

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
RESOLUTION NO. 6727-2026

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL OPPOSING FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION PROPOSED RULEMAKING 25-276**

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making 25-276 "Build America: Eliminating Barriers to Wireless Deployments"; and

WHEREAS, the FCC states, "With this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), we advance the Commission's Build America Agenda by proposing reforms that would free towers and other wireless infrastructure from regulatory burdens imposed at the state and local level. This NPRM answers President Trump's call across the federal government to expedite, eliminate, and simplify permitting burdens that inhibit economic development, job creation, and energy production."; and

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2025 Joint Comments were filed by the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), hereafter called Cal Cities et al; and

WHEREAS, Cal Cities et al expressed concerns about FCC 25-276 and stated, "For years, our cities and counties have worked to welcome wireless infrastructure while protecting the people who live closest to it."; and

WHEREAS, Cal Cities et al wrote, "Congress spoke very clearly when drafting Sections 253 and 332 of the Communications Act. Under 47 U.S.C. § 253 (b) and (c), state and local governments retain the authority (and responsibility) to protect public safety, preserve service quality, safeguard consumer rights, and manage the public rights-of-way on fair and competitively neutral terms."; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol, like all local governments across the United States, would have its ability to regulate the siting of cell towers and wireless infrastructure severely constrained, if not eliminated, by the NPRM; and

WHEREAS, Cal Cities et al stated: "Local elected leaders must evaluate proposals not simply as abstract deployments, but as physical structures placed near homes, schools, fire access roads, evacuation corridors, and critical community assets."; and

WHEREAS, Cal Cities et al asked the FCC to withdraw FCC 25-276 stating "Congress preserved state and local authority for a reason, and communities cannot afford policies that place haste over safety, or uniformity over local judgement."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Sebastopol opposes FCC Proposed Rulemaking 25-276, and agrees with Cal Cities et al that the FCC should withdraw the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of January 2026.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Carter, Hinton, Zollman, Vice Mayor Maurer and Mayor McLewis
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Signed by:

Jill McLewis

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APPROVED:

Mayor Jill McLewis

Signed by:

Mary Gourley

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ATTEST:

Mary Gourley, Interim City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

Alex Mog

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alex Mog, City Attorney