

**1. RESOLUTION OF THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES CALLING ON THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO AMEND RULE 20A TO ADD PROJECTS IN VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES TO THE LIST OF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND TO INCREASE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR RULE 20A PROJECTS**

Source: City of Rancho Palos Verdes

Concurrence of five or more cities/city officials

Cities: City of Hidden Hills, City of La Cañada Flintridge, City of Laguna Beach, City of Lakeport, City of Malibu, City of Moorpark, City of Nevada City, City of Palos Verdes Estates, City of Rolling Hills Estates, City of Rolling Hills, City of Ventura

Referred to: Environmental Quality Policy Committee; Transportation, Communications, and Public Works Policy Committee

**WHEREAS**, the California Public Utilities Commission regulates the undergrounding conversion of overhead utilities under Electric Tariff Rule 20 and;

**WHEREAS**, conversion projects deemed to have a public benefit are eligible to be funded by ratepayers under Rule 20A; and

**WHEREAS**, the criteria under Rule 20A largely restricts eligible projects to those along streets with high volumes of public traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of undergrounding projects that do not meet Rule 20A criteria is left mostly or entirely to property owners under other parts of Rule 20; and

**WHEREAS**, California is experiencing fire seasons of worsening severity; and

**WHEREAS**, undergrounding overhead utilities that can spark brush fires is an important tool in preventing them and offers a public benefit; and

**WHEREAS**, brush fires are not restricted to starting near streets with high volumes of public traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding Rule 20A criteria to include Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones would facilitate undergrounding projects that would help prevent fires; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding Rule 20A criteria as described above and increasing funding allocations for Rule 20A projects would lead to more undergrounding in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones; and now therefore let it be,

**RESOLVED** that the League of California Cities calls on the California Public Utilities Commission to amend Rule 20A to include projects in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to the list of criteria for eligibility and to increase funding allocations for Rule 20A projects.