

It is not right for an individual public agency to have the power to shut down cell service, whether that agency is a transit authority or otherwise. People are using the cell phone as a literal life line these days. Parents use them to track their kids on their way home from school and people have used them for emergency calls and in life or death situations. To fear protests is not the same as the right to shut down services. People have the right to protest. And this business of preemptive strategies to KEEP people from protesting is very unAmerican. And very harmful in that there is no real justification for the act of shutting down cell services. We are becoming no different from China or Russia in the official attitudes towards free speech. Authorities are only happy if they get to throttle unwanted speech and put THEIR speech on the loud speaker. Not good for democracy.