

## **LADWP Information Regarding Sunday Work on the Caruso Village Project**

### **Electrical Work:**

Background: Prior to Palisades Village being developed, there was a power line that served the community and was located in an alley that went through the Palisades Village property. The developer had agreed to pay for LADWP to convert that circuit to an underground line, which will improve reliability for the community surrounding the village. It does not serve power to the Village directly but to the residents and business around it with a 4.8 kilovolt circuit. The Village is only served by a higher voltage line (34.5 kilovolt) that directly feeds into it and bypasses the rest of the customers.

Current Work: Since late July, LADWP crews have been working on this project, which has involved constructing a temporary overhead circuit (poles, wires, etc.) along Monument St. and Swarthmore Ave., adjacent to the Palisades Village. This was necessary so that the customers could continue having power when the original line (the one that was going through the Village property) was removed to accommodate the Village development.

In early August our crews installed underground infrastructure for the new underground cable (going under the Village property) that will replace the overhead line that was removed. On Aug 12 (the Sunday you were referring to) the crews started installing the underground cable. This work involves splicing and pulling cable, and is not considered construction work requiring the permit you previously asked about (more on that below).

Since Aug 13, and continuing through Aug 31, crews will be working on the overhead to underground conversion. When completed, this will increase the reliability of the two circuits feeding the Palisades area north of Sunset Ave because the equipment is new and underground cable is generally less prone to outages than overhead circuits. In addition, the overhead to underground conversion is being paid by the Village developer, not out of LADWP power system budget.

### **Reliability:**

The work being done will improve reliability for that community and is part of LADWP's overall Power System Reliability Program, which is a long term effort to upgrade electric circuits, poles, transformers and other equipment throughout the city.

However, this type of infrastructure work doesn't address the overloading situation on the existing distributing station (DS 29) or affect the need for a new DS station and/or the pole-top distributing stations that have previously been discussed with the community. This is because that overloading problem is occurring at the substation level. The equipment within substations is necessary to "step down" power to a lower voltage that is compatible (4.8 kilovolt circuits) with the homes and small businesses. The problem of the overloaded distributing station hasn't changed and won't be improved

by the overhead-underground conversion project going on now.

**Sunday work:**

To [the] point regarding why LADWP crews are working on Sundays -- LADWP is not required to have a construction permit for the type of work we are doing on Sundays. The permits you referred to are necessary when excavating in public streets, and that work had been previously completed. The current work being performed on weekends, including Sunday, involves pulling cable and working in a maintenance hole. We have the necessary permit, called "Permit to open maintenance hole cover" under Chapter 6 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

Our permit is valid for one year from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. [See permit on PPCC website/Resources/Presentations.] Under this permit, the work is restricted during "rush hour times" (weekday mornings and afternoons) but not weekends.

**Overtime:**

[It is] correct that crews may be receiving overtime pay. However, doing this type of work that doesn't involve excavation or construction is more cost-effective when done on weekend. It doesn't impact traffic during commuting hours and allows more time during regular weekday hours for our crews to do power reliability work elsewhere that does require construction under restricted hours.

Deborah Hong  
Community Affairs, LADWP  
[deborah.hong@ladwp.com](mailto:deborah.hong@ladwp.com)  
August 23, 2018