



City of San Leandro

Meeting Date: March 18, 2013

Staff Report

File Number: 13-072

Agenda Section: CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Number: 8.H.

TO: City Council

FROM: Chris Zapata
City Manager

BY: Uchenna Udemezue
Engineering & Transportation Director

FINANCE REVIEW: David Baum
Finance Director

TITLE: Staff Report for a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Acquire Easements for the Underground Utility Project on East 14th Street North of 150th Avenue, Project Nos. 123-38-279 and 123-38-328

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to acquire easements for the Underground Utility Conversion Project.

BACKGROUND

Undergrounding of utilities along East 14th Street from 150th Avenue to Maud Avenue/Thornton Street was one of the areas established as an Underground Utility Conversion District and project. City staff worked with PG&E to prepare for the undergrounding of PG&E facilities in the area and removal of all utility poles (excluding street light poles).

Pole-mounted equipment that cannot fit within the existing right of way requires easements from the adjacent private property owners. Much of the equipment will be underground, but access to vaults and transformers will be required in certain instances. These will be flush-mounted on the ground.

Analysis

To place all of the overhead wires along this portion of East 14th Street underground, PG&E must have access and utility easement rights to install previously pole-mounted equipment at five locations. The City was asked by PG&E to acquire these rights as required by the Public Utilities Commission Rule 20 Program for undergrounding utilities.

This action will allow the City Manager to execute agreements with the property owners if negotiations are successful.

There are five locations that require an easement on private property:

- 2193 East 14th Street (commercial building) - 502 square foot underground trench
- 2399 East 14th Street (trailer park) - 411 square foot underground trench to connect to a pole already located on the property
- 14444 East 14th Street (apartment complex) - 53 square foot underground trench and flush-mounted box
- 14400 East 14th Street (apartment complex) - 95 square foot underground trench and flush-mounted box
- 14366 East 14th Street (apartment complex) - 436 square foot underground trench and 89 square foot area for a transformer and flush-mounted box

Previous Actions

- On April 7, 2003, by Resolution No. 2003-092, the City Council adopted the E. 14th Street Underground Utility District
- On May 19, 2008, by Resolution No. 2008-050, the City Council approved the 2008-09 Five-year Utility Underground District Conversion Project list. This project was included on this list
- On May 18, 2009, by Resolution No. 2009-065, the City Council approved the extension of the E. 14th Street Underground Utility District to Maud Avenue/Thornton Street
- On July 2, 2012, by Resolution No. 2012-079, the City Council approved the 2012-13 Five-year Utility Underground District Conversion Project list

Applicable General Plan Policies

General Plan Policy No. 44.05 Street Beautification - City should implement programs to underground utilities along its commercial thoroughfares.

Permits and/or Variances Granted

Required permits and/or variances will be determined at the time of implementation of the utilities undergrounding work at each location.

Environmental Review

Environmental determination will be performed for each location at the time of implementation. Historically, placing existing utilities underground is categorically exempt per Section 15302 (d) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Fiscal Impacts

The project was originally funded in account 210-38-172. This was the main account for all undergrounding activity that was established in the 1990s. Money was appropriated to this account periodically throughout the years to fund the various projects.

In October 2011, a new fund for underground utility conversion work was created (123), and funds from the 210 accounts were transferred over to these new accounts.

This project is funded with money in accounts 123-38-279 (underground utility fees) and 123-38-328 (PG&E reimbursement account). The cost to acquire the easements is estimated

at approximately \$20,000.

PREPARED BY: Tara H. Peterson, Administrative Services Manager, Engineering and Transportation



City of San Leandro

Meeting Date: March 18, 2013

Resolution - Council

File Number: 13-071 **Agenda Section:** CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Number:

TO: City Council

FROM: Chris Zapata
City Manager

BY: Uchenna Udemezue
Engineering & Transportation Director

FINANCE REVIEW: David Baum
Finance Director

TITLE: ADOPT: Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Acquire Easements for the Underground Utility Project -on East 14th Street North of 150th Avenue, Project Nos. 123-38-279 and 123-38-328 (authorizes the City Manager or his designee to acquire easements from private property owners so PG&E can underground its electrical lines and equipment)

WHEREAS, the City of San Leandro Underground Utility District Master Plan provides a systematic approach to convert overhead utility systems to underground systems along the City's major arterial streets; and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2003, by Resolution 2003-092, the City Council adopted the E. 14th Street Underground Utility District; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2008, by Resolution 2008-050, the City Council approved the 2008-09 Five year Utility Underground District Conversion Project list, upon which this Project is listed; and

WHEREAS, in order to complete this particular project (also known as the East 14th North to 150th Avenue Underground Utility Project - Project Nos. 123-38-279 and 123-38-328) the City must acquire easements on private property.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of San Leandro does RESOLVE as follows:

The City Manager is authorized to acquire, execute all documents, and take all other actions necessary for the acquisition of the easements for this portion of the Utility Underground District Conversion Project List, Project Nos. 123-38-279 and 123-38-328.