

Neighborhoods

"I am a resident of Ford's Colony and applaud Cortney Langley for bringing to light the issue regarding cell towers in James City. It's hard to believe that the county and Kingsmill both want to go to court to fight for the right to build more cell towers in residential areas. I have a second home in South Carolina, and cell towers have become a thing of the past in that neighborhood. Large towers have been removed and small antennas have been placed on light posts and large buildings. It scares me to think that the owners of Ford's Colony have a right to build cell towers anywhere they want within our beautiful community. Fake pine trees that look like cell towers have no place in either of these neighborhoods. Would Kingsmill allow the residents who have a direct view of the towers to construct fake pine trees in their front yard to shield their view from these towers?"

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"Using a closed-door meeting, developer control of the KCSA board of directors and attempting justification from an outdated resident survey, Kingsmill management has maneuvered KCSA and Busch Properties into joining a court action against the James City Board of Zoning Appeals' denial of the cell towers. Management continues to cite a resident survey taken months and years ago before the availability of more advanced technology antennae systems became more widely known. The capability now exists to solve both the cell service problem and resident concerns over cell tower eyesores. However, Kingsmill management continues to cling to the original cell tower course. In this and other recent controversies, Kingsmill's current management often seems to adopt the approach and attitude that Kingsmill is not a private club facility but rather a corporate business activity. Therefore, it seems to reason that residents should keep quiet, pay their property assessments and resort sports memberships and let the place run in only the way management sees fit, with resident concerns and wishes considered only when convenient and easy."

"I find it telling that the small group of residents in Kingsmill whose advocacy group opposes the cell phone towers is now complaining that the recent Board of Zoning Appeals decision is being appealed. One member called the dispute 'a war' in a recent Gazette letter. I believe this clearly demonstrates how irrational the group is. These folks need to understand that their words and deeds are not the last word. I hope the appeal is successful and the cell towers are installed soon."