

DATE ISSUED: March 29, 2004 REPORT NO. 04-068  
ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council  
SUBJECT: Utilities Undergrounding Program - Public Technology, Inc. 2003 SOLUTIONS Winner

THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COUNCIL

The City of San Diego has been selected by Public Technology, Inc. as the 2003 SOLUTIONS Winner in the Large Jurisdiction Energy Category for its entry, "*Underground Utility Conversion Program, Cashflow and Schedule Forecasting*" by Project Manager Nathan Bruner. The project utilizes econometric modeling techniques in an engineering and project management application. The award will be presented to the City on April 30, 2004.

Public Technology, Inc. (PTI) is a national non-profit technology research and development organization based in Washington, DC, representing local governments. Their mission is to bring the benefits of technology to local governments. PTI enjoys a close relationship with the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties and International City/County Management Association. The nine member Board of Directors of PTI is comprised of representatives from the three national associations, the PTI membership and private industry.

SOLUTIONS is the national, annual competition conducted by Public Technology, Inc. to showcase examples of technology excellence in the public sector. SOLUTIONS allow local governments to showcase to colleagues, citizens and other communities the technologies they have developed to improve safety and services, save money and time, and generate non-tax revenues. Private vendors may also enter the competition through government entities with which they have developed a technology solution. For over 15 years now, the Solutions program has acknowledged each year the most innovative jurisdictions both in the United States and internationally.

The City of San Diego, working in collaboration with San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E), researched and gathered detailed information in regards to the utilities underground conversion projects which had been completed during the previous five years (1998-2002). With assistance from the University of San Diego, Department of Economics, this data was then used to create a cost and schedule forecasting model in order to estimate project costs and provide for long term program planning.

The models created allow the maximum utilization of a \$47 million annual budget to underground overhead utility lines. The models improve the efficiency of project planning and construction, thus minimizing the impact to residents for construction work.

Respectfully submitted,

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Afshin Oskoui  
Deputy Director Engineering & Capital Projects

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Approved: George I. Loveland  
Senior Deputy City Manager

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Frank Belock, Jr.  
Director Engineering & Capital Projects