

City of Oceanside
Development Services Department
Memorandum

DATE: April 22, 2015
TO: Downtown Advisory Committee
FROM: Gary Kellison, Senior Civil Engineer
SUBJECT: Information about Oceanside Funds for Undergrounding Overhead Utilities

Introduction

The City of Oceanside works with SDG&E to underground overhead utilities by one of two programs referenced by their respective sections in the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) code:

20A Refers to projects funded by SDG&E ratepayers and allocated to cities to underground utilities within a special district. Oceanside’s undergrounding district is along Oceanside Boulevard between I-5 and El Camino Real.

20B Refers to projects funded by anyone other than a utility, such as a developer or city. Oceanside and the owner of Eternal Hill Cemetery are currently working on a 20B undergrounding project along Fire Mountain Drive between the City reservoir and Via Esmarca.

Available Fund Balances

SDG&E 20A SDG&E currently allocates about \$320,000 annually for Oceanside projects. These funds are held entirely and spent directly by SDG&E on Oceanside’s behalf on any project within an undergrounding district. SDG&E’s budget for current work is \$1,594,644. The total unallocated balance (work not yet assigned) is \$30,867.

City In-Lieu Undergrounding Funds Oceanside holds a currently balance of \$388,567 in its Undergrounding In-Lieu fund. Of that amount, \$79,000 and \$160,000 are currently budgeted towards the Oceanside Boulevard and the Fire Mountain Drive projects, respectively. The \$79,000 pays for costs that are not reimbursable by SDG&E on Oceanside Boulevard. The \$160,000 sum pays for undergrounding work that is not Eternal Hill’s responsibility: end poles across from the cemetery and poles on the City reservoir property.

The City’s current budgeting of the Undergrounding In-Lieu funds is as follows:

Current Balance		\$388,567
Less Current Budget Projects		
Oceanside Boulevard (streetlight replacement, curb ramps)	\$79,000	
Fire Mountain Drive	<u>\$160,000</u>	
	Balance	<u>\$149,567</u>

Recommendation

Continue to reserve the balance of Underground In-Lieu funds for the two currently active projects and for future replacement of SDG&E streetlights on wood utility poles between Camelot Drive and El Camino Real when those poles and overhead wires are removed.