



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

May 17, 2026

Submission to the *Palisadian-Post* – via email to mypost@palipost.com and publisher Tim Schneider

Fully Baked Undergrounding Coming Up

We appreciate Jimmy Dunne’s sentiment that “undergrounding” means *all* utilities underground — electric, telecom, and cable — in one trench, on one coordinated schedule, with poles removed wherever feasible.

The good news is that the Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) Infrastructure Team, led by Reza Akef, is already working hand-in-hand with governmental agencies, including the City of Los Angeles and LADWP, to make that vision a reality. The current plan is for telecom providers to trench alongside electrical undergrounding efforts, effectively eliminating the need for permanent above-ground utility poles in impacted areas. To be fair, logistics are being worked out, telecom engineers are working on the details, and agreements can be finalized once this is done.

Last Thursday, May Sung and Allison Holdorff Polhill had a productive meeting with the LADWP community engagement team. LADWP confirmed they have been engaged in ongoing negotiations with telecom providers, and all indications are that the companies are prepared to move forward collaboratively on coordinated parallel trenching.

In addition, last month Kambiz Kamdar, Reza Akef and May Sung met with Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, Senator Ben Allen, and telecom industry representatives to advocate strongly for full parallel trenching on behalf of the Palisades community. The telecom providers are actively cooperating and continuing coordination meetings with LADWP.

This is exactly the type of coordinated, comprehensive infrastructure planning our community has been advocating for from the beginning.

If you have questions regarding undergrounding efforts or would like additional updates, please contact ppccinfrastructure@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Sue Kohl, President

Reza Akef, Chair, Infrastructure Committee

Pacific Palisades Community Council

Committee information: <https://pacpalicc.org/index.php/ppcc-undergrounding-committee/>