

## FCC Chair To Wireless Industry: Commission Will Act Soon on Municipal Siting Restrictions

Posted By: [Editor](#)  
[Utility Technologies](#)

**The FCC will review the wireless industry's petition to restrict municipal zoning rights**, new Federal Communications Commission Chair Julius Genachowski told a big wireless industry gathering this morning. [Glendale engaged expert legal counsel just last week](#), joining with several other cities, to oppose this petition before the FCC . The [Wall Street Journal](#) reported:

**Mr. Genachowski had a solid bit of good news for wireless carriers. He said the FCC will soon act on a proposal to impose a “shot clock” timetable for companies seeking permission to build cellular towers in local communities. CTIA has been urging the FCC to act on the tower-siting proposal for years, saying dragged out negotiations with local communities on cell towers harms providers' ability to improve their networks.**

Immunity from municipal zoning restrictions is a big priority for the industry. Additional spectrum (along with more towers) to meet demand for mobile broadband uses is another; [Genachowski promised action on that as well](#).

[Recent FCC-proposed internet openness rules, known as “net neutrality”](#), are disadvantageous to wireless providers, whose transmission is more constrained than wireline broadband. On this front, though, the wireless industry appears to have retreated, as [a recent announcement by Apple](#) indicates.

## Glendale Retains Counsel to Oppose Wireless

Industry “Shot-Clock” Petition to FCC

Posted By: [Editor](#)  
[Utility Technologies](#)

**The Glendale City Council voted last night to retain outside counsel to fight a wireless industry petition before the FCC.** Glendale will be joining a coalition of communities nationwide to oppose proposed limitations on local zoning authority as they affect cell tower siting, such as the [CTIA “shot-clock” petition](#) which imposes 45 or 75 day deadlines on any wireless permit application review.

Dave Weaver introduced the motion, saying the city’s purpose is to **“advocate for the need to retain local control over issues which Congress has granted and which, if limited, could potentially have significant impacts on the quality of life for local residents.”**

The city is close to finalizing an ordinance regulating placement of wireless antennae and towers. The wireless industry opposed the moratorium Glendale enacted to review its options for regulating such equipment. The current petition before the FCC asks that municipal moratoria be limited to six months.

City Attorney Scott Howard commented, **“The wireless industry has been seeking for some time to... remove or limit local authority over the siting of wireless antennae in any number of ways.”**

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Friedman concluded, **“The wireless industry is trying more and more and more aggressively to undermine local zoning codes, to assert that they have a right to put their wireless equipment wherever they want to without any oversight. We are joining with other cities to advocate at the federal level for our right as a city to enforce our own city regulations and to be sure that our residents are well served and to ensure that cellular equipment is well-placed and**

**safe.”**

According to Christina Sansone, Glendale General Counsel for Public Works, a number of ex parte communications from the wireless industry on this subject is one reason this issue has moved to the forefront.