

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT
MARCH 24, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.
CITY HALL 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
1737 MAIN STREET**



Members of the Columbia City Council conducted an Environment and Infrastructure Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. The Honorable Leona K. Plough, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah (Non-committee member) were present.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Update on Underground Utilities

Ms. Melissa Gentry, Assistant City Manager for Operations said there is still an initiative to find funding for underground utilities. She said staff is very supportive and is considering other alternatives for funding for this project. She said staff will do a better job of communicating with the Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission.

Krista Hampton, Director of Development and Planning Services said projects are not financially feasible to relocate; oftentimes it isn't feasible because of construction constraints.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, Assistant City Manager of Operations said the Underground Districts Ordinance will have to be tweaked because it currently offers time restrictions.

There was a consensus of the committee to have staff review the current ordinance and bring back recommendations for Underground Districts at the next meeting.

2. [Update on the Merits of Drinking Water Fluoridation](#)

Mr. Jonathan D. Sherer, P.E., Water Works Specialist / Utilities and Engineering Department gave an update on research information on community water fluoridation that was provided by Mr. John Mercer, DDS in response to the questions that were raised during the February committee meeting. Mr. Sherer said staff considers the following key elements when making a decision about research: credentials, date, accuracy, statistical methods and comparability.

The committee received this report as information. No action was taken.

- **The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Niki Daniels
City Clerk's Assistant