

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

MEETING AGENDA

Subject: Utility Undergrounding
Meeting with PG&E and ATT

Date: April 6, 2017, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Location: Cypress Conference Room
2180 Milvia Street, 1st 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 PG&E and ATT in advance)
 - C. Discuss questions for PG&E and ATT (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.

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Commission Secretary:

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Attachment A

Discussion questions with PG&E and ATT

PG&E and ATT

1. Considering the potential disasters that may affect Berkeley (earthquake, wild land fire, landslides, flooding), does having overhead utility wires or undergrounded wires perform better?
2. 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?
3. Are there operations and maintenance costs that can be avoided with undergrounding utilities? Factors causing maintenance may include ground shifting, flooding, vehicle accidents, high winds, etc. and varying conditions (liquefaction and landslide vs relatively stable soil conditions) could cause damage.
4. 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?
5. What have been the challenges and successes of undergrounding programs in other cities?
6. What is your experience with the cost of undergrounding utility wires?

PG&E

7. What is the future of Rules 20a, b, c, and d?
8. What is the longevity of overhead and underground utility systems?
9. Technology is changing rapidly regarding improvements to how we use clean renewable energy. The reductions in the cost of solar and battery systems are making them feasible on an individual home user or a micro-grid system in the near future. Also, there are significant advances being made on electric vehicles, driverless vehicles, and ride sharing that will affect how we use energy. How do you see the next couple of decades in technology advances and how it might affect our decisions on utility grids in Berkeley?

ATT

10. What are your technology trends considering fiber optic trunk lines, copper to the house and/or wireless connections to users?
11. What is the longevity of overhead and underground utility systems?