

From: Nicole and Alec McMurren [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, August 15, 2026 2:45 PM
To: Anna Caulum <acaulum@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Consideration of Minor Subdivision at 1200 Haugen Drive

My comment submitted earlier this year still stand. I agree the planning and zoning commission did not follow. Dictated processes at the last meeting when not taking a vote on this minor subdivision. However, that does not diminish from the fact that we will be using public lands for private game and that a conditional used permit has height restrictions for this typo awning. The public does not want the cell tower in this spot. I encourage the borough assembly not to approve this subdivision. My apologies for the cryptic messaging. It's a busy summer.

Further, I am sorry that so much of this has fallen upon the Burroughs shoulders. It does seem like our tribal entity could have done a better job of the public process prior to applying for these funds.

Subject: Consideration of Minor Subdivision at 1200 Haugen Drive

Hello. I am writing to make known my objection to the application from Central Council Tlingit Haida for a minor subdivision at 1200 Haugen Drive (PID:01-012-010), originally scheduled for discussion at the January 13, 2026 P&Z meeting and moved to the March 10 meeting. Though this step of approving a minor subdivision has infrequently been mentioned throughout the entirety of the Tidal Network process, given it requires a public hearing, I am assuming that public opinion does hold some sway and that is not just a 'given' that the land, will in fact, be subdivided.

I have several thoughts and questions about the overall effort by Tidal Networks to build 3 cell towers in the greater Petersburg community. I will seek to focus on the site in town proper, as it is not yet built and is not proposed to be built on private land.

I object to this minor subdivision for the following reasons:

1) I believe it is a poor precedent to set to utilize public use land to solve a private industry problem. I understand that the application is from a federally recognized tribe, however this is purely a commercial undertaking. As acknowledged by Chris Copley, Tidal Network Director, building the cell tower will only provide wireless internet service in a two and one half mile radius of where the tower is located. This does not provide new service to previously unserved areas. It is my understanding that what the construction of the cell tower will bring - is the cell tower - no other new services. There has been much talk of extending emergency services and expanding cell services - my understanding again, is that this MIGHT happen, if another company that provides such services decides to lease space on the Tidal Tower. Not by virtue of this effort will those benefits be realized. The way that Tidal will make their money is by leasing space on their tower. Build it and they will come? Perhaps not. Hence, public land solving a private industry problem.

2) I do not see where in the permitted uses a cell tower would fit in. It is being considered a government building or facility? That seems a stretch.

3) By way of our own ordinances we are ill prepared for further construction of cell towers. Let us get our house in order before inviting company over, and lock the door until we are ready to accept them. THEN we can address this issue. I do not see why Tidal's urgent need to spend these funds becomes our emergency. They can also apply for extensions, as stated by Mr. Copley.

3) What becomes of the 35 ft. height restrictions as discussed in the Commercial 1 Zone that this lot would be subject to should the sub division be granted? Am I mis-reading the zoning ordinances naming that limitation?

4) There is a cell tower located ACROSS THE STREET from the proposed lot. Tidal could not provide much of an answer when asked why they could not utilize the structure, though that is what our current ordinance discusses and advocates for.

5) It's unsightly. Can we keep one side of the street inviting as the entry into our community from the airport?

For the past several months, I have asked the question and not received an answer as to *why the Borough feels so beholden to find a location for these towers*. At the most recent work session I believe I heard the Borough Manager state that H Street was simply the only place that could be found in town that would meet Tidal's need. Well, it DOESN'T meet the need of the community that surrounds it, so why does it count as viable?

I would also like to note, that at the time of August 12th, 2025 P&Z meeting to discuss the land purchase, there was little information included in the packet sent to adjacent landowners describing this project; in particular the height of the tower, the overall footprint of the project, or the number of towers that Tidal was seeking to build in our community. (Some of this information was included in the P&Z agenda packet.) The application IS however, filled with possibilities of what increases in services MIGHT come to Petersburg should these towers be built, that it seems some of our community has decided is an imminent reality and therefore loud selling point. But there are no promises, no agreements, no cost estimates, no plans. What if we build it and they don't come?

Please do not bet our public use space on what MIGHT happen. Again, this is a dangerous precedent to set.

Thank you all for your service and for your time.

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