

**A
RESOLUTION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE
CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE UTILITY LINE UNDERGROUNDING STUDY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the complete undergrounding of overhead utility lines within the City of Cherry Hills Village ("Village") has been a long-standing goal in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village's Master Plan identifies this task as a priority for the City Council to pursue by developing a plan to accomplish this objective; and

WHEREAS, residents of the Village have asked about policies regarding sharing of expenses of undergrounding utility lines; and

WHEREAS, undergrounding utility lines contributes to public safety by eliminating traffic hazards and by removing a significant cause of storm-related power outages; and

WHEREAS, undergrounding utility lines eliminates the need for removal or aggressive trimming of the Village's tree canopy located in or near rights-of-way and enhances the visual appearance of the community; and

WHEREAS, funds available from Xcel Energy and Village resources for the cost of undergrounding utility lines are well below the total cost; and

WHEREAS, in order to consider and adopt an undergrounding plan, the Council would benefit from a review and report on this issue by a citizen's committee of experts and interested residents; and

WHEREAS, a report from the citizen's committee should be presented to the Council in time for Council's consideration of a possible ballot measure in the November 4, 2014 election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE:

Section 1. The Council hereby establishes a committee, designated as the Utility Line Undergrounding Study Committee ("the Committee"), to review the undergrounding of overhead utility lines in the Village.

Section 2. The Committee shall consist of up to six (6) residents. In appointing members the two members of Council appointed to the Committee will consider competence in finance, law, engineering and other areas of related expertise. In addition to the up to six (6) members appointed by the Council, there shall be two (2) members of the City Council assigned as non-voting advisors to the Committee.

Section 3. The Committee shall consider and report to the Council on:

1. The estimated cost of undergrounding utility lines organized by categories such as state highways, Village arterial roads, neighborhood streets and easements.
2. Policy recommendations for cost sharing between the Village and benefitted property owners.
3. A priority ranking for the sequence of undergrounding utility lines.
4. Suggested changes to the Municipal Code or Village policies to

- support the effort to underground utility lines.
5. A plan to finance the project in summary form recommending specific financial resources including new revenue sources.
 6. All other matters the Committee deems relevant to the issue and requiring the Council's consideration.

Section 4. The City Manager shall assign appropriate staff to support the Committee's work.

Section 5. The Council hereby instructs the Committee to present a final report by June 1, 2014 with interim reports as decided by the Committee.

Section 6. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Introduced, passed and adopted at the regular meeting of City Council this 7th day of January, 2014, by a vote of 6 Yes and 0 No.

(SEAL)



Douglas M. Tisdale, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Laura Smith, City Clerk



Linda C. Michow, City Attorney