Attachment E
**Topic: Undergrounding the Power Poles along Pleasant Hill Road**

- There will be no overhead poles within the subdivision. All utilities will be undergrounded.

- Possible benefits in-lieu of undergrounding existing utility poles along Pleasant Hill Road – this applicant proposes these more tangible options for greater safety and connectivity of the surrounding neighborhood to the Trail System and beautification of the corridor:
  
  - Add curb, gutter, and sidewalk to the West side of Pleasant Hill Road to activate these adjacent neighborhoods to the West side of the road and safe access to Canal Trail.
  - Install Crosswalk from East side of street to the West side for safe crossing (this would be the only crosswalk in ⅔ of a mile for each direction).
  - Add Street trees to Pleasant Hill Road along the project frontage (East side),
  - Landscaping at medians

- Cons of undergrounding the Power lines:
  
  - Undergrounding poles will make a non-conforming and isolated condition on Pleasant Hill Road. The entire 1.7 mile stretch between Geary Road and Gregory Lane has overhead power poles and will remain this way. Poles are above ground along Boyd Road as well.
  
  - New poles were installed immediately in front of the project site in 2015-16 and are in excellent condition.

  - Undergrounding poles will cause the West side neighbors disruption, damage (or alteration) and potential expense to reconfigure on their properties.

  - There are 6 major pipelines running underneath Pleasant Hill Road. Underground crossings would be an intensive operation likely causing significant closures of Pleasant Hill Road.

**Analysis:**

While undergrounding poles may be the stated goal when possible or feasible, we would offer that since the poles have been a predominate part of the landscape and will continue to be all the way along Pleasant Hill for this 1.7 mile stretch, there would be only a minimal affect or improvement to the Community, with significant cost and disruption, by undergrounding these poles. To the contrary, installing these other more tangible benefits, in lieu of removing the poles, would be a terrific benefit for the safety, connectivity, and appearance of the corridor.