

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE:

August 6, 2007

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 07-1 WILSON AVENUE, CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD TO ARDEN ROAD

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that, after a Public Hearing the City Council:

- 1. Adopt a Resolution establishing Underground Utility District No. 07-1, Wilson Avenue from California Boulevard to Arden Road.
- 2. Acknowledge project to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act in accordance with Article 19, Section 15302(a) of the CEQA Guidelines (conversion of overhead electric utility systems to underground) and authorize the City Manager to execute and the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption for the project with the Los Angeles County Clerk.

BACKGROUND

The City has a continuing program to underground overhead electric systems, specifically power and other communication lines. The undergrounding of overhead electric systems improves system reliability, and enhances the aesthetic quality of an area by the removal of unsightly utility poles and overhead wires. Although the affected utilities are currently preparing draft plans for the undergrounding system, an established underground utility district is necessary to require the affected property owners to underground their private property facilities.

This project would underground the overhead electric system on Wilson Avenue with the proposed boundary of California Boulevard to Arden Road. A finding of compliance with the General Plan was previously made and is shown in the adopted Fiscal Year 2008 - 2012 Capital Improvement Program.

All affected property owners have been notified of the public hearing on the establishment of the district. An informational meeting was held on July 18, 2007 to discuss the timeline of the proposed district and responsibilities of the affected property owners.

Under the guidelines for implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project is categorically exempt since it involves the conversion of an overhead electric utility system to an underground system. Therefore, it is recommended that a Notice of Exemption be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The affected utilities within the boundaries of this proposed district includes Pasadena Water and Power, AT&T, and Charter Communications. As it relates to the underground design and construction, Pasadena Water and Power will utilize an existing underground conduit system. Therefore, this project does not require the City to enter into a joint trench agreement with the remaining affected utilities.

AT&T and Charter Communications have identified affected customers within the district boundary. In accordance with their "Customer Privacy" policies, both utilities will assume all administrative and financial responsibilities.

This project also provides for the installation of a new street lighting system on the eastside of Wilson Avenue from California Boulevard to Arden Road. The Polytechnic School Master Plan will provide for the installation of street lighting and sidewalk improvements on the Westside of Wilson Avenue.

STATISTICS

 Tot 	al number of properties within proposed utility district:	6
 Pro 	operties with overhead services required to convert: (PWP)	0
 Pro 	operties with overhead services required to convert: (AT&T)	2
• Pro	operties with overhead services required to convert: (Charter)	3
 Tot 	al number of poles to be removed:	12

PROJECTED SCHEDULE

 Installation of electrical conduits and cables (PWP) Installation of telephone conduits and cables (AT&T) Installation of television conduits and cables (Charter) Installation of private property conduit and connection Installation of street lighting system Removal of overhead wires and poles 	N/A August 2007 August 2007 September 2007 March 2008 April 2008		
ESTIMATED COST			
 Electric Underground System Removal of Overhead Wires and Poles Street Lighting System 	\$100,000 \$50,000 \$400,000		
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$550,000		

FISCAL IMPACT

An appropriation of \$1.2 million to fund Underground Utility District 07-1 was included as part of the City's adopted Fiscal Year 2008-2012 Capital Improvement Program, Street Lighting and Electric System Undergrounding, Wilson Avenue, California Boulevard to Arden Road under Budget Account Number 74800.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Manager

Prepared by:

Danny R. Wooten

Management Analyst IV Department of Public Works

Reviewed by:

Daniel A. Rix

City Engineer

Approved by:

Martin Pastucha Director Department of Public Works

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE FORMATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT 07-1 ON WILSON AVENUE FROM CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD TO ARDEN ROAD

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 8759, a Public Hearing was called for August 6, 2007 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. in Room 247, the Council Chamber of the City Hall, located at 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, California,, to ascertain whether the public necessity, health, safety, or welfare requires the removal of poles, overhead wires and associate overhead structures, and the underground installation of wires and facilities for supplying electric, communication, or similar or associated service, within that certain area of the City described as follows:

Live Oak Tract Miscellaneous Record 60, Page 91; Arden Road Tract Map Book 12, Page 30; Arden Oaks Miscellaneous Record 37, Page 91; Arden Road Tract Map Book 12, Page 30; and Portion of B.D. Wilson Homestead Property in San Pasqual Rancho Miscellaneous Record 3, Page 495; all in said City of Pasadena, County of Los Angeles, State of California and all records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County.

WHEREAS, such hearing has been given an opportunity to be heard:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pasadena that:

1. Pursuant to Chapter 13.14 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, the above described area hereby is declared an Underground Utility District, and is designated as Underground Utility District No. 07-1 of the City of Pasadena. Attached hereto, marked "Exhibit A" hereby incorporated as a part of this Resolution, is a Boundary Map (Public Works Department Drawing No. 5730) delineating the boundaries of said District.

2. The City Council does hereby fix, as the date on which affected property owners must be ready to receive underground service, and does hereby order the removal of all poles, overhead wires and associated overhead structures and the underground installation of wires and facilities for supplying electric, communication, or similar or associated service within Underground Utility District No. 07-1 on or before, October 1, 2009.

3. The City Clerk hereby is directed to notify all affected utilities and all persons owning real property within Underground Utility District No. 07-1 of the adoption of this resolution within 10 days after the date of such adoption. The City Clerk shall further notify said property owners of the necessity that, if they or any person occupying such property desire to continue to receive electric, communication or other similar or associated service, they or such occupant shall, by the date fixed in this resolution, provide all necessary facility changes on their premises so as to receive such service from the lines of the supplying utility or utilities at a new location, subject to any applicable codes of the City and the rules, regulations and tariffs of each respective utility on file with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California. Such notification shall be made by mailing a copy of this resolution, together with a copy of Chapter 13.14 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, and a cover letter prepared by the Public Works Department, to such utilities and property owners as shown on the real property records of the County Assessor, Tax and License Collector.

4. The City Council hereby finds and determines as follows: The Underground Utility District herein created will provide a significant and unique benefit to the City over and above the public necessity, health, safety, or welfare required to designate the area as an underground utility district in that the streets, roads or right-of-way in the District are extensively used by the general public for access to major commercial facilities.

Adopted by the following vote at the _____ meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of, 2007, by the following vote:

- 2 -

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

JANE L. RODRIGUEZ City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Mut D. Ramussen

SCOTT D. RASMUSSEN Assistant City Attorney

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