

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Development – Proposed Underground Utility District # 18 - Hawthorne Boulevard from Del Amo Boulevard to 186th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard from Monterey Street to North of Sepulveda Boulevard.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that the City Council set a public hearing for February 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., regarding proposed Underground Utility District # 18, and direct the staff to notify all property owners affected by the proposed district.

Funding: No funding required.

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 1967, the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California issued Decision No. 73078 which required all electrical and telephone utilities to budget specifically for converting overhead facilities to underground throughout their system. The funds, also known as Rule 20A funds, are set aside by Southern California Edison (SCE) on a formula basis for use within the various jurisdictions of the state.

Each year approximately \$592,494 is set aside by Southern California Edison Company for underground districts in Torrance. The two telephone companies, which serve the City of Torrance, as well as the cable company, are required to underground their facilities when SCE does so.

The City has a right to designate in which area of the City these funds are to be used. The City has adopted into the Municipal Code a procedure to follow in designating underground utility districts.

ANALYSIS

The proposed Underground Utility District #18 consists of two phases:

Phase I - Hawthorne Boulevard from Del Amo Boulevard to 186th Street: 4,752 feet of distribution lines to be undergrounded and remove of distribution poles. All of the existing transmission lines and transmission poles will remain.

Phase II- Crenshaw Boulevard from Monterey Street to north of Sepulveda Boulevard: 2,800 feet of distribution lines to be undergrounded and remove distribution poles. There are no transmission lines or poles within this area to be removed or relocated.

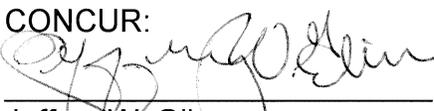
Southern California Edison Company's preliminary construction cost estimate is \$4.6 million. As of August 2010, Rule 20A funds balance is \$954,211. For previous underground districts, the City of Torrance was permitted to borrow against the future allocation of funds. The borrowing was previously allowed because the City has made good use of the funds; therefore, SCE will use future allocations of Rule 20A funding designated for the City through the year 2017, if necessary to finish this project.

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 these segments 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.

CONCUR:


 Jeffery W. Gibson
 Community Development Director


 LeRoy J. Jackson
 City Manager

Respectfully submitted,

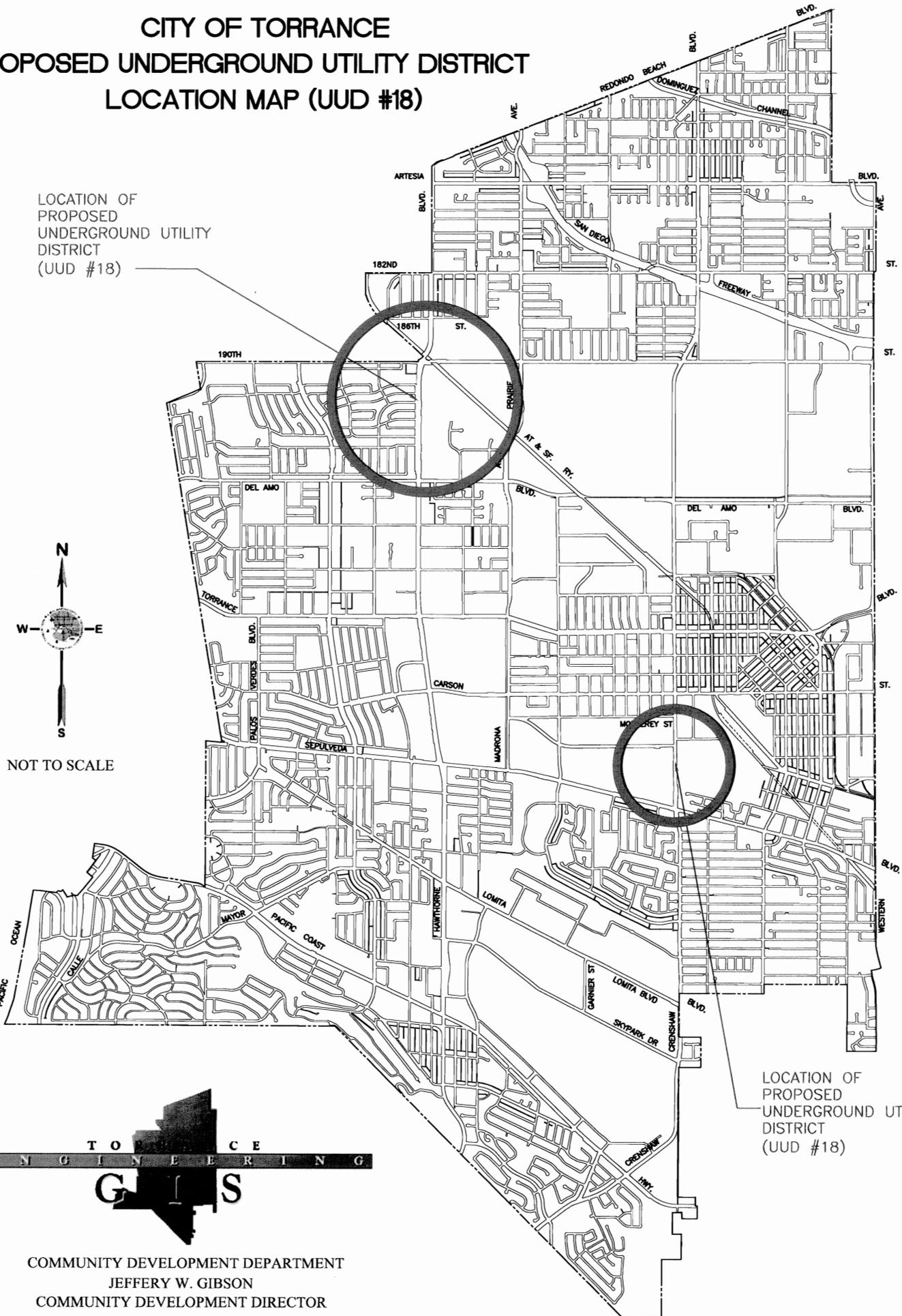
JEFFERY W. GIBSON
 Community Development Director

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

Attachments: A. Location Map
 B. Existing Underground Utility Districts Map

CITY OF TORRANCE PROPOSED UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT LOCATION MAP (UUD #18)

LOCATION OF
PROPOSED
UNDERGROUND UTILITY
DISTRICT
(UUD #18)



LOCATION OF
PROPOSED
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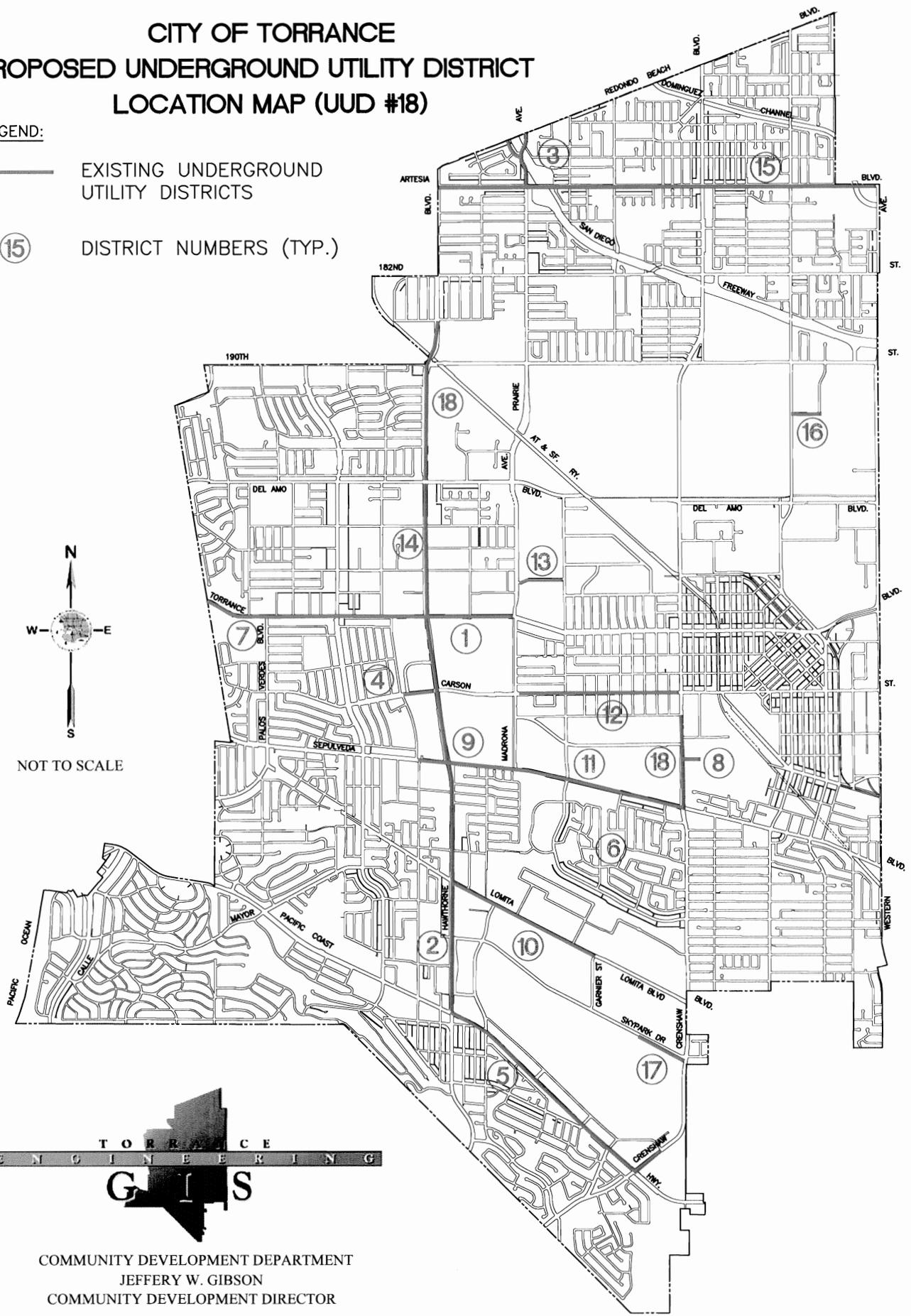


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
JEFFERY W. GIBSON
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

CITY OF TORRANCE PROPOSED UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT LOCATION MAP (UUD #18)

LEGEND:

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



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