

1 - Work Session Agenda

Documents:

- 1 - WORK SESSION AGENDA.PDF
- 2 - UNDERGROUNDING UPDATE.PDF



CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE WORK SESSION MEETING

Monday, December 12, 2022 - 3:30 p.m.

Greenville City Hall, 206 S. Main Street

Citizens may access the meeting at the following web address:

<https://www.greenvillesc.gov/1694/Online-Meetings>

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Knox White; Councilmember Wil Brasington; Councilmember John DeWorken, Councilmember Dorothy Dowe, Councilmember Lillian Flemming; Councilmember Ken Gibson; Councilmember Russell Stall

CITY STAFF: City Manager John McDonough, City Attorney Leigh Paoletti; City Clerk Camilla G. Pitman

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order** **3:30 p.m.**
2. **Undergrounding Update** **3:30 p.m.**
(Presented by Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin and Engineering Services Director Clint Link)
3. **Executive Session (S.C. Code §30-4-70):** **4:00 p.m.**
NOTE: City Council will leave the Work Session to conduct an Executive Session which is not open to the public. The Work Session meeting will adjourn following the completion of the Executive Session. No action will be taken prior to adjourning the meeting.
 - a. **Real Estate Update**
(Presented by City Manager John McDonough)
4. **Adjourn** **5:20 p.m.**

Utility Underground Program

Update: December 12, 2022

Undergrounding Program Timeline

2006: As a result of winter storms, City Council directed the City Manager to develop strategies for placing utility lines underground, while identifying a funding mechanism. A Utility Advisory Committee was formed.

2007: The committee recommended a practical and sustainable method for incremental improvements to enhance reliability of electric power distribution, with the emphasis on residential power lines.

2009: The City and Duke Energy collaborated to improve power outage restoration and delivery during inclement weather by announcing the Utility Undergrounding Program.



About Undergrounding

Since Program Inception in 2010:

- 4800 residential service line applications submitted
- Average of 400 applications per year
- Average of 180 lines buried per year

Program funded by City's Franchise Fee Agreement with Duke Energy

- Total Franchise Fee is 5%
- 4% to General Fund and 1% to Undergrounding Fund
- Duke matches with 0.5% contribution

1% Franchise Fee of \$1.2 million

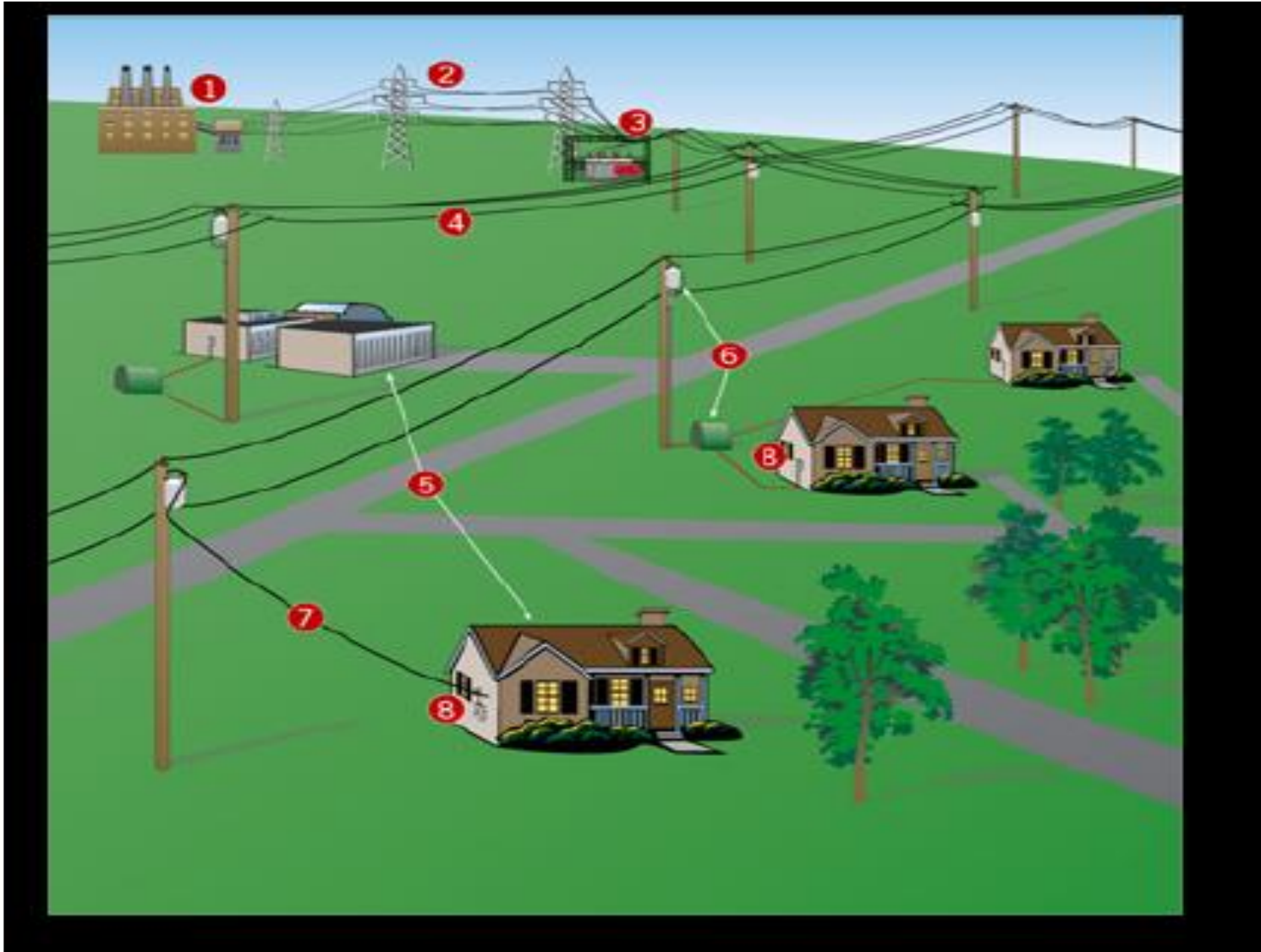
- 80% for commercial projects (about \$900k)
- 20% for residential projects (\$225k)

Underground Funding

- **Current Balance**
 - City – \$1.56 Million
 - Duke – \$55k
- **Projected End Of FY24**
 - City – \$2.5 Million
 - Duke – \$640k



Power Distribution System



1 Power Generating Stations

2 Transmission Lines

3 Substations

4 Distribution Power Lines

5 Homes and Businesses

6 Transformers

7 Service Line

8 Individual Meters

Service Line Conversion - Before

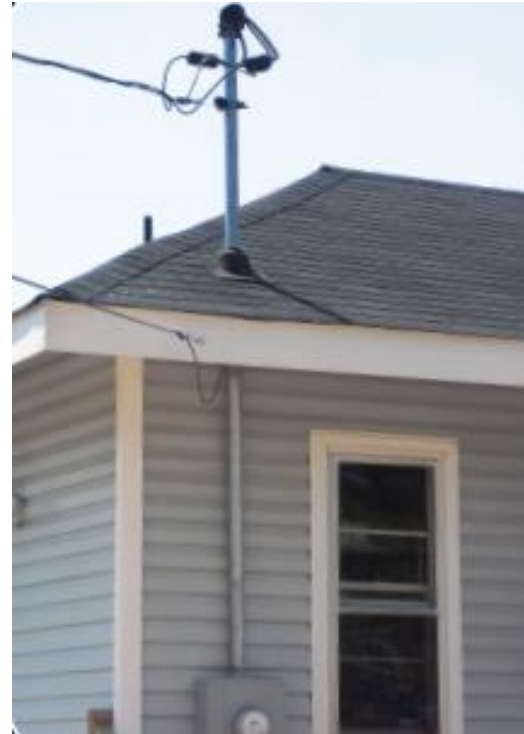


Service Line Conversion - After



Residential Undergrounding

- Burying the last line means undergrounding the final link from the power pole to a home.
- Undergrounding allows Duke Energy to restore power more quickly and efficiently during severe weather or significant outages.
- Restoration can be delayed when Duke must service homes individually. Buried lines keep the power on and residents warm.



**Before and After
Residential
Undergrounding**

Residential Undergrounding – *"Weather The Storm"* Program

Current Subsidy

- \$1,500 for burying service line. Shared equally between City & Duke.
- \$300 for meter box conversion. Provided by City only.

Considerations

- Materials and labor have increased tremendously since 2010.
- The average cost to bury the line is almost \$3,000.

Residential Undergrounding Single and Group Lines

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Include underground service line and secondary line to the road
2. Increase subsidy to \$3,000
3. Maintain \$300 meter box conversion subsidy



Residential Undergrounding Before & After



McDaniel Heights Condominiums

Commercial Undergrounding

- In conjunction with major City projects (parks, developments, streetscapes, etc.)
- Corridor Improvements
- Economic Development Public/Private Partnerships

City Contribution

- Pays 50% of electrical undergrounding and restoration associated with duct bank construction.
- Pays 100% of communication conduits underground
- Pays 100% for streetlights, pedestrian lights and traffic mast arms
- Provides assessment, selection and project management for electrical duct bank and communication conduits from conceptual design through construction and close out

Duke Contribution

- Pays 50% of electrical undergrounding and restoration associated with duct bank construction
- Facilitates the electrical design and the removal of overhead power facilities and switch over

“Streets and their sidewalks-the main public places of a city-are its most vital organs.”

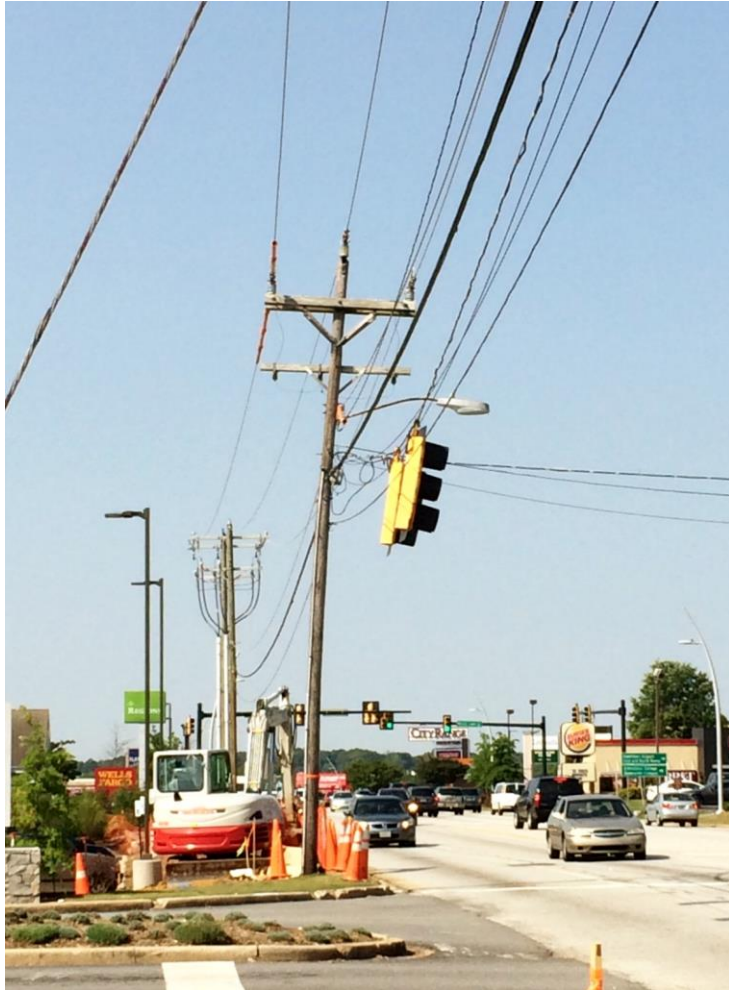
- Jane Jacobs

Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – Haywood Road



2012 – 2016 | Total Cost = 5.1 million

Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – Haywood Road



Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – Rutherford Road



Completed 2016 | Total Cost = \$300,000

Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – West Greenville Village Plaza



Completed 2016 | Total Cost = \$30,000

Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – West Washington Street



2016-2018 | Total Cost = \$1.3 million

Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – Rhett Street



2015 | Total Cost = \$1.4 million

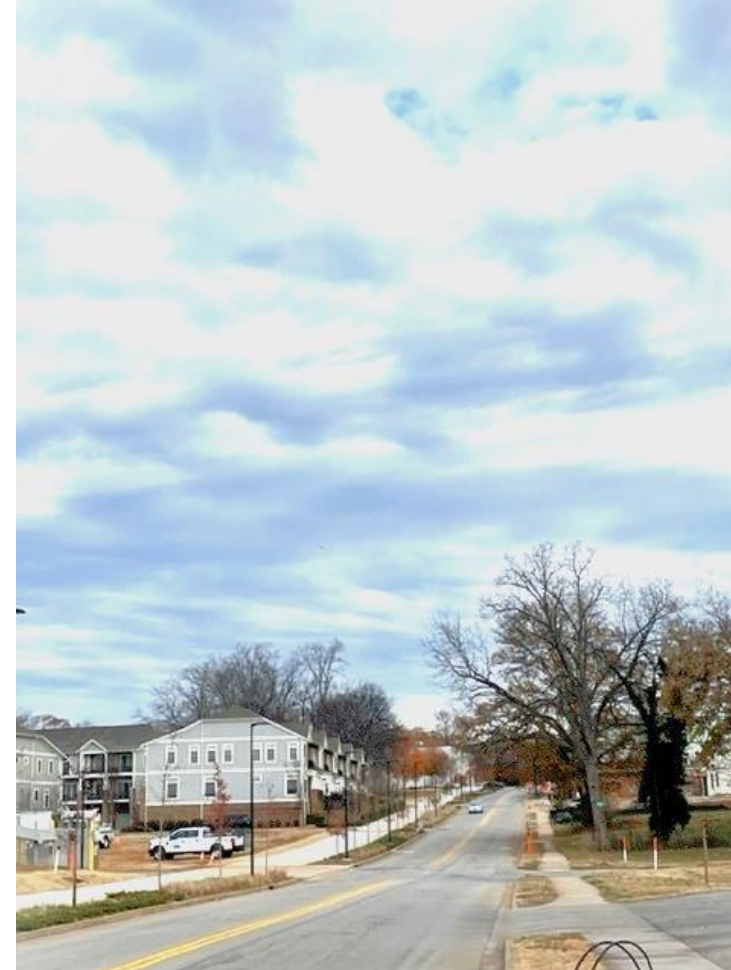
Commercial Undergrounding Before & After – Augusta Street Relocation



2015 | Total Cost = \$150,000

Commercial Undergrounding

Before & After – Hudson Street at Unity Park



2018-2023 | Total Cost = \$7.6 million

Commercial Recommendations

- 1. AUGUSTA STREET**
- 2. STONE AVENUE**
- 3. RIVER STREET**
- 4. LAURENS ROAD**
- 5. MAYBERRY STREET**

Commercial Recommendations – Augusta Street



Cateechee Avenue to Capers Street – **\$3.5 million**

Commercial Recommendations – Augusta Street



South Main Street to Faris Road – commercial overhead crossings cleanup – designate **\$500,000**

Commercial Recommendations – Augusta Street



Augusta Place to Crystal Avenue
Pole consolidation and overhead crossings cleanup
in conjunction with the Augusta Streetscape project **\$500,000**

Commercial Recommendations – Stone Avenue



Wade Hampton Boulevard to South Main Street
Overhead road crossings cleanup and pole consolidation – **\$500,000**

Commercial Recommendations – River Street



“You can’t rely on bringing people downtown, you have to put them there.”

- Jane Jacobs

Rhett Street to Broad Street –
\$1.8 million

Commercial Recommendations – Laurens Road



Antrim Drive to I-385
\$18 million

Commercial Recommendations – Mayberry Street



South Hudson to end of Delano Drive
Cost TBD due to future development

Communications Plan

Residential Undergrounding

- Rebrand "Weather the Storm" to "POWER ON: Bury the Last Line"
- Update website with new logo, messaging, contributions and costs.
- Rollout on City website, eblast and social media video and graphics to explain bury the last line, traditional media outreach
- Neighborhood communications: association presidents, NextDoor, neighborhood texting groups
- Continued public outreach through January and February with reminders on social media.



Communications Plan

Commercial Undergrounding

- Use City website, social channels to notify community of future projects and generate excitement.
- Provide ongoing “before and after” to report successes and help community understand that projects are for BOTH power restoration and City beautification.

The screenshot shows a web page for the 'Bury the Last Line' program. On the left is a green sidebar with navigation links: 'Design & Specifications Manual', '[LINK] Civil Engineering Projects', '[LINK] Environmental Engineering Projects', 'Civil Engineering', 'Environmental Engineering', 'Traffic Engineering', 'Construction Engineering', 'Bury Your Power Lines', and 'Add Page'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Departments > Engineering > Bury Your Power Lines'. The title is 'BURY THE LAST LINE RESIDENTIAL SERVICE LINE CONVERSION'. The text states that the City of Greenville is pleased to announce the 'Weather The Storm, Keep It On' residential service line conversion program, available to all homeowners in the city. Interested homeowners may submit a written request for participation. A photo shows an 'Underground power line connection' on a house wall. A 'PROGRAM OVERVIEW' section explains that while converting overhead power lines to underground can be complex and costly, the City's program has been designed to streamline the process for burying residential service lines and make it an affordable option by providing financial assistance. It notes that for each eligible residence, the program will pay up to \$3,000 toward the cost of converting the overhead service line to underground. If the total cost exceeds the \$3,000 subsidy, the homeowner must pay the remaining balance in advance. The total cost varies by residence and depends on factors like the average cost of a residential conversion (\$2,800). A 'COOPERATIVE PROGRAM' section mentions Duke Energy's participation. On the right, there is a 'CONTACT' section for Nancy Sue, Capital Projects Manager, with her email 'nsue@greenvillesc.gov'. A 'QUICK LINKS' section includes links to the application, FAQs, conversion form, and brochure. A note states: 'Note: Please only apply once. The application process takes 4-5 weeks.' The Duke Energy logo is at the bottom right.

Home > Departments > Engineering > Bury Your Power Lines

BURY THE LAST LINE

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE LINE CONVERSION

The City of Greenville is pleased to announce the Weather The Storm, Keep It On residential service line conversion program. The program is available to all homeowners in the city of Greenville. Interested homeowners may submit a written request for participation in the program.



Underground power line connection

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

While converting overhead power lines to underground can be a complex and costly endeavor, the City's Weather The Storm, Keep It On program has been designed to streamline the process for burying residential service lines and to make it an affordable option for homeowners by providing financial assistance.

For each eligible residence, the program will pay up to \$3,000 toward the cost of converting the overhead service line to underground. If the total cost of the service line conversion exceeds the \$3,000 subsidy paid by the program, the homeowner must pay the remaining balance, in advance, before the work begins.

The total cost will vary from residence to residence and will depend on a number of factors. The average cost of a residential conversion is \$2,800.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

"Duke Energy is pleased to participate in this program with the City of Greenville. It provides each of our customers inside the city an opportunity to have their overhead service replaced with an underground service. This helps improve Duke's ability to respond to severe storm outages by reducing the time required to repair overhead services which have been torn down by fallen trees, tree limbs, ice and other weather events."

George Acker, [Duke Energy South Carolina](#)



CONTACT

NANCY SUE
Capital Projects Manager
nsue@greenvillesc.gov

Note: Please only apply once. The application process takes 4-5 weeks.

QUICK LINKS

- [Weather the Storm Program Application](#)
- [Weather the Storm Program FAQs \(PDF\)](#)
- [Meter Box Conversion Form](#)
- [Weather the Storm Program Brochure \(PDF\)](#)



Questions?