

STAFF REPORT*CITY OF OCEANSIDE*

DATE: January 9, 2008

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Development Services Department

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE OCEANSIDE BOULEVARD STREETLIGHTS PROJECT**

SYNOPSIS

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the plans and specifications for the Oceanside Boulevard Street lights project, and authorize the City Engineer to call for bids.

BACKGROUND

Each year, as part of an ongoing program, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) allocates funds to the City of Oceanside for the purpose of replacing overhead utilities with an underground system. The allocation of funds is based on the number of customers served by overhead utilities.

Formation of the Underground Utility District (UUD) notifies property owners that they must allow SDG&E to convert its utility service lines from overhead to underground. The UUD extends along Oceanside Boulevard from Greenbrier Drive to El Camino Real.

This first phase of the underground conversion work begins at Crouch Street because the ground is contaminated from a former gasoline station land use at Greenbrier Drive. The underground work ends at Barnwell Street, but will continue as a second phase project when SDG&E accumulates sufficient funds for this work in about two years.

ANALYSIS

Currently, SDG&E is designing construction drawings for the Oceanside Boulevard UUD. The undergrounding construction is anticipated to begin in March of 2008. The majority of the streetlights are presently mounted on SDG&E wooden poles. Because these poles will be removed, staff is proposing construction of new streetlight assemblies to replace the existing lights. Plans and specifications are now prepared for this effort.

The undergrounding will affect 19 property owners that will be required to convert their existing overhead services to an underground service. In the past, this conversion was typically a cost incurred by the property owners, ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 depending upon the location of their service entrance. However, the future funds allocated by SDG&E for the Oceanside Boulevard UUD will fund the conversions for the property owners. There will be no out-of-pocket expenses for property owners.

At the time the UUD was formed, new Public Utility Commission regulations allowed service conversions to be included with the entire undergrounding expenses and not billed to individual property owners. The City elected to go with the option of not having SDG&E charge individual property owners.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY 2007-08 CIP budget for the Street Improvements projects (212.757790.5702) includes \$300,000 plus carry-forward of \$258,657 from FY 2006-07 for a total of \$558,657. The estimated cost of the project, including inspection, administration and project management is \$200,000.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Utilities Subcommittee meets with staff and utility representatives on a quarterly basis to review existing and future underground utility districts. At its September 16, 2003, meeting the subcommittee approved the proposed Oceanside Boulevard UUD.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the plans and specifications for the Oceanside Boulevard Street lights project, and authorize the City Engineer to call for bids.

PREPARED BY:



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SUBMITTED BY:



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