



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

October 17, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive supporting documentation into the record, conclude the public hearing, find that it is in the public interest to underground utility lines along Alamitos Avenue between Seventh Street and Pacific Coast Highway, and adopt a resolution establishing Underground Utility District 41. (Districts 1 and 6)

DISCUSSION

Alamitos Avenue from Seventh Street to Pacific Coast Highway is classified as a regional corridor and has a heavy concentration of overhead utility lines. City Staff, with the assistance of Southern California Edison (SCE), gave a high priority to undergrounding utilities along this street section due to the high degree of visual streetscape enhancement that could be achieved. In order for SCE to begin planning this project, the City must first establish it as an underground utility district, to be known as Underground Utility District No. 41. A map showing the district is attached as Exhibit A.

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. Alamitos Avenue merges with Orange Avenue north of Seventeenth Street; this area may be included in the district at the discretion of SCE.

On September 6, 2006, the City Council adopted Resolution No. RES-06-0100, declaring its intention to establish the underground utility District 41, and set October 10, 2006, as the date for the public hearing. A copy of the September 6, 2006, City Council letter is attached as Exhibit B. Notice of the October 10th hearing was mailed to all of the owners and residents along the subject portion of Alamitos Avenue on September 27, 2006. This matter was reviewed by Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on August 24, 2006, and Deputy City Attorney Lisa Peskay Malmsten on October 3, 2006. The public hearing

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and City Council action to create this underground utility district was continued to October 17, 2006, in order to correct an error in the public record of this project description.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to create the underground utility district is requested on October 17, 2006, so that SCE can begin project planning. SCE estimates that the undergrounding process will take up to three years from the date the District is formally adopted by the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of this project to be funded by SCE, with rate reimbursements under Public Utilities Commission Rule 20A allocations, is \$6,800,000. 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

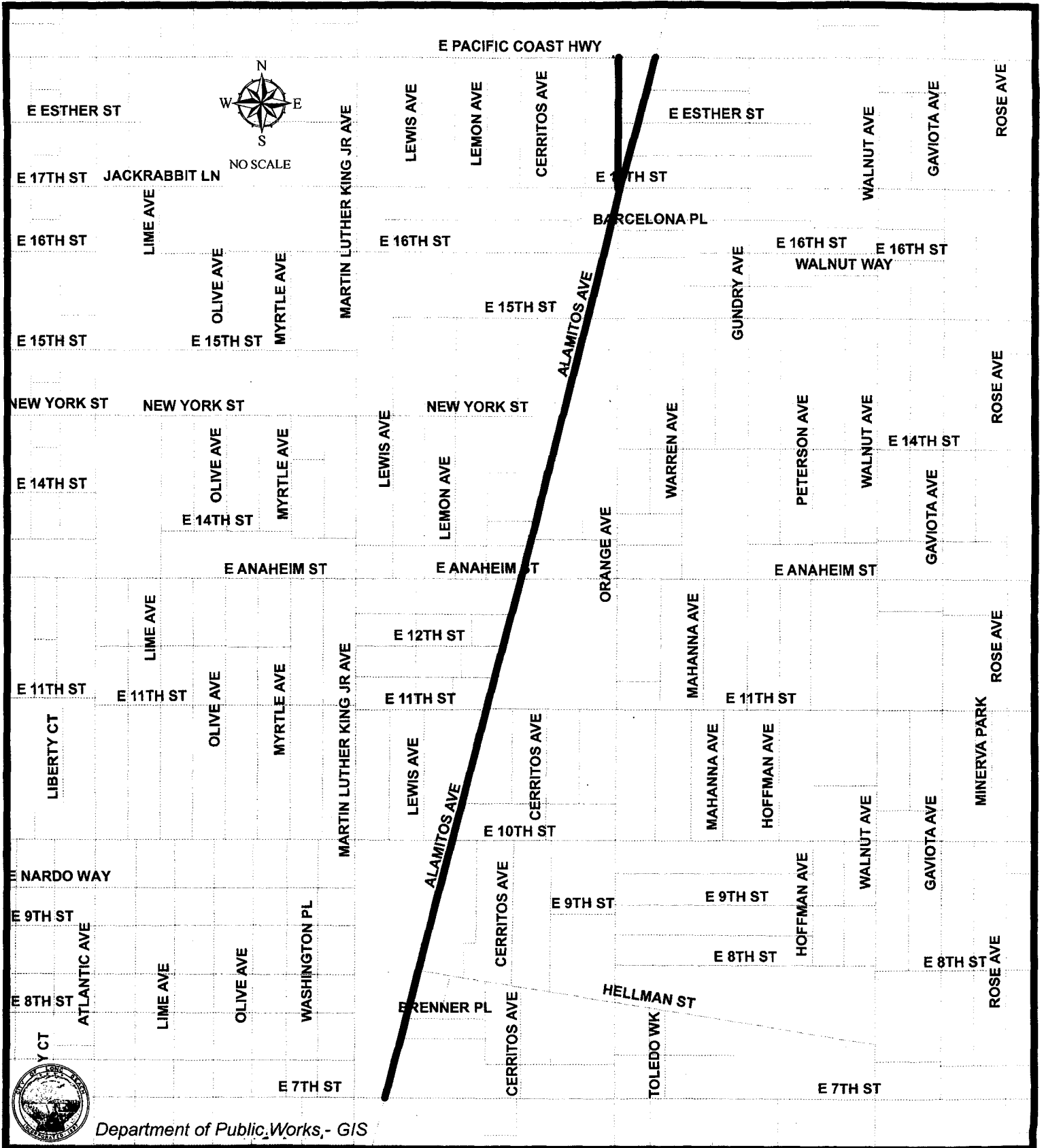
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Attachments

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER



UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 41
ALAMITOS AVENUE
7TH ST TO PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
ORANGE AVENUE
17TH ST TO PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
EXHIBIT A

RESOLUTION NO. RES-06-0122

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH ESTABLISHING AN
UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT ON ALAMITOS
AVENUE BETWEEN SEVENTH STREET AND PACIFIC
COAST HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, a public hearing was called for October 17, 2006, at the hour of 5:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber on the Plaza Level of the City Hall, 333 West Ocean Boulevard, in the City of Long Beach, County of Los Angeles, State of California, to ascertain whether it is in the general public interest to replace utility poles, overhead wires and associated structures with the underground installation of wires and facilities used for supplying electric, communication, or similar or associated service on Alamitos Avenue between Seventh Street and Pacific Coast Highway; and

WHEREAS, notice of such hearing has been given to all affected property owners, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll and utilities concerned in the manner and for the time required by law; and

WHEREAS, such hearing has been duly and regularly held and all persons interested have been given an opportunity to be heard;

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that it is in the general public interest to replace utility poles, overhead wires and associated structures, with the underground installation of wires and facilities used for supplying electric, communication, or similar or associated service on Alamitos Avenue between Seventh Street and Pacific Coast Highway and hereby establishes it as Underground Utility District No. 41.

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the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: B. Lowenthal, S. Lowenthal, DeLong,
O'Donnell, Schipske, Richardson,
Reyes Uranga, Gabelich, Lerch.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: None.

City Clerk

LPM:bg
06-01634
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