

Bob Allison
7330 Fitzsimmons Road
Whistler, BC

To: Mayor and Council
Re: White Gold Estates Utility Undergrounding Project

I was excited by Mayor and Council's November 3, 2020 decision to progress with the White Gold undergrounding project, which was decided through a democratic process. It was quite a surprise to learn on November 17, 2020, that you have agreed to review the decision.

Once again, I am writing as one of the supporters of the White Gold utilities undergrounding project. I find this to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for White Gold residents to underground the utilities at a fraction of the full cost. The benefits include:

1. Enhancing our neighbourhood that is enjoyed by many. White Gold is a popular walking, running, cycling path for people from local and surrounding neighbourhoods as they travel north or south to and from Lost Lake and all three villages: Whistler Village, Upper Village, and Marketplace;
2. To Reduce power outages.
3. To Safeguard some of our wildlife. When it is birds, squirrels etc. versus hydro transformers, the animal always loses.
4. To Reduce exposure to electromagnetic fields and its adverse health effects;
5. To Replace aged infrastructure and enjoy the latest technology in utility delivery, and;
6. To realize the financial assistance available to the White Gold project and residents at this time. This includes:
 - a. Access to BC Hydro Beautifying grant of up to \$1.2million;
 - b. RMOW has planned and budgeted for repaving of neighbourhood roads and agreed to hold off until the undergrounding of utilities is complete.
 - c. Municipality willing to finance the project at a low-interest rate with a 20-year payback plan attached to the Annual property tax invoice.

I appreciate there may be a small number of owners (less than 10%) who do not support the initiative, due mostly to the initial private connection cost, but I believe this can be overcome by working together as a collaborative neighbourhood community. Perhaps council could even find an option for these families to finance this cost along with the project cost; which would reduce their hardship in the short term.

If the council reverses its decision to move ahead with the project, it will be a missed opportunity for Whistler and the White Gold residents.

Best regards,



Bob Allison