

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM NO. 16

**TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

**FROM:** Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E., Director of Public Works

**SUBJECT:** Utility Conversion of City Public Service Energy (CPS Energy) Facilities – Commerce Street Railroad to South Palmetto

**DATE:** March 2, 2006

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

A Resolution recommending approval to City Public Service Energy (CPS Energy) to fund a total of \$4,687,780.00 from the Community Infrastructure and Economic Development (CIED) funds for the relocation/conversion of overhead electrical supply lines to underground in connection with the Commerce Street Railroad to South Palmetto project, located in District 2.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In 1993, the CPS Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to amend the CPS Budget by establishing a permanent fund to finance the conversion of overhead utility lines to underground operation. On June 19, 1995, the CPS Energy Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to expand the definition of eligible projects financed by the utility conversion fund to include those that relocate and/or redesign existing or planned overhead transmission and/or distribution facilities for aesthetic purposes. This same resolution expanded the eligible costs of projects financed by this fund to include expenses for certain services and administrative expenditures by the City of San Antonio incidental to project selection and implementation, and to include certain work on individual customers' property to convert service through and including the meter loop conversion. This resolution prohibits the use of these funds for the costs of any utility conversion except those of CPS Energy. The CPS Energy Board converted this fund to the Community Infrastructure and Economic Development (CIED) Fund on January 19, 2005 and all remaining Overhead Conversion funds were transferred into the new CIED fund on January 31, 2005.

This resolution provides for the installation of underground electrical supply lines in connection with the Commerce Street Railroad to South Palmetto project. The estimated conversion cost is \$4,687,780.00 and is payable from the CIED fund. This ordinance recommends this project be primarily funded from revenues received by the fund since January 19, 2005. The conversion to underground utilities in this area will enhance aestheticism and property values.

City Councilmember Sheila D. McNeil generated the attached Council Consideration Request for this project. This item was presented to the City Council Governance Committee on February 8, 2006 meeting. Previously, this utility conversion project was recommended as part of the Urban Land Institute Study and the Arena District/Eastside Community Plan. The remaining cost for underground relocation of the facilities of other utility companies located within the project limits is approximately \$188,306.00 which will be funded with District 2

Access and Mobility program project, a Housing Urban Development (HUD) 108 Loan funded project.

Upon approval of this resolution, CPS Energy shall be notified, and project design shall commence.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

Approval of this resolution will be a continuation of City Council policy to enhance the visual appearance and visitor appeal of the City's visitor attractions, scenic views and urban corridors, to promote economic development and revitalization, increase the value of commercial and residential properties, and to improve the quality of life of the residents of San Antonio.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

This item has no financial impact for the City of San Antonio. The estimated balance in the Community Infrastructure and Economic Development (CIED) Fund as of February 15, 2006 is \$28,461,954.87. Funds in the amount of \$4,687,780.00 are available from the CIED fund and are authorized payable for relocation of utilities to underground in connection with the Commerce Street capital improvement project from the Railroad tracks to S. Palmetto. Approval of this item will reduce the fund balance to \$23,774,174.87.

### **COORDINATION**


This has been coordinated with the Office of Management and Budget, the Public Utilities Department, City Attorney's Office, the Finance Department and City Public Service.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

A Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.

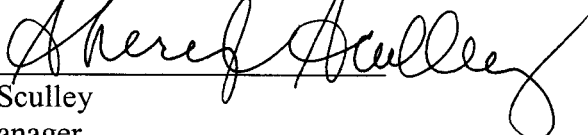
### **ATTACHMENT**

Request from City Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2

  
Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

  
Jelynn LeBlanc Burley  
Deputy City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:

  
Sheryl Sculley  
City Manager

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

RECEIVED  
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
CITY CLERK

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

2005 DEC 16 A 10:24

**FROM:** Councilmember Sheila D. McNeil, District 2

**COPIES TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Melissa Byrne Vossmer, Assistant City Manager; Jelynn LeBlanc Burley, Assistant City Manager; Michael Bernard, City Attorney; Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E., Director of Public Works; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Gayle McDaniel, Assistant to the City Council; File

**SUBJECT:** District 2 Utility Conversion Project

**DATE:** December 14, 2005

City Public Service Energy has established a funding mechanism, the Community Infrastructure and Economic Development fund (CEID), formerly known as the CPS Overhead Conversion fund, to pay for the installation of underground electrical supply lines. An Underground Conversion project is proposed for E. Commerce Street from the railroad tracks to S. Palmetto. Due to proposed enhancements along this corridor, this roadway will become a major arterial between Sunset Station and the SBC Center. In an effort to enhance the aesthetic value of the area, I am proposing this underground utility conversion project. I respectfully request your concurrence with placing an item on the Governance Committee agenda and the City Council agenda. This project is to be funded from the CEID fund and the cost estimate for this project is \$4.68 Million. Your support in this matter is appreciated.


  
SHEILA D. MCNEIL, DISTRICT 2

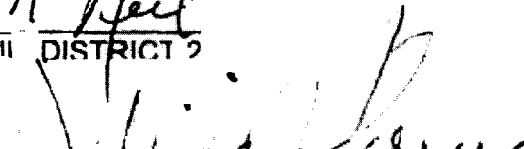
  
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