



CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-33

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6383 • FAX (562) 570-6012

April 1, 2008

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution revising Underground Utility District No. 40 for portions of Willow Street under California Public Utilities Commission Rule 20A.
(Districts 6 and 7)

DISCUSSION

On October 10, 2006, RES No. 06-0118 was adopted creating Underground Utility District No. 40 for Willow Street between the westerly City Boundary and Atlantic Avenue. Subsequent to our resolution, Southern California Edison (SCE) conducted a preliminary investigation for the proposed undergrounding and recommended that their facilities west of the Los Angeles River (River) be excluded from our Underground Utility District No 40. Their reasons are provided as follows:

1. There is a 220 KV high volume transmission corridor just within our westerly city boundary which cannot be undergrounded due to cost and land right issues.
2. There are poles west of the River belonging to the California Department of Transportation that cannot be ordered underground by a City of Long Beach resolution.
3. SCE's transmission facilities between the westerly city boundary and the River are relatively new (installed in 2002), and it would be more cost effective to replace facilities that are nearer to the end of their useful life.

A diagram showing the revised limits of Underground Utility District No. 40 is attached as Exhibit A. SCE's statement on this matter is attached as Exhibit B. The September 5, 2006, City Council letter initiating the undergrounding of utilities along both Willow Street and Alamitos Avenue is attached as Exhibit C. The resolution drafted to modify Underground Utility District No. 40 is attached as Exhibit D.

**ADMINISTRATION,
PLANNING & FACILITIES**
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4100 Donald Douglas Dr.
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**ENGINEERING & STREET
MAINTENANCE**
333 W. Ocean Blvd., 9th Floor
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**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**
2929 E. Willow Street
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FLEET SERVICES
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Long Beach, CA 90806
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TRANSPORTATION**
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HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 1, 2008

Page 2

This resolution is necessary in order for SCE to prepare engineering plans for this project. This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy Burton on March 10, 2008, and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on March 17, 2008.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on April 1, 2008, so that SCE may proceed with planning and carrying out this project.

FISCAL IMPACT

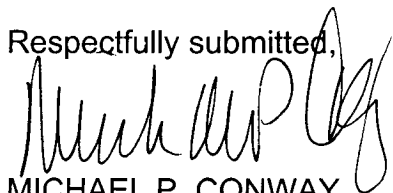
SCE's original cost estimate in 2006 for undergrounding utilities along Willow Street was \$6,800,000, based on the length of the corridor to be undergrounded. This did not include the 220 KV high volume transmission corridor which must be maintained overhead. The cost to underground utilities in the original area was revised in 2008 to \$12,600,000. The cost of undergrounding the reduced area shown on Exhibit A is estimated as \$5,200,000, as there are no transmission lines to underground in this area.

According to the State of California Public Utility Commission rules, these costs are SCE's responsibility. The City may incur minor costs (approximately \$20,000) for the construction of underground electrical feeds to the City-owned street lighting system. These costs cannot be firmly stated until final plans have been developed for the project, but will come from funds budgeted in the General Fund (GP) in the Department of Public Works (PW) for street light maintenance.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

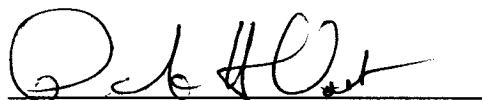


MICHAEL P. CONWAY
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

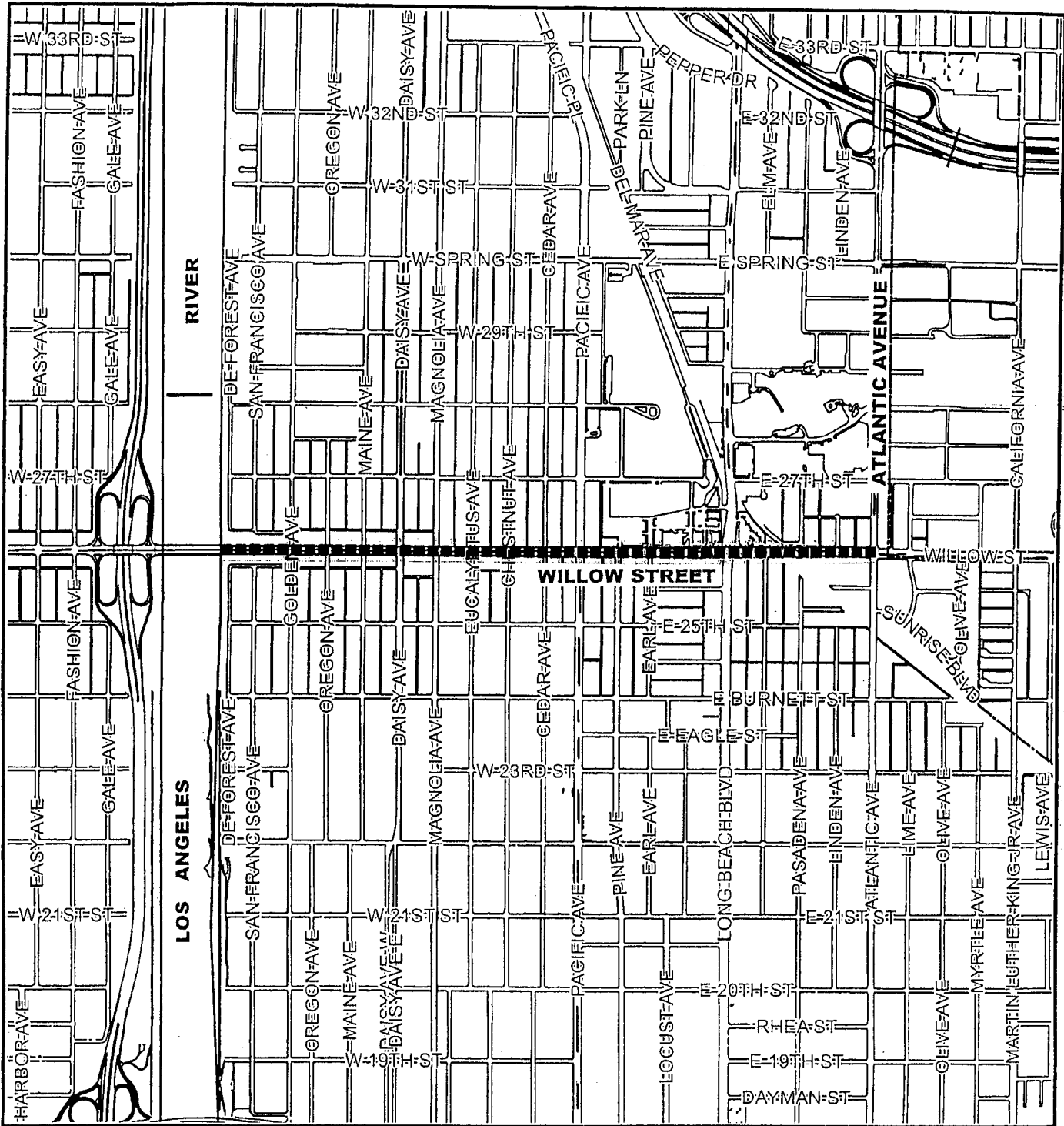
MPC:GMM:SC
P:CL/ROW Willow St UUD revision CL

Attachments

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER



UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 40
WILLOW STREET
LOS ANGELES RIVER TO ATLANTIC AVENUE

EXHIBIT A



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON

An EDISON INTERNATIONAL[®] Company

Connie Turner
Region Manager
Local Public Affairs

September 21, 2007

Sue Castillo
Project Engineer
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Subject: Willow Street Rule 20A Project
UUD #40, Resolution 06-0118

Sue,

Southern California Edison met with the city of Long Beach Public Works Staff on September 1, 2007 regarding the Willow Street Rule 20A Project. As discussed at the meeting, SCE operates a corridor of high volume transmission lines that cross Willow Street just east of the City boundary (known as the Hinson-Long Beach 220KV Right-of-Way). This system must be excluded from the project boundary due to the complexity of SCE's transmission system and current land rights for an overhead only system, as well as, the prohibitive cost of undergrounding high voltage transmission facilities.

Secondly a smaller scale transmission system exists between the Hinson-Long Beach 220KV system and the L.A. River (LACFCC). Edison also recommends retaining this overhead transmission line for the following reasons:

- (1). This is a new system, installed in 2002, with a life expectancy exceeding 20 years.
- (2). A number of poles in this system are in the Caltrans Right-of-Way and cannot be included in the city's resolution.

Should the city of Long Beach agree to exclude the above referenced transmission system from the Willow Street Underground District, SCE recommends the city also consider retaining the existing distribution facilities as an overhead system. While undergrounding the distribution and retaining overhead transmission facilities will result in some aesthetic benefits, SCE suggests the city of Long Beach may have other potential projects that may better optimize the use of Rule 20A allocations and achieve greater aesthetic benefits.

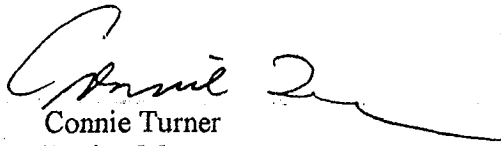
SCE requires that changes to the project description be done by an approved resolution. Upon approval and receipt, we will proceed with incorporating the changes.

2800 East Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90806
562-981-8215/PAX 31215
Fax 562-981-8289
turnerch@sce.com

EXHIBIT B
Page 1 of 2

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Connie Turner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Connie Turner
Region Manager
Cell: 626-233-4589



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

~~R-28~~

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6383 • FAX (562) 570-6012

September 5, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt resolutions of intention to establish Underground Utility Districts 40 and 41, for portions of Willow Street and Alamitos Avenue, respectively, and set a public hearing on establishing Underground Utility Districts No.'s 40 and 41 for Tuesday, October 10, 2006, at 5:00 p.m., and direct the City Clerk to mail notices of the public hearing, together with a district map and letter of information, to all concerned utilities and to all affected property owners as shown on the last equalized assessment roll. (Districts 1, 2, 6 and 7)

DISCUSSION

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) enacted Rule 20 in 1968 in order to systematize the conversion of overhead utility facilities (electric, telephone and cable TV) to underground facilities. The CPUC established the criteria of Rule 20A in order to maintain a general public benefit wherein recovery of the costs of a project are included in electric rates.

The allocation concept was developed to ensure equitable treatment of every local government by Southern California Edison (SCE) and ensure a fair division of SCE funds among the local governments in its service territory. The allocation formula was developed by the SCE and the League of California Cities (on behalf of local governments) and was approved by the CPUC. The allocation formula for SCE is a method of calculating a fair allocation for all communities within our service territory based on the number of overhead electric meters in each community. The exact formula is found within the CPUC Rule 20A tariff. Long Beach's allocation typically amounts to \$2.5 million per year.

Projects that qualify for funding under tariff Rule 20 A are: 1) Arterial and Collector Roads, 2) located on or in heavy volume of pedestrian or vehicle traffic streets, 3) streets and roads with an unusually heavy concentration of overhead electrical facilities, 4) streets, roads and highways of scenic interest, or 5) streets or roads near civic areas.

City staff, in conjunction with assistance from SCE, developed a priority listing for potential utility undergrounding districts using the project criteria established by the CPUC under Rule 20 A. Attached is a copy of the results of that effort. SCE has indicated that Long Beach's current share of SCE's undergrounding budget will allow for the following top two listed projects to proceed:

Willow Street from the westerly City Limits to Atlantic Avenue is a major arterial with a heavy concentration of overhead utility lines in an area of dense commercial land use. The Underground Utility Advisory Committee gave a high priority to undergrounding utilities along this street section, due to the high degree of visual streetscape enhancement that could be achieved. This project is to be known as Underground Utility District No. 40. A map showing the district is attached to the Resolution of Intention.

Alamitos Avenue from Seventh Street to Pacific Coast Highway is classified as a regional corridor and also has a heavy concentration of overhead utility lines. The section of Alamitos Avenue to the south between Seventh Street and Ocean Boulevard has already been undergrounded as a part of Underground Utility District No. 39 (along with Seventh Street). By undergrounding the utilities north of Seventh Street, this streetscape enhancement would be continued northerly connecting to the previously undergrounded utilities along Pacific Coast Highway. Elimination of the utility poles will enhance ADA rule compliance on this street where narrow sidewalks are very common and pedestrian traffic is very high. This street section was prioritized by the Underground Utility Advisory Committee as Underground Utility District No. 41. A map showing the district is attached to the Resolution of Intention.

In order for SCE to begin preparing plans for these projects, the City must establish these areas as Underground Utility Districts. This is done by first adopting the attached Resolutions of Intention and setting a public hearing date for this matter. At the conclusion of the hearing, the City Council will be asked to formally create the two undergrounding districts described above. SCE estimates the undergrounding process will take up to three years from the date the Districts are formally adopted by the City Council.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Lisa Peskay Malmsten on April 14, 2006, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on August 24, 2006.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on September 5, 2006, so that notices for the required public hearing may be distributed and SCE can begin project planning.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

September 5, 2006

Page 3

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of these projects to be funded by SCE with rate reimbursements under PUC Rule 20A allocations is \$6,800,000 for Willow Street and \$2,700,000 for Alamos Avenue. The City may incur some minor costs (approximately \$20,000) for construction of underground electrical feeds to the City-owned street lighting system. These costs will not formally be known until final plans have been developed for the project. Such funds, if needed, will come from those budgeted in the General Fund (GP) in the Department of Public Works (PW) for street light maintenance.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



CHRISTINE F. ANDERSEN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

GMM:SC:km
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Attachments

APPROVED:


for
GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING RESOLUTION NO.
RES-06-0118 REVISING UNDERGROUND UTILITY
DISTRICT NO. 40 FOR PORTIONS OF WILLOW STREET
UNDER CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
RULE 20A (DISTRICTS 6 AND 7)

WHEREAS, Underground Utility District No. 40 was established following a
public hearing on October 10, 2006 pursuant to Resolution No. RES-06-0118; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, investigation determined that Underground
Utility District No. 40 should be reduced in area to exclude facilities west of the
Los Angeles River;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that
Underground Utility District No. 40 is revised as shown on the attached Exhibit "A".

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to mail a copy of this
resolution to all affected utilities and all persons owning real property within the district
within ten days after adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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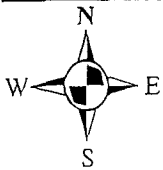
I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 20__ by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk



UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 40
WILLOW STREET
LOS ANGELES RIVER TO ATLANTIC AVENUE

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING RESOLUTION NO.
RES-06-0118 REVISING UNDERGROUND UTILITY
DISTRICT NO. 40 FOR PORTIONS OF WILLOW STREET
UNDER CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
RULE 20A (DISTRICTS 6 AND 7)

WHEREAS, Underground Utility District No. 40 was established following a
public hearing on October 10, 2006 pursuant to Resolution No. RES-06-0118; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, investigation determined that Underground
Utility District No. 40 should be reduced in area to exclude facilities west of the
Los Angeles River;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that
Underground Utility District No. 40 is revised as shown on the attached Exhibit "A".

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to mail a copy of this
resolution to all affected utilities and all persons owning real property within the district
within ten days after adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 20__ by the following vote:

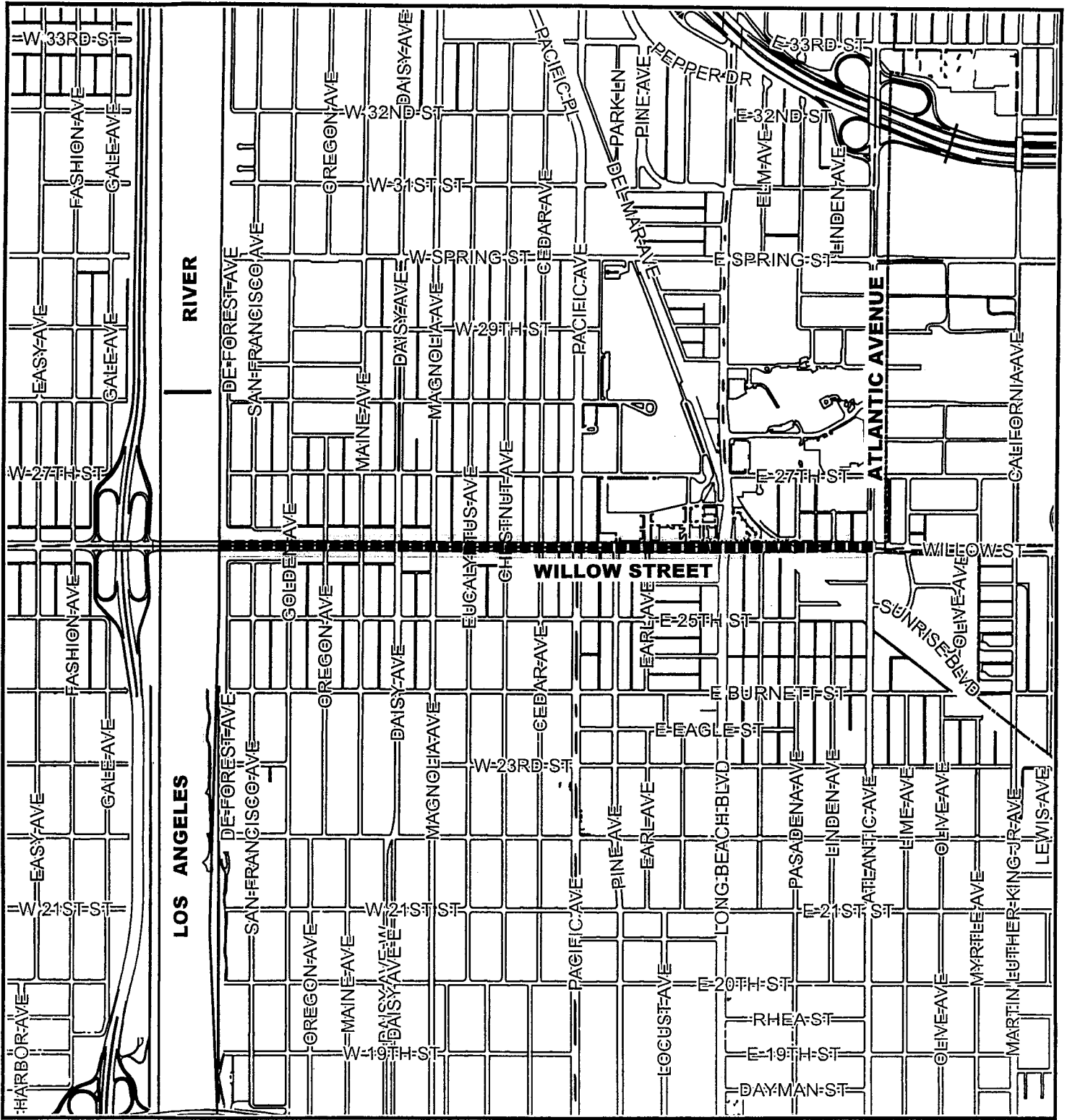
Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664



UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 40
WILLOW STREET
LOS ANGELES RIVER TO ATLANTIC AVENUE

EXHIBIT A