

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2016-034

Continuing Support of the Commitment to Working towards Undergrounding Columbia's Utilities along the Shop Road widening and the Bluff Road Phase 2 widening

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia (hereinafter "City") has formally committed itself to continue working toward undergrounding Columbia's utilities by the adoption of Resolution R-2015-083 on September 1, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the City has formally committed itself to adopting and incorporating the "Complete Street Concept," which, among other things, promotes making its roadways more bicycle and pedestrian friendly by the adoption of Resolution R-2010-054 on July 21, 2010; and,

WHEREAS the City has the designation of a Tree City and has always been, and will always be, committed to beautifying itself through the planting of trees; and,

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of undergrounding utilities when determined to be feasible; and,

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that utility undergrounding and the planting of trees enhances visual aesthetics and increases property values; and,

WHEREAS, the Richland County Transportation Department, through its administration of the Transportation Penny Program (the "Penny Program"), has elected to widen Phase 2 of Bluff Road, a stretch of roadway from Berea Road to South Bellline Road, along with a stretch of Shop Road from George Rogers Boulevard to South Bellline Boulevard, both of which will require the unstringing of the current utilities, the removal of the current utility poles, and excavation of the roadways; and,

WHEREAS, Richland County Council is requiring a cost analysis on such road widening projects in order to determine the feasibility of undergrounding the utilities along these roads; and,

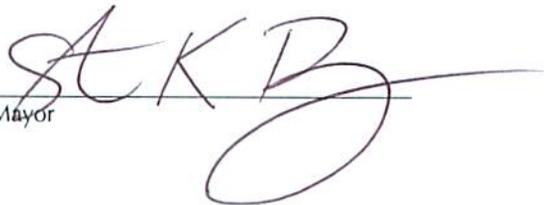
WHEREAS, Bluff Road and Shop Road are major entryways into the City of Columbia; and,

WHEREAS the Richland County Legislative Delegation has formally requested that the Penny Program bury the utilities along Shop Road and Bluff Road Phase 2 and line these roadways with trees; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, this 19th day of April, 2016, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia support any efforts, where feasible, for the Richland County Penny Program to bury the utilities along the Shop Road widening and the Bluff Road Phase 2 widening and to line these roadways with street trees.

Requested by:

Councilmember Duvall


Mayor

Approved by:


City Manager

Approved as to form:


City Attorney

Introduced: 4/19/2016
Final Reading: 4/19/2016

ATTEST:

City Clerk

ORIGINAL
STAMPED IN RED