

**SENATE BILL NO. 401 TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE
JANET DOLL, MAYOR
CITY OF GARDEN CITY, KANSAS
FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

CITY COMMISSION

JANET A. DOLL,
Mayor

ROY CESSNA

MELVIN L. DALE

DAN FANKHAUSER

J. CHRISTOPHER LAW

MATTHEW C. ALLEN
City Manager

MELINDA A. HITZ, CPA
Finance Director

RANDALL D. GRISELL
City Counselor

Chairman Olson and Members of the Senate Utilities Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony on behalf of the City of Garden City regarding Senate Bill No. 401 concerning the siting of wireless telecommunications equipment. While we understand the importance of broadband and wireless telecommunication facilities – particularly in a global economy that requires advanced technology and information – such telecommunication systems must be thoughtfully planned and located. The City of Garden City is opposed to Senate Bill No. 401.

One responsibility of local government is thoughtful community planning. In Garden City, it is the role of our Neighborhood and Development Services Department to plan for neighborhood livability and smart development. Staff works alongside citizens to create the long range goals, plans, and strategies that guide Garden City's future. Our goal is to promote a livable and economically vibrant community. This bill contradicts that value. Removing the authority of the current zoning laws, which were created by local residents, defeats the purpose of having a planned community.

We join with other Kansas communities and the League of Kansas Municipalities in opposing Senate Bill No. 401. We respectfully ask that you do the same.

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SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

DATE: 2-9-16

ATTACHMENT # 9