



## DPW Order No: 186045

### DIRECTOR'S DECISION REGARDING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REQUEST TO CREATE AN UNDERGROUND DISTRICT ALONG SECOND STREET FROM BRYANT STREET TO TOWNSEND STREET

Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

**APPLICANT:**

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC WORKS  
Infrastructure, Design, & Construction Division  
30 Van Ness Ave., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mohammed Nuru  
Director

**DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:**

UNDERGROUND DISTRICT ALONG SECOND STREET

San Francisco Public Works  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.  
Room 348  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
tel 415-554-6920

**BACKGROUND:**

[sfpublicworks.org](http://sfpublicworks.org)  
[facebook.com/sfpublicworks](https://facebook.com/sfpublicworks)  
[twitter.com/sfpublicworks](https://twitter.com/sfpublicworks)  
[twitter.com/mrcleansf](https://twitter.com/mrcleansf)

1. After five years of working its way through the community-led East SoMa Area Plan, the Second Street Improvement Project is being reconstructed as a primary pedestrian, bicycle, and transit thoroughfare and a green connector for the neighborhood, with construction expected to begin in October 2017. During the public outreach process in 2012 and 2013, the community requested that the overhead utilities on Second Street from Bryant to Townsend streets be undergrounded.
2. On **May 24, 2017**, Department of Public Works ("DPW") Hearing Officer **David Reyla** conducted a hearing on the proposal to create an underground district along Second Street.
3. At the hearing, Cristina Olea, DPW Project Manager, presented a brief description of the Second Street Improvement Project and noted that the right-of-way along Second Street was going to be demolished in order to construct the Project, and that the undergrounding of utility facilities within this underground district is in the general public interest because it will eliminate a heavy concentration of overhead wires.
4. A letter was sent to all fronting property owners stating the intent of the undergrounding, and noted that conversion from overhead to underground service connections would be a cost borne by the property owner.
5. Supervisor Kim has previously sent a letter to property owners expressing support for the project.
6. At the hearing, one member of the community testified to express that they support the undergrounding and requested that the pole fronting their building (1 South Park) be removed as part of the undergrounding.
7. One email was received from a building owner on Second Street requesting additional information about the undergrounding process. The questions were answered via email by Michael Rieger, DPW Project Manager.

**RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE** the proposal to create an underground district along Second Street between Bryant and Townsend streets. It is in the general public interest because it will eliminate a heavy concentration of overhead wires and there is a greater opportunity to complete the work with the construction of the Second Street Improvement Project.

The Director of Public Works has reviewed the Hearing Officer's recommendation. The Director of Public Works hereby adopts the hearing officer's recommendation.

6/21/2017

X 

---

Sanquinetti, Jerry  
Bureau Manager  
Signed by: Sanquinetti, Jerry

6/22/2017

6/21/2017

X 

---

Thomas, John  
Deputy Director and City Engineer

X Mohammed Nuru

---

Nuru, Mohammed  
Director, DPW  
Signed by: Nuru, Mohammed