF that comes into a community is a fire hazard.

It is very important to note that in addition to the interference problem, the harmful waveform can cause PG&E transformers and related hardware to overheat and catch fire, and customer property (electronic devices and appliances) can also be damaged. In addition, if there is a power outage, customers served by the small cell transmitter will not have any service because there is no battery back-up.