

RESOLUTION NO. 1715

A RESOLUTION EXEMPTING PUBLIC CONTRACTS FOR UTILITY UNDERGROUNDING FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING

THE TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. It is the City's goal to underground all existing and future utility lines for reliability and aesthetic reasons.
2. Since nearly all telephone and cable television lines are already placed underground, the undergrounding of existing overhead utility lines involves primarily electrical lines.
3. Portland General Electric (PGE) is the electric utility company presently serving the City of Troutdale.
4. As the servicing electric utility company, PGE must be involved with the planning, design, and construction of any undergrounding project. Undergrounding PGE's electrical lines and facilities is technically complex.
5. PGE designs, bids, awards construction contracts, and provides contract management services that are necessary to underground its electrical lines and facilities. PGE has special expertise in providing these services.
6. Such a full service program would greatly reduce staff time needed for the project, eliminate costly coordination between a consultant and PGE, and insure that only contractors pre-qualified for this type of work are selected. The public will benefit if PGE provides the services that are necessary to underground its utilities and limited taxes that are collected for undergrounding projects would be used more efficiently.
7. The City Council, acting as the Local Public Contract Review Board, may exempt particular contracts or classes of contracts from competitive bidding in accordance with Section 2.24.035 of the Troutdale Municipal Code.
8. It is unlikely that the exemption of undergrounding projects from the competitive bidding requirement will result in favoritism or substantially diminish competition for the contract.
9. The exemption of undergrounding projects from the competitive bidding requirement will result in substantial cost savings to the City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TROUTDALE

Section 1. The City Administrator may, but is not required to, award contracts for the design, construction, and/or services during construction of projects for the undergrounding of utility lines without competitive bidding to Portland General Electric.

Section 2. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

YEAS: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINED: 0



Paul A. Thalhoffer, Mayor
July 29, 2004

Date



Debbie Stickney, City Recorder

Adopted: July 27, 2004