

Agenda Report

To: CITY COUNCIL

Date: September 13, 1999

From: CITY MANAGER

Subject: Pasadena Avenue Underground Project

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Amend the FY 2000 Capital Improvement Program by adding a new project, entitled Pasadena Avenue – between Bellefontaine Street and California Boulevard, to the Electric System Undergrounding section.
2. Approve a journal voucher transferring \$100,000 of Underground Surtax funding from the El Molino – Maple to the northern City boundary project (Budget Account 74924) to the Pasadena Avenue – between Bellefontaine Street and California Boulevard Underground project .

BACKGROUND:

This project is being undertaken in order to preserve and protect the existing twenty-seven Canary Island palm trees along the west side of Pasadena Avenue between Bellefontaine Street and California Boulevard. These trees have been identified as historically significant and one of the earliest examples of street landscaping in the City. Over the years, the trees have been trimmed to provide the required clearance from overhead power lines. A four feet minimum power line clearance is required by law to minimize the potential for fire. In spite of the line clearance program, two trees have been killed by fire as a result of power line contact. At their current height, further trimming will prove fatal to these trees according to the City's Forestry Supervisor.

Further, Caltrans is currently in the process of upgrading six properties along Pasadena Avenue between California Boulevard and Bellefontaine Street. The electrical service panels, at each location, are being upgraded as a part of the project

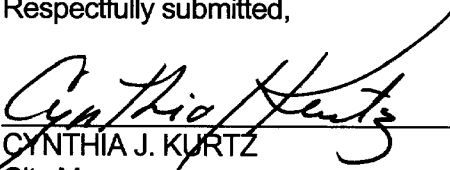
and Caltrans is required to comply with the City of Pasadena Water and Power Department's, Electric Service Requirement Regulation twenty-one. As property owner, under Regulation twenty-one, Caltrans is responsible for the cost of installing the necessary meter panel and conduit to the property line. Water and Power is responsible for the cost of connecting their services to the underground system. Additionally, Caltrans is entitled to a thousand dollar rebate for connecting to the underground system.

Included in this project is the removal of all overhead power cables, and lowering of the pole height. Additionally, the service feed to the Sequoia School will be rerouted. Completion of this project will also improve the streetscape aesthetics, increase power distribution system reliability, and reduce maintenance costs.

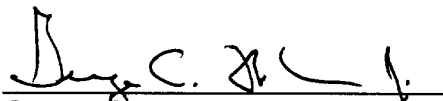
FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds were budgeted for the El Molino – Maple to the northern City boundary project (Budget Account Number 74924). The El Molino project has been completed, and there remain sufficient funds to cover the cost of the Pasadena Avenue – between Bellefontaine Street and California Boulevard Underground project.

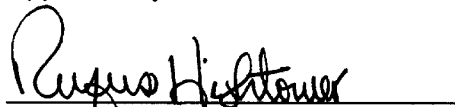
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

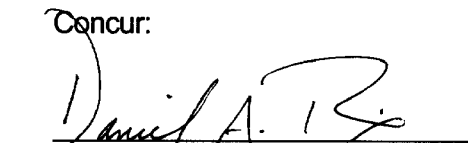
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