

Council Meeting of
November 22, 2011

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Public Works – Authorize appropriation of funds for preliminary design for undergrounding of overhead utilities along a portion of Del Amo Boulevard and a portion of Van Ness Avenue. Expenditure: Approximately \$165,500.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize an appropriation of \$165,500 from the Development Impact Fee for Undergrounding Overhead Utilities to initiate the design of the undergrounding of utilities along Del Amo Boulevard between Henrietta Street and Victor Street and Van Ness Avenue between Cravens Avenue and Torrance Boulevard.

Funding

Funding is available from the Development Impact Fee for Undergrounding Overhead Utilities.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Currently the utility lines and infrastructure along the north side of Del Amo Boulevard between Henrietta Street and Victor Street and the east side of Van Ness Avenue between Cravens Avenue and Torrance Boulevard have been undergrounded. The subject overhead utility lines and infrastructure are located along the south side of Del Amo Boulevard and the west side of Van Ness.

On August 30, 2005, the Torrance City Council approved and adopted Phase I of a Development Impact Fee (DIF) Program for undergrounding. The fees went into effect on October 31, 2005. The City Council adopted a RESOLUTION adopting the Utility Undergrounding Facilities Plan and establishing Utility Underground Impact Fees as authorized by Article 2 of Chapter 9 of Part I of Division 2 of the Torrance Municipal Code. The Utility Underground Facilities Plan was established for the purpose of undergrounding longer stretches of overhead utilities.

The DIF Funds must be utilized within 5 years of collection. Staff has been reviewing opportunities to enhance areas where undergrounding would benefit the City

within current available funding. Funding available for 5 years is \$330,533.58 of which \$155,269.81 is set to expire on June 30, 2012. In keeping with that effort, staff will be working with a consulting firm with street lighting expertise to design an underground serviced street lighting system and elimination of existing street lighting only overhead utility lines to further the undergrounding of utilities along these corridors. The undergrounding of these existing overhead utility lines will provide the opportunity to declare both subject roadway segments as Underground Utility Districts and the prohibition of future overhead utility installation.

The estimated cost of the undergrounding project is approximately \$150,000. Tonight's action will fund the engineering and design at a cost of \$15,500 to complete the project's plans, specifications and construction cost estimate (PS&E) and appropriate \$150,000 for the approximated construction cost.

Upon the completion of the PS&E, staff will return to Your Honorable Body for the consideration to award a construction contract. Staff will also be asking Your Honorable Body to declare Del Amo Boulevard between Henrietta Street and Victor Street; and Van Ness Avenue between Cravens Avenue and Torrance Boulevard as Underground Utility Districts.

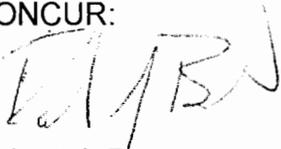
Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT J. BESTE
Public Works Director

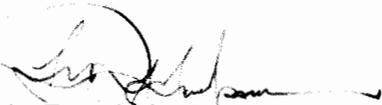


By: Ted Semaan
Engineering Manager

CONCUR:



Robert J. Beste
Public Works Director



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager