

Council Meeting of  
May 13, 2008

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

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Community Development – Set a Public Hearing date for  
the Proposed Skypark Drive Underground Utility District  
(UUD#17)**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that the City Council set a Public Hearing for June 10, 2008 at 7:00 pm regarding the proposed Skypark Drive (between Garnier Street and Crenshaw Boulevard) Underground Utility District (UUD # 17).

### **Funding**

No funding required for this item.

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

On January 24, 2006, the City Council authorized the expenditure of \$25,000 from the Airport Fund to initiate the design to underground the remaining 1,400 feet of the overhead utility along the south side of Skypark Drive within the proposed UUD #17.

Approximately 900 feet of the 2,300 feet of the overhead utilities within the proposed UUD #17 have been undergrounded by Lowe's Development as part of the condition of approval (CUP04-00026).

The City of Torrance will pay an estimated \$500,000 for the installation of cables and vaults and removal of the existing overhead facilities along the south side of the 1,400 feet of the easterly portion of Skypark Drive within the proposed UUD #17. There are no other existing overhead utilities within the proposed UUD#17. Additional costs for panel upgrades for existing buildings located along the south side of Skypark Drive will be incurred by the City of Torrance.

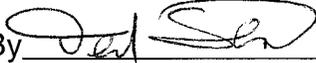
Should the City Council adopt the recommendation, the Community Development Director will transmit an "Engineer's Report" to the City Council at the time of the hearing. The report will describe the boundaries of the district, the work to be undertaken, the extent of participation of the affected utility companies, estimated total costs to the City and any additional information required.

A City Council item granting an easement to Southern California Edison for electrical systems and appurtenances to service the properties along this segment of Skypark Drive will also be presented to the City Council at the same time.

In conformance with Section 20 of Article 1, Chapter 7, Division 7 of the Torrance Municipal Code, the City Council must now set a time and date for a Public Hearing to ascertain whether or not public necessity, health, safety or welfare requires the removal of poles, overhead wires and associated overhead structures within the proposed underground utility district and the underground installation of wires and facilities for supplying electric communication or similar or associated service. Establishment of the Underground Utility District will prohibit future installation of overhead facilities within the District.

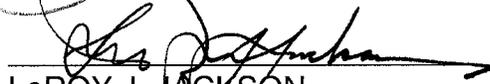
Respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
Community Development Director

By   
Ted Semaan, Manager  
Transportation Planning,  
Development Engineering & Records  
Division

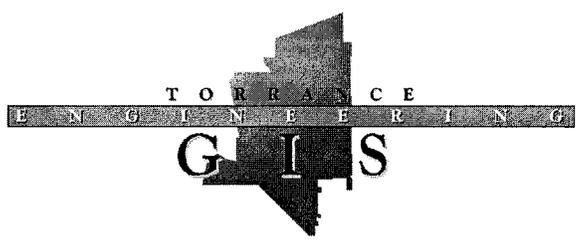
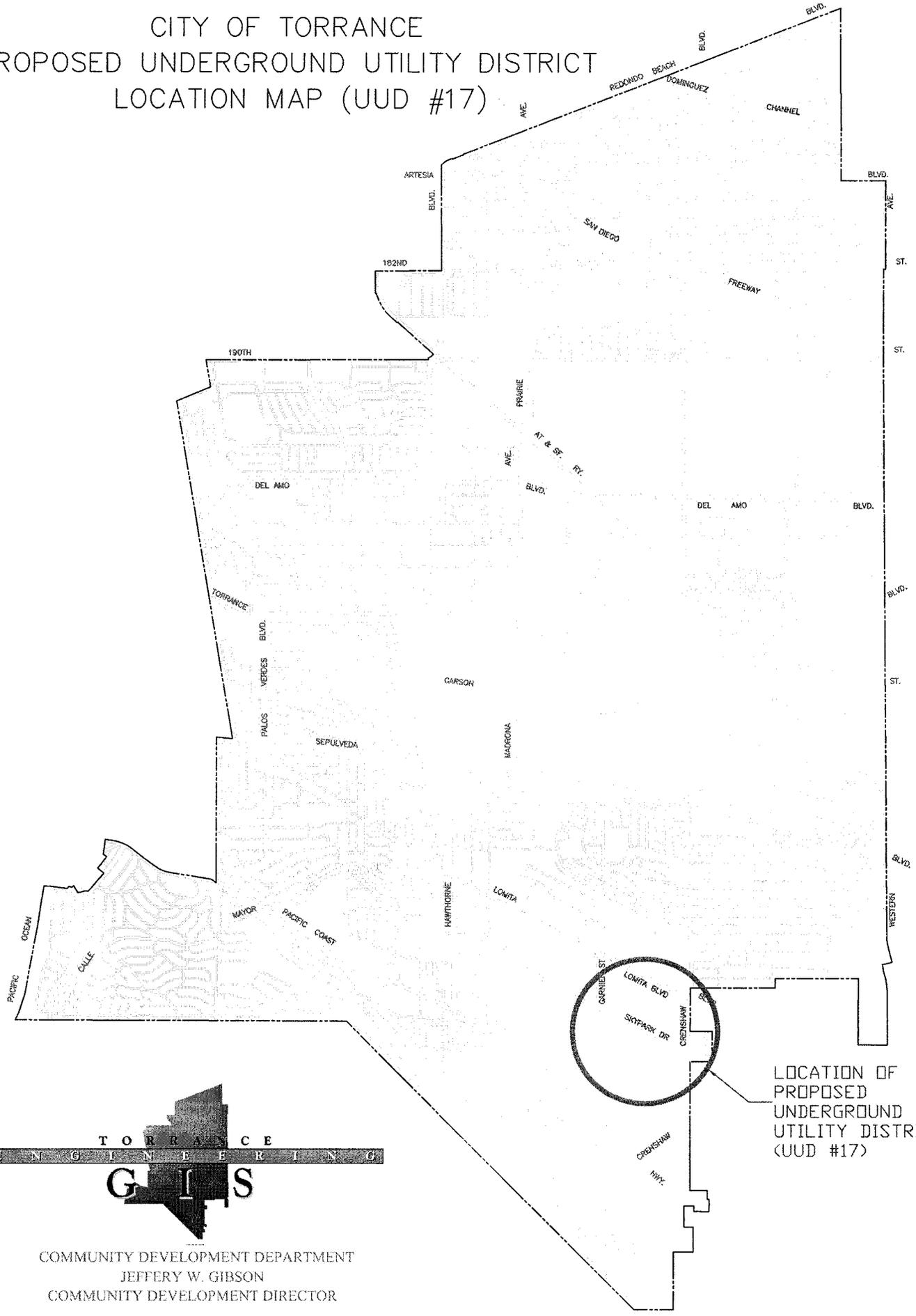
CONCUR:

  
JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
Community Development Director

  
LeROY J. JACKSON  
City Manager

- Attachments:
- A. Location Map
  - B. Existing underground Utility Districts Map
  - C. January 24, 2006 City Council Item 7L

# CITY OF TORRANCE PROPOSED UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT LOCATION MAP (UUD #17)



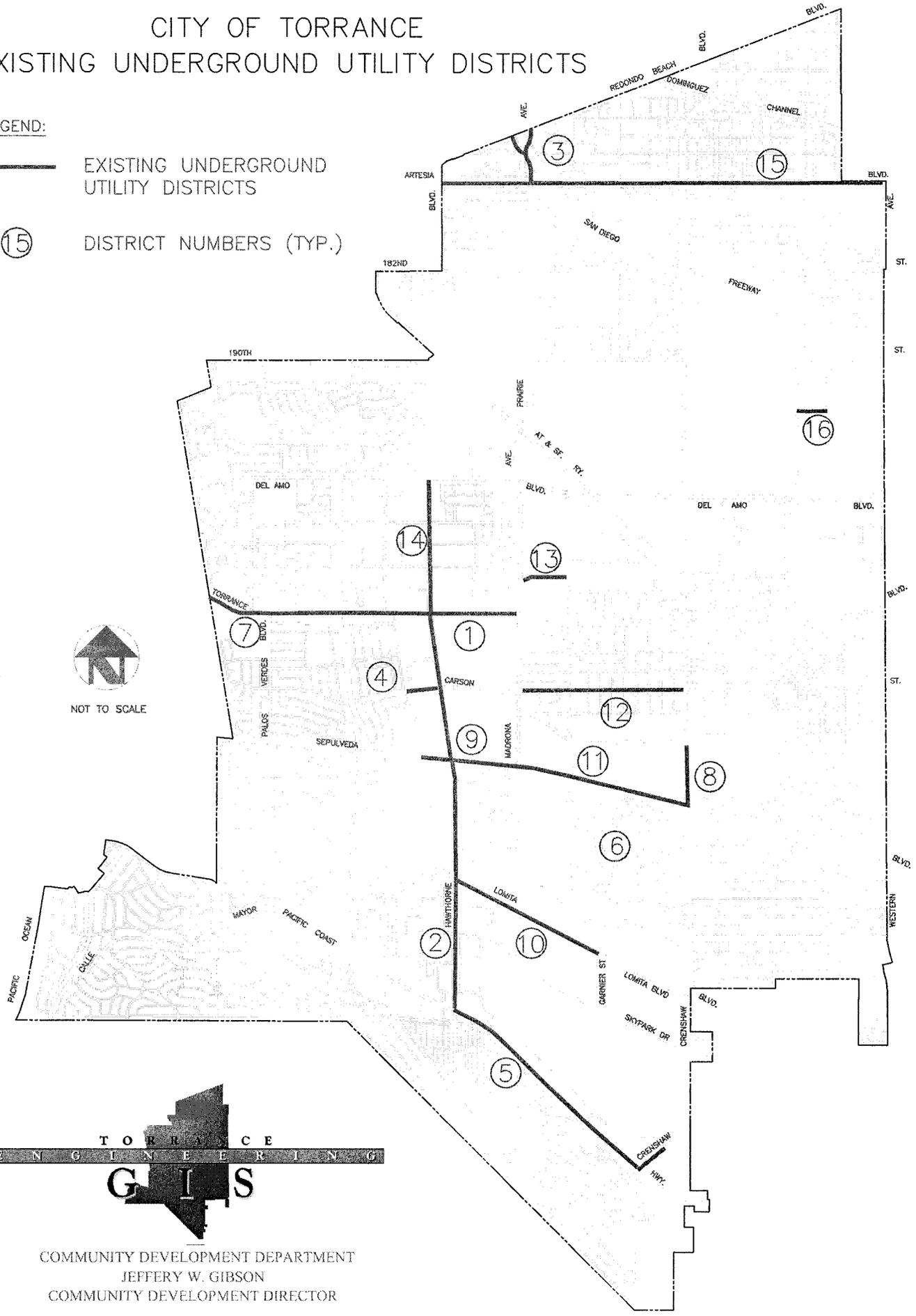
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

LOCATION OF  
PROPOSED  
UNDERGROUND  
UTILITY DISTRICT  
(UUD #17)

# CITY OF TORRANCE EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICTS

LEGEND:

-  EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICTS
-  DISTRICT NUMBERS (TYP.)



NOT TO SCALE



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
 JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Council Meeting of  
January 24, 2006

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

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: Authorization of expenditure to initiate undergrounding of overhead utilities along Skypark Drive west of Crenshaw Boulevard**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Community Development Director recommends that the City Council authorize an expenditure of \$25,000 to initiate the design of the undergrounding of utilities along Skypark Drive west of Crenshaw Boulevard (I-92).

**FUNDING**

Tonight's action would require an appropriation of \$25,000 from the Airport Fund

**BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS**

Currently the utility lines and infrastructure along the south side of Skypark Drive between Crenshaw and Hawthorne Boulevards have been mostly undergrounded. The subject overhead utility lines and infrastructure are located along the south side of Skypark Drive from Crenshaw Boulevard to approximately 2,300 feet west. Approximately 900 of the 2,300 feet of the overhead utility lines will be undergrounded and paid for as a condition tied to the Lowe's Development.

Staff has been reviewing opportunities to enhance areas where undergrounding is a condition of development. In keeping with that effort, staff has been working with Southern California Edison (SCE) to consider undergrounding the remaining 1,400-foot portion of the existing overhead utility lines in order to tie these projects together and further the undergrounding of utilities along this corridor.

SCE provided staff with a letter estimating the cost of the undergrounding project to be approximately \$750,000. Tonight's action is based on SCE's requirement to fund the

initial engineering through an advance of \$25,000 to start the design and complete the detailed/final construction cost estimate. Upon the completion of the design and construction cost estimate, staff will return to your Honorable body for the consideration to appropriate funding and approval of the construction of this project.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
Community Development Director



By: Ted Semaan, Manager,  
Transportation Planning,  
Permits & Records  
Division

CONCUR;



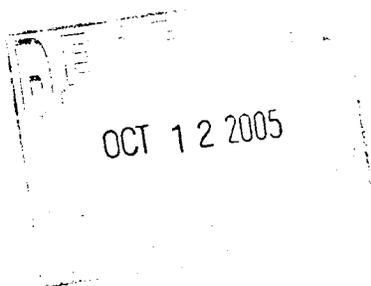
Jeffery W. Gibson  
Community Development Director



LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

Attachments:

A. Correspondence



October 11, 2005

City of Torrance  
3031 Torrance Boulevard  
Torrance, CA 90503  
Attn: Mr. Ted Semaan

Subject: Underground Utility Lines, Skypark Drive

Dear Mr. Semaan:

An order of magnitude cost estimate for undergrounding Southern California Edison (SCE) utility lines on Skypark Drive from Crenshaw Boulevard to 2600 Skypark Drive is \$750,000.00. This cost estimate is based upon a \$400.00 per foot guideline. Rising costs of substructure installation as well as unforeseen obstacles can effect total costs of such a project. However, this rough order of magnitude estimate is sufficiently accurate for you to determine whether this is a viable project.

If you determine that you wish to proceed with this project please notify this office. An engineering advance of \$25,000.00 will be required. In addition a complete list of mandatory information for this project will be requested at that time.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me in the office at 310-783-9340.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David A. Gutierrez'.

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David A. Gutierrez  
Senior Planner



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CITY OF  
TORRANCE

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

May 24, 2005

Mr. David Ahmad  
Southern California Edison Company  
P.O.Box 2944  
Torrance, CA 90509

Subject: Request to Underground Overhead Utility Lines – Skypark Drive

Dear Mr. Ahmad,

The City of Torrance is interested in undergrounding the overhead utility lines along the south side of Skypark Drive west of Crenshaw Boulevard. While most of the utility lines along Skypark Drive have been undergrounded, there are overhead utility lines on wooden poles along the easterly segment of Skypark Drive running from Crenshaw Boulevard to approximately 2,300 feet west of Crenshaw Boulevard. Portion of these overhead utility lines (approximately 900 feet), along the frontage of the property located at 2700 Skypark Drive will be undergrounded and paid for by a developer, as part of the condition of approval of the recently approved development project. Southern California Edison's representatives, Mr. Roger Auchard and Mr. Dave Gutierrez, are currently coordinating this work with the developer.

Since, approximately 1,400 feet of the overhead utility lines will remain along the easterly segment of Skypark Drive after the above-referenced undergrounding work has been completed, the City of Torrance is interested in having the remaining overhead utility lines undergrounded under Rule 20-B guidelines. Please provide us with a cost estimate and timeline for this work.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (310) 618-5990

Sincerely,

Ted Semaan  
Transportation Planner

TS/ps

cc: LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager  
Roger Auchard, Southern California Edison