

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
May 30th, 2017

Old Business

ITEM 9a

Undergrounding Utilities

Following the last board meeting, a homeowner from the Phase 2 area, south of the turnaround, asked to review the design details for that area as he wanted to be sure something was not missed where transformers might actually be placed at ground level. Several locations were pointed out that might be possible sites. As it turns out, the locations pointed out are all at the walkway easements that run in between several of the homes throughout the community. While it looks like there could be adequate space, given that the easements are 12 feet wide, there are obstructions within most of the easements that might prevent transformer placement. Obstructions are either existing storm drain pipes or fire hydrants, and/or power poles. The possibility of the easements being used for transformer placement will have to be decided by the consultant who can evaluate each location based on the exact location of the drain pipe within the easement space. As of our Friday report deadline, there has been no reply from Utility Specialists on whether this is a workable option. Fire hydrants can be moved easily enough so they would not be considered a permanent obstruction.

A packet of photos is being provided to board members to illustrate the storm drain easement locations.

Second Opinion on Transformers in Vaults

I have been communicating with a long-time employee with the City of Laguna Beach, Joe Chiquete, who has worked extensively with both SDGE and Edison on numerous utility undergrounding projects for the city. The initial purpose is to hear a second opinion regarding our consultant's report that SDGE does not allow transformers to be placed underground. Mr. Chiquete would represent an independent and unbiased source of information. I hope to have his comments in time for the board meeting.