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RE: White Gold Undergrounding

Ms. Cullen and Honourable Mayor and Council,

I implore you to not proceed with undergrounding of utilities in White Gold.

There has been no transparency in the voting process or in a final cost to residents. Why was the vote extended 15 days to get “yes” votes but only 4 days given for people to rescind?

Residents were not properly informed of landowner expenses.

There was no community engagement where people could understand the impact on other members of our community e.g. “old-timers” on a fixed income, and older family cabins that are meant to be handed down through generations.

The option of “you could sell” is not an option – it feels like bullying and gentrification of the neighbourhood.

This is not the time to proceed with a project for “beautification” when people have lost their income (rental and/or employment) due to COVID and our tax money could be better spent supporting small business and community services.

The undergrounding will cause a significant disruption to our lives for an undefined number of years. The one-year noise and dust during the upgrading of the waterlines was unbearable for those of us living full-time in the community. Another estimated three to five years is not acceptable.

Regards,

Mike Dempsey