

**City of Berkeley  
Utility Undergrounding Subcommittee  
of the  
Public Works Commission**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**Subject:** Utility Undergrounding  
Meeting with Comcast

**Date:** March 30, 2017 3:00 – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Cypress Conference Room  
2180 Milvia Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Berkeley, CA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Comments from the Public (3 minutes each speaker)
3. Discuss/Action:
  - A. Introductions and purpose of meeting
  - B. Background on Berkeley's undergrounding study (Harris baseline report and status report to Council transmitted to Comcast in advance)
  - C. Discuss questions for Comcast (see attachment A)
  - D. Conclusions and next steps
4. Adjournment

**An agenda packet is available for public review at the Engineering Division front desk.**

---

**ADA Disclaimer:**

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

**SB 343 Disclaimer:**

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Public Works Department located at the address below.

**Communications Disclaimer:**

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the Secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the Secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

**Commission Secretary:**

Tracy Clay, Supervising Civil Engineer  
Public Works Department/Engineering Division, 1947 Center Street, 4th Floor,  
Berkeley, CA, 94704, Telephone (510) 981-6406, Fax: (510) 981-6390  
TDD: (510) 981-6903, Email: [tclay@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:tclay@cityofberkeley.info).

## **Attachment A**

### **Discussion questions with Comcast**

1. What is your relationship with PG&E and the placement of Comcast cables?
2. Please describe your cable distribution system in Berkeley.
3. Considering the potential disasters that may affect Berkeley (earthquake, wild land fire, landslides, flooding), does having overhead utility wires or undergrounded wires perform better?
4. Considering the current and future methods of operation and maintenance, are there differences in the time to make repairs for overhead wires versus undergrounded wires? What is the effect of topography, such as the hilly areas of Berkeley?
5. Are there operations and maintenance costs that can be avoided with undergrounding utilities?
6. What have been the challenges and successes of undergrounding programs in other cities?
7. What is your experience with the cost of undergrounding utility wires?
8. Is it possible to share underground conduits or duct banks? What are the options on who owns these? Would you be willing to be a partner to finance the undergrounding?
9. What are your technology trends that may affect the placement of Comcast cables in the next two decades?