

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
May 31, 2016

Old Business

ITEM 8c

Undergrounding Utilities

It was agreed at the April meeting that in order to provide the community with factual and accurate information on the cost of the program that the District would have to complete Phase 2 of the proposal by the consultant. Directors Masto and Muller met with the consultant for Utility Specialists, Duane Strooboscher (pronounced 'stroh-bsher'), and discussed the next phase in the process:

Phase 2

DESIGN MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION - \$29,600

- An assessment of the underground work order and its relation to the existing overhead system. We want to make sure SDGE is not duly reinforcing their own system.
- Complete a cost opinion utilizing our own costing database providing District representatives a better understanding of 'real market' costs associated with the proposed improvements.
- Strategy recommendations to District representatives for implementation.

Mr. Strooboscher indicated this phase could take up to seven months to complete, given their current work load and the time involved in contacting and meeting with the various utilities that currently occupy space on the power poles.

The issue of transformer location was thoroughly discussed. In the northern half of the community, to the turnaround at 35535 where the road is 30 feet wide, there is enough space over on the inland side of the road to accommodate the placement of transformers. This, however, is not the case for homes located past the turnaround. In this area, with the roadway only 20 feet in width, there is simply no space on the inland side of the road to place transformers. On the seaward side, most homes are sitting within a few feet from the pavement which leaves no space near the homes to place transformers.

A possible solution to this might be to place the transformers on decorative hollow steel poles. Utility Specialists indicated this has never been done in a residential setting and while it sounds like a possibility, they would have to explore this with SDGE.

Also being explored is the possibility of financing the entire project through a big capital improvement loan where property owners are either not assessed at all or are minimally assessed. Again, there won't be a lot to report on over the next several months but any progress will be made available to the community.