

**CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**  
4TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

CONSTITUENT SERVICE CENTERS:

**OCEAN**

Visit: 33 Washington Street  
Toms River, NJ 08754  
Mail: PO Box 728  
Toms River, NJ 08754  
(732) 504-0567

**MONMOUTH**

1715 Highway 35 North  
Suite 303  
Middletown, NJ 07748  
(732) 780-3035



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August 16, 2023

Mr. Robert Fisher  
Senior Vice President, Federal Government Relations  
Verizon  
One Verizon Way  
Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I write to express my strong opposition to Verizon's plans to install imposing, unsightly 5G infrastructure along the beachfront in the Borough of Belmar in my Congressional District.

In light of the shocking revelation that Verizon had erroneously filed suit against Belmar to push through its proposal—when the Borough had no jurisdiction over the property in question—I urge you to seize this opportunity to work transparently with the lawful owner of the right-of-way, the County of Monmouth.

I have worked closely with Monmouth County Commissioner Director Tom Arnone, who has advised me that the County is requesting that Verizon rescind its initial plan. I support this rescission, as it will allow Verizon to re-examine the substantial objections raised by members of the local community and respond to the concerns of Belmar residents and those of other shore municipalities throughout the State of New Jersey.

Belmar is a booming tourist destination and is regularly named among the best beach towns in New Jersey. Not surprisingly, Belmar's pristine beaches create significant seasonal revenue which helps to sustain the town's economy throughout the year. Local community leaders and residents of Belmar have reasonably argued that the 30-foot 5G towers will obstruct ocean views, devalue real estate, hurt tourism and harm local businesses.

Additionally, many residents have raised serious questions about the potential health ramifications of this new technology on residents and wildlife. And though long-term human health studies have yet to be completed on 5G frequencies utilized in this relatively new use of

the technology, I believe it would be short-sighted to dismiss health concerns until adequate and comprehensive studies have been conducted.

**Why the rush? Why the aggressive legal battle against the wrong governing body?**

I believe that the rights of public and private property owners should not be summarily dismissed in the name of “so-called” tech progress, and I urge Verizon, as a good corporate citizen, to heed the genuine economic, aesthetic, environmental and health concerns of the community.

Sincerely,



CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH  
Member of Congress