

LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF LINCROFT



Dear Neighbors,

The mission of the Lincroft Fire Company is to protect life and property. On average, the Lincroft Fire Company responds to on average 250 runs a year, which results in about 3,600 volunteer firefighter's hours. We also attend twenty four training drills a year, which results in about 2,440 volunteer training hours. Regular business, inter-departmental, county and state meetings result in about 750 volunteer firefighters hours. We raise funds through raffles, our annual fund drive and the most manpower intensive effort of door to door solicitation, which allows us to speak to the 50% of the residents who do not respond to our two fund drive requests. When we have completed knocking on approximately 1,100 doors, we are left with approximately 35% of Lincroft residents who do not volunteer or donate to provide for their own protection. This effort requires approximately 300 man-hours of our volunteers.

The Lincroft Fire Company is funded with \$30,000.00 annually from the Township of Middletown. The rest of our budget to support our facilities, utilities, apparatus, fuel, equipment, training etc. is realized through our fund drive

T-Mobile approached the Lincroft Fire Company in late April 2008. They met with us and at least two other sites within 300 yards of the Lincroft Fire Company. Upon review of the presentation by T-Mobile and their determination that the tower must be placed someplace within close proximity of the fire house; The Lincroft Fire Company membership

voted in favor of pursuing this opportunity. We also had presentations from another fire station in Middletown, which has a cell tower on their property and legal council to have a firm understanding of the facts. Being a non profit organization, supported by the public, we felt it was in the best interest of the Lincroft resident's fire protection to pursue the cell tower.

Another benefit, aside from the income that will be generated to support the Fire Company, we can install an antenna to better facilitate communications between the various departments (Police, Fire and First Aid). This will enable a more seamless stream of communication, even in the event of an area power failure or any other emergency.

The effect of the cell tower on our immediate neighbors is our primary concern; secondarily the rest of the residents of Lincroft. Through a series of meetings, both public and private, we desire to listen and try to address any concerns of our neighbors and work to hopefully find mutually agreeable solutions. We have chosen the least visually obtrusive form of cell tower design, which is similar in appearance to a flag pole.

The bottom line is, we ask the residents of Lincroft to understand that a cell tower is inevitable. We felt that if this is the case, ultimately we would be better equipped to serve our community by taking advantage of the possible income generated by such a project. In essence, the income generated is being reinvested back into the community.

We ask that people understand that this is a business decision. Any opposition to the cell tower should not be misdirected at the fire companies funding initiatives. This would only hurt the residents we serve. Our primary reason for pursuing this opportunity is essentially the continued protection of the residents of Lincroft.

We believe this application represents the optimal balance between the needs of area residents and the safety of our community. Of course, we remain committed to working with our neighbors throughout this process and welcome your input and feedback at our

informational meeting to be held at the Lincroft Fire Company, Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 8:00p.m.

Yours in service,

Mark Sanpietro
Lincroft Fire Company
Vice President