

For Immediate Release
June 7, 2023
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Carnegie Hill Neighbors Protest Massive, Unnecessary 5G Towers Ahead of Council Hearing

NEW YORK—Ahead of a crucial City Council hearing, [Carnegie Hill Neighbors](#) joined elected officials and other advocates to demand an end to the City’s massive, out-of-scale, and unnecessary 5G towers. The 32-foot towers are already out of date; less intrusive and less expensive technologies are already available to help meet the City’s technology goals.

Today’s hearing in the City Council’s Committee on Technology will provide crucial oversight of the deployment of 5G infrastructure across the city. Advocates rallied to demand the City reconsider the Link 5G program.

“New Yorkers shouldn’t have to choose between wireless coverage and livable, secure neighborhoods. But the City’s disastrous Link 5G plans do just that,” said **Joanna Cawley, Executive Director, Carnegie Hill Neighbors**. “Starting with today’s hearing, it’s time for officials across the city - from the Council to the Mayor himself - to reconsider this program and replace it with something smaller, safer, and less intrusive.”

Advocates noted CityBridge, the company awarded the Link 5G contract, has a history of botched rollouts, civil liberty complaints, missed installation deadlines, and late payments to the City. They called on the City to develop a safer, cheaper, less intrusive way to expand wireless service.

“Our expansion of 5G infrastructure throughout the city must be intentional and transparent, and both the City and service providers must do better,” said **Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine**. “We must re-examine the franchise agreement that lets large telecoms companies avoid scrutiny and adequately explaining what infrastructure is needed and why.”

“New Yorkers have been trying to learn more about the 5G towers that seem to suddenly appear on their sidewalks,” said **City Council Majority Leader Keith Powers**. “To date, over a hundred of these towers have been installed without even going through the appropriate review process. We need clear answers on how this happened and how specific locations are chosen. That is why the community is here today and the City Council is taking action by holding an oversight hearing.”

“The City has not presented credible technical evidence that any of these proposed Upper East Side monstrous sidewalk crowding 5G towers especially in historic districts are necessary, and that existing tower locations cannot be used,” said **Jim Tripp, Vice President, CIVITAS**.

“Community boards across the city are increasingly rising in opposition to the Link5G cell towers. Sixteen community boards to date have either disapproved or called for moratoria on these towers. This represents up to 800 community board members and an average of about 2 million residents,” said **Odette J. Wilkens, President & General Counsel, Wired Broadband, Inc.**

“The multiple problems with the 5G towers siting process raise serious questions about the City’s and CityBridge’s ability to close the digital divide in an equitable and accessible way,” said **Zack Winestine, Cofounder, Save Gaansevoort**.

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