

The only **chance** that our community **will ever have** to remove the eyesore of this aging utility system, to improve our quality of life is before us now in the UCSA “the Underground Conversion Project” that has been ongoing for some five years now.

Still in place today, the UCSA project is the only leverage that Hillcrest **will ever have** with APS and Verizon to change our appearance, otherwise we are at their mercy.

With the exception of an approval for this project by the Commission, the owners have no say today on our utilities, their location, its condition or even how many poles. And we will have no say in the future. Without the UCSA and its approval, we are powerless.

The decision to approve or deny this large undertaking will be made soon by the Arizona Corporation Commission. To date we have been before the Commission three times.

Their decision, either way, will have a long lasting effect on this community and on all of us. Those of us, who support this project, if it is denied, will look at a very dated and aging system from now on. Those of you, who are opposed to the project, if it is approved, will have to pay for it, though you do not want to.

Even so, it is very important to recognize this **is** a one time **opportunity** for the owners at Hillcrest Bay to take control of our community. Though this project has been expensive to undertake, time consuming and difficult to develop, if denied, this opportunity for control and improvement, will not be coming back.

The utilities do not **now** want to do this project as they would be required to advance \$2,000,000.00. They have said that over a 15 year payback time they will not get their money back. They now see this as a nuisance and just want it to go away. With your support, only the Commission can compel the utilities to go underground on our behalf. We cannot.

The record needs to show however, that what has developed over the last five years is the **possibility** of removing this eyesore of a utility system; removing it from our community for good. The owners who have supported this project, who have lent their time and money to it, have given all of us this **chance**, this one **opportunity** to do so.

However, the prospect of Hillcrest Bay having control of its appearance is not open-ended. If this project is denied by the Commission, the **possibility** of an all new utility system, one that will vastly improve the appearance of our community will end, as will the effort to do so.

Thank you.....John Sears, Chairman UCSA