

November 22, 2020

To: Mayor and Council

Re: White Gold Estates Utility Undergrounding Project

I would like to confirm my complete support of the White Gold Estates Utility undergrounding project. I have raised my family, built homes in White Gold and am an owner/operator of a business in Whistler during the past 30 years. I appreciate that we had the opportunity to petition our neighbourhood to measure its approval to invest in the undergrounding of utilities. I understand there is some opposition in moving forward but it is a small minority. I find this to be a one-time opportunity for White Gold residents to underground the utilities at a fraction of the full cost and the RMOW is providing a generous amount of time to pay for it. I believe the benefits include:

1. To Beautify 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. Overhead wires are subject to more power outages as they are exposed to windstorms, ice buildup, falling trees and wildlife accidents. In the 30+ years I have owned property and lived in White Gold, I have experienced outages by all of these natural causes;
3. To Safeguard some of our wildlife. When it is birds, squirrels etc. versus hydro transformers the animal always loses. I have experienced this carnage firsthand when sadly witnessing a bird land on the transformer located at the front of our house. It was electrocuted by over 13,000 volts electricity and set afire. Of course, the power went out and the transformer needed replacement;
4. To Reduced exposure to electromagnetic fields and its negative health side 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 have 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 pay back plan attached to the Annual property tax invoice.

I believe Undergrounding the utilities for White Gold Estates is a positive undertaking and will be excited to see the project move ahead. Thank you to RMOW staff, Mayor and Council for your further consideration.

Kind Regards

Corinne Allison, Homeowner – 30 years

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