

Utilities Undergrounding Program



WELCOME TO UUP!

The Utilities Undergrounding Program (UUP) staff works with San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) and other utilities to move overhead utility lines underground. The City's UUP team oversees project prioritization, planning, financial forecasting, permitting and compliance with environmental regulations, and public reporting related to undergrounding electrical and communication utility lines. Undergrounding projects are either coordinated to be delivered directly by SDG&E through the established franchise agreement or jointly with the Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

Progress of Undergrounding Work

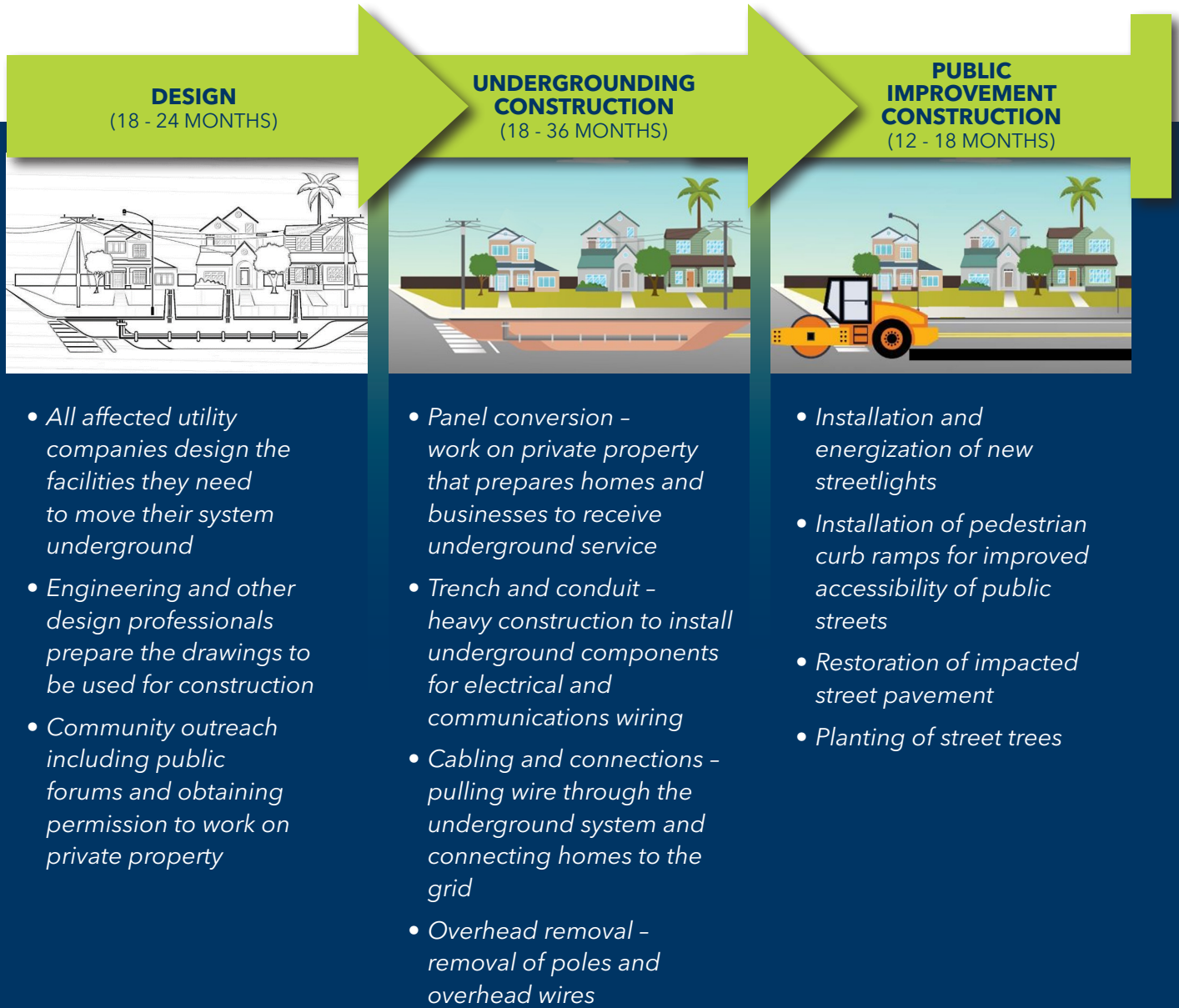
It is important to understand the flow of construction when following the life-cycle of a UUP project. The graphic, on page 2, outlines the flow which begins when an Underground Utility District is selected to move forward to design phase, where all affected utility companies must develop a plan for how they will move their overhead lines underground. Also, during this time surveyors are performing field surveys, other professionals are coordinating with property owners to plan the construction on private property, engineering is preparing drawings that are used for construction, and preliminary cost estimates are received from SDG&E. Residents are also contacted to join a Pre-Design Forum to solicit feedback on how the design is taking shape, and how it might impact their property. Next is construction, which is done in two phases - undergrounding construction and public improvement construction. The undergrounding construction phase starts by working with residents to ensure their electrical panel is up to code and ready for the conversion. Residents are also invited to

What to Expect in the UUP Newsletters

UUP newsletters will be provided on a pilot basis twice this year. During the pilot, UUP will receive feedback and evaluate the newsletter's effectiveness in supporting City Council staff's understanding of the undergrounding program.

For additional UUP information please visit our website www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding

a Pre-Construction Forum to share project details and solicit more feedback. This is followed by trenching and installing round plastic conduit below the surface of the roadway. Subsequently, technicians place new utility lines within the new conduits and energize residents homes. Once all homes are receiving service from the undergrounded system, overhead lines and poles are removed. At this point the public improvement phase of construction would begin which consists of adding pedestrian curb ramps, installing streetlights, planting trees, and pavement restoration.



As detailed in Table 1, staff are actively managing 22 projects that are in underground construction. The undergrounding of utility systems and the subsequent removal of overhead utility systems typically takes between 18 and 36 months for most projects. These projects have a mix of funding sources which include 20A and surcharge. Of the 22 projects, 59% are in a high-fire risk area, and 50% are within a community of concern demonstrating a commitment to public safety and equity.



Table 1

PROJECTS IN UNDERGROUNDING CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NAME	CD	STREET MILES	PROPERTIES SERVED	STATUS
Crown Point (2BB) Job 2	1	1.99	251	Trenching Phase scheduled to resume Early 2024
La Jolla (1J) Phase 1	1	2.07	324	Trenching Phase completed. Cabling phase to begin Early 2024
Bay Park (6H)	2	4.1	560	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Marlesta Drive/ Beagle Street	2	1.31	108	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
Mount Acadia Blvd	2	1.02	32	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
30th St Phase (Phase IIIB)	3	0.88	83	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Howard Ave Phase 1	3	0.6	48	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Golden Hill (8C)	3	2.61	428	Trenching and Cabling phase completed. Cutover phase to be completed Early 2024 and removal from service by Summer 2024.
San Diego Ave	3	0.85	63	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Baker Street / Shawnee Road	3	0.95	109	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
Ridgeview- Webster / Oak Park (4J1)	4	2.31	326	Construction - Trenching completed, Cabling in progress expected completion by Early 2024, Cutover phase and removal from service by Summer 2024.
Jamacha Lomita (4Y)	4	3.23	312	Construction - Trenching phase in progress, Cabling, Cutover, and Removal from service by Summer 2024
Allied Gardens (7T)	7	3.23	389	Trenching estimated to begin Fall 2024
28th Street	8	0.5	69	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
Cesar Chavez Parkway	8	0.38	20	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Rolando (7G2)	9	2.95	307	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
Orange Ave	9	0.62	51	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
31st Street (Distribution)	9	0.46	31	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
32nd Street Phase 1	9	0.14	12	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
32nd Street Phase 2	9	0.48	25	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing communication company equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Early 2024
Seminole Ave Phase 1	9	0.29	29	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024
Seminole Ave Phase 2	9	0.8	55	Trenching, Cabling, and Cutover phase completed. Removing equipment and poles from service- expected to be completed Summer 2024

Another measure of undergrounding progress is the volume of projects actively being designed and the



pace of design completion. Table 2 shows 10 projects currently in the design phase. This volume of design activity is the result of City and SDG&E staff working together to restart production under the new MOU.

Table 2
PROJECTS IN DESIGN

PROJECT NAME	CD	STREET MILES	PROPERTIES SERVED
La Jolla (1M1)	1	2.01	202
Del Mar Hts./Carmel Valley (1Y)	1	2.5	226
Mission Beach (2S2)	2	2.85	485
North Clairemont (6K1)	2	4.44	395
North Clairemont (6K2)	2	2.66	443
Encanto/Emerald Hills (4R1)	4	4.53	506
Jamacha Lomita (4Y1, joint project)	4	2.69	359
Allied Gardens (7R1)	7	3.34	500
Egger Highlands (8R, joint project)	8	2.63	283
Adams North (3DD)	9	3.85	387



In Table 3, there are 18 projects undergoing public improvement construction. During this last

phase, project enhancements are completed which include pavement restoration, tree planting, curb ramps, and streetlights.

Table 3
PROJECTS IN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NAME	CD	STREET MILES	PROPERTIES SERVED
Fanuel St Phase 1	1	0.26	14
Fanuel St Phase 3	1	0.77	74
La Jolla (1J) Phase 2	1	2.07	263
Cass Street	1	0.34	16
La Jolla (1M) Job 1	1	1.1	142
Mission Blvd	1	0.34	24
Ingulf Street	2	0.34	10
Bay Ho (6DD1)	2	3.51	525
Mission Beach (2S1)	2	3.4	517
Howard Ave Phase 2	3	1.1	76
San Vicente Street Phase 1	4	1.02	68
San Vicente Street Phase 2	4	0.23	29
Hughes Street	4	0.38	51
Golfcrest Drive	7	0.46	44
25th (SB) St	8	0.18	4
Coronado (SB) Avenue	8	0.36	32
Hilltop Drive (Phase 1)	9	0.74	60
Wightman Street	9	0.34	34

**For project updates,
please visit our UUP Info Map at
[www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/
undergroundinginfomap](http://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/undergroundinginfomap)**

EXTERNAL EVENTS

Block 7T Pre-Construction Community Forum

On November 30, the Utilities Undergrounding Program (UUP) held a pre-construction utility forum to engage with residents in the Allied Gardens community. Transportation Deputy Director **Chelsea Klaseus** and **Councilmember Raul A. Campillo** kicked off the meeting and **Janneth Vasquez** led the presentation, providing details of the planned improvements and construction schedule. Subsequently, a panel comprising of representatives from City teams, including **UUP, Urban Forestry, Development Services Department (DSD), and Engineering & Capital Projects (ECP)**, along with COX, AT&T, and SDG&E addressed specific questions from the 49 community members in attendance.

The project proposes to underground 3.23 miles of utility lines to provide new, secure, and dependable underground electrical, telephone, and broadband services, catering to 389 homes.



Highlights

- 389 properties to convert
- Approximately 3.23 miles of overhead lines to convert
- Approximately 74 utility poles will be removed
- 46 Proposed streetlights per current City Standards
- 43 ADA Curb Ramp installations to be Installed



Highlights

- Undergrounded 1.1 miles of utility lines
- Installed 35 new streetlights
- Installed new pedestrian curb ramps
- Plans to plant approximately 12 new trees
- Estimated total project cost is \$9.9 million

Howard Avenue Phase 2 Pole Removal Ceremony

On December 6, the Utilities Undergrounding Program (UUP) celebrated the completion of Phase II construction by holding a Final Pole Out Ceremony with the North Park community. Through a provision in the franchise agreement, the City directly managed portions of the undergrounding construction, resulting in schedule efficiencies and cost savings. The Transportation Department staff worked closely with the Public Utilities Department to convert electrical service under the iconic North Park steel water tower, all while maintaining continuous operation throughout the switch over to the new power feed. Not only does the project provide clear skies and unobstructed views, it delivers new, safe and reliable underground electrical, telephone, and broadband service to 76 properties and 1.1 miles of City streets.

A big thank you to **Council Member Stephen Whitburn** and SDG&E for attending.

Public forums are conducted for each project, providing the community with an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and express concerns. Residents will receive notifications if a forum is being scheduled in their area.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pavement Restoration

Pavement restoration happens after undergrounding has taken place.

The fund that we use for utilities undergrounding cannot be used to repair existing conditions with the pavement, but it can be used to do any pavement restoration that is required by City regulations. The regulations that apply here are referred to as the Street Preservation Ordinance, or SPO, which the City has recently made several improvements to.

The new Street Preservation Ordinance broadens the amount of pavement repair that is required by any utility trench work. Under the old rules, the required repair extended only 6 inches on each side of the utility trench. Now the pavement repair must extend out to a larger area of impacted pavement; typically about 40 inches on each side of the trench. This will provide for a smoother, safer road surface and a longer lasting repair.

Where there are existing pavement concerns outside of the required repair area, we will coordinate with other paving funding sources to see if additional pavement improvements can be done at the same time. Engineering staff will assess pavement conditions and make recommendations for funding closer to the end of the undergrounding construction activities.

After Undergrounding Enhancements

- Street pavement restored
- Pedestrian curb ramps installed
- Streetlights energized
- Pole removal ceremony
- Tree planting assessment

Online Tools

The undergrounding program also has a robust website and information map that can be used to help answer questions. The first tool is our undergrounding [information map](#). This map is your go to location to quickly find UUP project updates, boundary maps, and an address finder to locate constituents' homes. Second, UUP also has a dedicated external facing [website](#) that features overall program information like current events, the [2018 Master Plan](#), and a [FAQ](#) section.

