

Chris and Monique Wilberg
7245 Fitzsimmons Road South,
Whistler, BC
V8E 0E6

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Honourable Mayor & Council

In light of information that has been revealed through communication with White Gold neighbours, we are writing to request that the decision to proceed with the project for burying the hydro lines in White Gold be reconsidered.

Residents who supported the project now have a better understanding of the impact this project will have on their neighbourhood; they should be allowed to rescind their vote. The basis of our concerns flow from these issues and risks that need to be understood:

- COST – There is no firm cost for this project. The project manager should have modelled best and worst-case scenarios for; debt - years twenty to thirty impact to property taxes and the cost impact to homeowners in old-timer cabins which we understand the project manager has identified at minimum to include:
 1. All work on private land, connecting residences to the new underground system, trenching, running electric and communications from the dwelling, work on the meter, landscaping or added civil work.
 2. Hiring an electrician to define the scope of work for each property is to be submitted to BC Hydro to whom residents will pay fees for design/civil work.
 3. Upgrade of electrical, which is to say, the drywall must be replaced. The scope of work creep here is potentially ruinous.
- DISPLACEMENT OF RESIDENTS– An understanding of the impact on residents who live in old-timer cabins to bring their homes to construction code.
- LACK OF TRANSPARENCY – We understand the group who spearheaded this project excluded anyone from communication when they voiced their opposition, sadly fracturing this community. There should have been a more collaborative discussion, investigation process, enabling all residents a voice.
- EXTENSION – It is our understanding the campaign did not have the required vote by the September 15 deadline and was granted an extension.
- TRANSFORMERS - A detailed plan of the placement of the transformers, with potential/draft locations.
- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT - An understanding of which side of the road the cables will be located, to understand the ecological impact; will there be a need for curbs, catch basins and street lighting. White Gold is a wildlife corridor.

Had this work been done, we would have made a more informed decision; we would have voted against the White Gold undergrounding of utilities.

Honourable Mayor and Councillors, we look to your leadership to represent all residents of our community, focusing on those who are faced with the extraordinary costs of having to be compliant with electrical code.

White Gold, one of Whistler's oldest neighbourhoods, home to many retirees on fixed incomes and cannot pay for this beautification luxury. These are residents who contribute to the fabric of Whistler, who have raised their families here and spent countless hours volunteering their time.

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