

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-059**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SARATOGA  
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 431 (MCGUIRE) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE:  
BACKUP ELECTRICAL SUPPLY RULES**

**WHEREAS**, California has seen some of the most devastating wildfires in United States history in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, California's wildfires have caused loss of critical telecommunications infrastructure and also resulted in planned public safety power shutoffs when there is a high risk of wildfire, which has also threatened the reliability of essential communication tools; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Saratoga Wildfire Public Safety Task Force has reviewed Senate Bill (SB) 431 and determined that it would require backup power systems for cell tower sites where feasible in high fire risk areas that can power the tower site for a minimum of 72 hours and would also require customer notification when backup power systems are low or when the transceiver system can no longer be supported by the backup power system; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting SB 431 would help ensure residents and emergency responders have access to reliable telephone services during an emergency or planned power outages, which are expected to be more and more common; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Saratoga Wildfire Public Safety Task Force has recommended that the City Council support this bill.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Saratoga does hereby support SB 431 (McGuire), encourages Saratoga community members to express their thoughts on this bill to their State representatives, and urges the California State Legislature to adopt and the Governor of California to sign this bill into law.

The above and foregoing resolution was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Saratoga City Council held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Howard A. Miller, Vice Mayor Mary-Lynne Bernald, Council Members Yan Zhao, Rishi Kumar

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Howard A. Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Debbie Bretschneider, CMC, City Clerk

DATE: 8/20/2020