



A Road with a View

This project is not only improving the roadway, it is improving the view by undergrounding the area's existing utility lines. Relocating these utilities from overhead lines to underground pipes prevents hazards such as downed power lines during storms and protects these services so that they require less maintenance. To underground utilities, construction crews will follow these steps:

› Step 1: Trench and Install Pipe

First, crews will dig what is known as a "joint trench" to house the SDG&E electrical lines and the lines for cable, phone and internet providers and will place the conduit - plastic pipe - through which utility lines will run. They will also dig trenches to the private properties along the street, so that these homes and businesses can connect to the new lines.

› Step 2: Cable

During this step, crews will run the new utility lines inside the plastic pipe and install the transformer and cable boxes that make power usable by individual properties. These boxes are placed above ground to make maintenance on the system easier and faster.

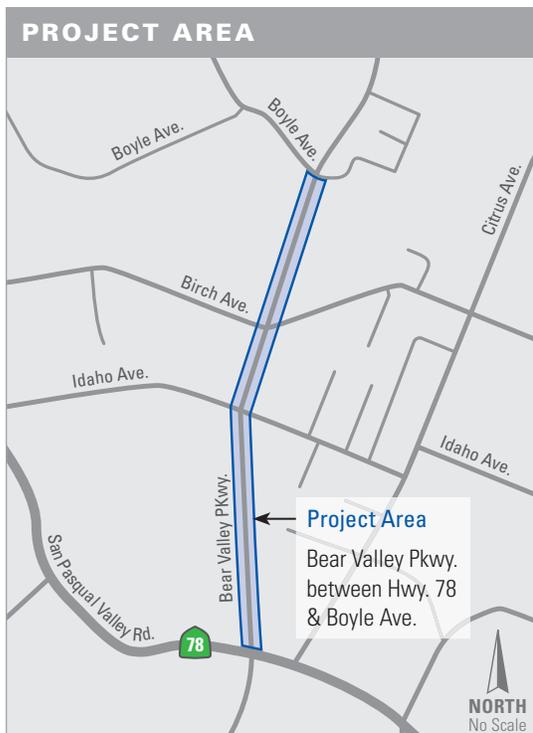
› Step 3: Cut-over

In this step, crews will switch individual properties from the overhead system to the new underground system. This switch is called "cutting over" the services.

› Step 4: Remove Poles

Lastly, the crews will cut the electricity and data lines at the existing utility poles and remove them. Your view will be clear of utility lines and poles.

Now, you know how these utilities will be improved. But did you know that there are two types of utilities—wet and dry. "Wet utilities" are water lines and "dry utilities" are electric, cable, phone and gas services. This project is upgrading both types.



Project Update: Current Construction Activities

Construction that is underway or recently completed is:

- **Earthwork:** Initially, crews created the bed for the new roadway. Their next earthwork activity will be to moisten and compact layers of a fine gravel and sand mixture on the roadbed until it reaches the appropriate height.
- **Undergrounding Dry Utilities:** Crews began the first step of undergrounding dry utilities—trenching and installing new pipe that will house the utility lines. Work to excavate

and install the pipe to house the dry utilities was completed in January. Cabling of electric and internet services, and installation of new 16" gas line were also completed at this time.

- **Water Services:** Crews continue to install the new 24" water main line and its lateral lines that will connect water service to private properties along the project area. This work is anticipated to be complete in April.
- **Storm Drains:** Crews continue work to install new storm drains and their structures, which will help reduce flooding on Bear Valley Parkway during storms. This work is anticipated to be complete later this summer.



Crew creating new trenches for utilities

The County of San Diego thanks you for your patience during construction. Please call the project information line at (760) 630-ROAD if you have questions.

Meet the Team

County of San Diego
Utilities Coordinator,
Lawrence M. Hirsch

Q What is your role on the project?

A As the County's Utilities Coordinator, I act as the single point of contact for all issues related to San Diego Gas and Electric, AT&T, Cox Communications, San Diego County Water Authority, and



Utilities Coordinator, Lawrence M. Hirsch

the City of Escondido. I am responsible for resolving utility conflicts during the design phase, as well as during construction. Major utility efforts include the relocation of a 16" high pressure gas line, relocation of a 24" waterline and conversion of overhead electric, telephone and cable lines to underground.

Q What other projects have you worked on prior to the widening of Bear Valley Parkway?

A In the 12 years I've been in this position, I have worked on many CIP projects. They have varied in complexity from large road widening and drainage improvement projects to small sidewalk projects. Regardless of size, every CIP project has some degree of utility conflict to resolve.

Q What is your favorite part of your job?

A My favorite part of the job is being an integral part of a team responsible for

improving the environment in which we live.

Q What do you think is the most interesting part of your job?

A The most interesting part of my job is the opportunity to work with utility companies to resolve engineering conflicts that result in the successful completion of a project.

Q What would you like people to know more about in regard to their utilities or utility work?

A I would like people to have a better understanding of the long lead time required to engineer and construct a utility facility. The process does not happen overnight.

Q What do you do in your free time?

A Spend time with family. Play tennis and play with my puppy.

Where was the first underground utility system?

Thomas Edison developed the first underground utility wire system in Brockton, Massachusetts in 1883. When Edison first proposed central power to replace gas lamps in Brockton, some community members were concerned that electrical wires hanging overhead would cause sight pollution and cut through the city's iconic Elm trees. Ingenious as he was, Edison solved the problem. He developed the first underground electric cable system, consisting of three wires that ran two feet underground from downtown to a power station about a quarter of a mile away. When you enjoy a clearer view along Bear Valley Parkway, thank Mr. Edison for his work over 130 years ago.

Did
You
Know