

Under Ground Utility Project
Time Line 2004 to 2008

October 2008

- 1] September, 2004 Homeowners annual meeting. Owners vote to move forward with the underground project.
- 2] October 19, 2004 Owners meet with APS at their Parker office to gain information on this project. Marge Ward makes a motion at the board meeting to authorize the treasurer to write a check to Arizona Public Service for APS to move forward with underground utility engineering plans, motion approved.
- 3] December 2004 Art Ward, then current HOA president delivers \$25,000.00 check to APS for overhead to underground utility engineering plans.
- 4] January 19th, 2005 APS overhead redesign clearly states that 42 ADDITIONAL power poles will be added to the streets of Hillcrest Bay if the underground project fails. The engineering plan shows: Dunlap Drive [3], Noble View [7], Max View [3], Linger Drive [11], Manor View [3] Chrystal View [5] Swan Drive [9], Hillcrest Drive [1], all of the existing poles will remain.
- 5] February 2005, an information letter on this was sent to all owners and posted on the bulletin board.
- 6] May 2005, a motion is made and passed to hire Alex Romero as consultant for the project.
- 7] June 2005, a contract to hire Alex Romero was signed by Art Ward, then President of the HOA.
- 8] APS accepts recommendation of Alex Romero that not all pedestals need to be located in the front of the properties.
- 9] October 22nd, 2005, Supervisor Cliff Eddy, D.L. Wilson of APS and Alex Romero, consultant for Hillcrest Bay have an informative discussion on the project, at the annual homeowners meeting.
- 10] March 19th, 2006, street lighting discussion at the board meeting. If the underground project is approved then we have options to a) eliminate all lights b) leave current poles and lights c) upgrade and replace the lights strategically with a more decorative style.
- 11] January 2006, La Paz County receives and verifies the 1st petition. Makes legal notification.
- 12] May 2006, La Paz County has an open hearing and approves the formation of an Underground Utility District.
- 13] On June 7th, 2006 Pike Smith, APS engineer, Dale Heberling, La Paz County inspector, Korkie Kellogg, CMK electrical contractor, Todd Horning, T. Theron trenching contractor, Alex Romero Consulting, Roy Hockinson, homeowner, John Sears, Chairman of the project, inspect each home prior to conversion to determine electric panel location, pedestal location where required. La Paz county recommends 200 amp panels for the underground.
- 14] June 2006, another information letter was mailed to each owner.
- 15] Verizon announces that they will not participate in the project, that they have a contractual right to stay on the poles and leave their lines and poles in the air, if APS goes underground.
- 16] July, 2006 La Paz County Supervisor Cliff Eddy calls John Sears, asks if Hillcrest is interested in a State of Arizona underground utility plan that if supported by the Hillcrest Bay owners would compel Verizon to participate in the project. John accepts and sets up a meeting.
- 17] July 8th, 2006 a project information meeting at the APS office in Parker with Mr. Eddy, D.L. Wilson, APS engineers, board members and interested home owners was held.
- 18] September 23rd, 2006 At the annual meeting Cliff Eddy and John Sears discuss the new State of Arizona Statute for overhead to underground conversion and John offers copies of the requirements to all who care to have them.. Mr. Eddy pointed out that the cost to do this project at some later date would be a great deal more expensive for the owners.

19] The new Arizona State statute petitions for the 6.1 overhead to underground conversion are received. This petition when approved by 60% of the owners REQUIRES the utilities to provide to the owners the cost to bring the utilities underground to the meter to each home or to the lot line if it is an undeveloped parcel. This cost by law cannot go up. The owners are protected and the cost could go down.

20] October 2006, a new metal pole is placed on Crystal View, an example of the 42 yet to come.

21] November 21st, 2006 the signed petitions were delivered to APS. More than 60% of Hillcrest Bay owners petition the utilities to determine the cost to put telephone and electric underground. The county assessors office will verify the owners and the signature count. Verizon and APS agree to split the funding of the project.

22] February 16th, 2007 a meeting was held on Friday evening at the Parker APS office. Present were Pike Smith, APS engineer, Robin Eliff, Verizon engineer, D.L. Wilson of APS, board members and interested parties. The purpose was to review service connections, point of service & point of demarcation, [to the meter] homeowners responsibilities, as well as discussing the the private and public work involved with the overall project.

23] February 2007, due to the support of the owners and our success in collecting signatures in November, APS refunded \$28,000.00 to the Hillcrest treasury. A project information letter was mailed to all of the owners.

24] On March 21st, 2007 the combined utilities mailed to each owner their their respective project cost that by law cannot be exceeded, but could go lower. This to be financed long term by the utilities, total utility cost \$2,000,008.00

25] On March 24th, 2007 Hillcrest Bay mailed the connection cost estimates to all owners who have developed lots a letter explaining these costs.[attached] Total estimated connection costs \$902,525.00.

26] June 17th, 2007 the petitions with over 60% of the required signatures were delivered on time, to APS. These petitions complied with state law and authorized the project to go forward.

27] October 20th, 2007 at the annual homeowners meeting a brief history on how the Underground Project began and how it has progressed to where it is today, was presented by John Sears. All of the questions from the many owners who attended the meeting were then satisfactorily answered. This brief project history is on the www.hillcrestbay.com web site.

28] January 18th, 2008 Arizona Corporation Commission all day hearing on the project, before the Honorable Judge Sarah N. Harpring.

29] February 17th, 2008 A motion is made for the board to consider by forming a committee, to use Hillcrest monies to help may in principal, for some or all of the cost related to the underground for those owners claiming a low income/hardship situation, if monies are available and if these residents come forward and are identified. Robyn Stein/Terry Bitrich Passed. Additional monies have been committed by some owners for this worthy project to aid those who cannot afford the connection fees.

30] March 16th, 2008 The APS options for street lighting are again reviewed. John Sears withdraws his previous recommendation to form a Street Lighting District.

31] April 19th, 2008 John recapped the lien process. No liens until the project is completely finished, including the removal of all of the poles. It will then take at least 60 days to verify each owners actual cost, which by law cannot increase. The repayment system will then be set up by the utilities.

32] May 2008 The Honorable Sarah N. Harpring mails her Recommended Opinion and Order. [ROO]

33] July 1st, 2008 The Commissioners of the ACC hear the Hillcrest Bay OV/UG petition and offer amendments to the Recommended Opinion and Order of Judge Harpring. [attached]

34] July 27th, 2008 Motion made and passed for the HOA to commit \$9000.00 to the separate fund that will aid the owners who show that they cannot afford their meter to panel conversion and connection.

35] August 2008 The Survey letters, complying with ACC amendment to the ROO are mailed.

36] The Petition letter complying with the ACC amendment to the ROO are mailed.

37] August 2008, John discusses effort to obtain Grant money for low income owners.

