



RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2026

SUBJECT: HUNTER SUBSTATION 4KV TO 12KV MAKE-READY FOR CIRCUITS 21 AND 22 – WORK ORDER NO. 2124085 FOR A TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF \$2,000,000

ISSUE:

Consider the approval of Work Order No. 2124085 for a total capital expenditure of \$2,000,000 for the Hunter Substation 4kV to 12kV Make-Ready for Circuits 21 and 22 Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Public Utilities approve Work Order No. 2124085 for a total capital expenditure of \$2,000,000 for the Hunter Substation 4kV to 12kV Make-Ready for Circuits 21 and 22 Project.

BACKGROUND:

Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) prepared a long-term Electric System Master Plan (ESMP) to identify critical infrastructure upgrades that would support electric system load growth and modernize the RPU distribution system. A key upgrade recommended by the ESMP was the conversion of all remaining 4kV to 12kV distribution circuits to improve system capacity and reliability.

The replacement of deteriorated overhead poles and associated distribution facilities is also part of the electric utility's master plan and is part of the utilities ongoing facility maintenance. RPU's long-term strategy and commitment to the community is to strengthen system resilience and deliver dependable service to customers.

On January 14, 2019, the Board of Public Utilities approved Work Order No. 1826767 for the Hunter Substation Replacement Project, for the replacement of deteriorated 69kV bus structures and associated aging equipment. Hunter Substation serves both residential and commercial customers, including the Hunter Industrial Park. It is also located near city limits, which greatly decreases its ability to transfer load to nearby circuits. Hunter Substation is currently at its maximum design capacity with 20-25 megawatts of additional load forecast in the next three years.

In preparation for the completion of the Hunter Substation replacement project and for the future conversion of Hunter Circuits 21 and 22 from 4kV to 12kV, it is necessary to replace existing deteriorated poles and aging infrastructure as well as perform the work to facilitate the upgrade

to the distribution system. These poles and associated infrastructure are at risk of failure and can become a safety hazard, as well as adversely affect the electric system's reliability. The aging facilities include frayed overhead wires, insulators, cross-arms, transformers, and associated electrical distribution facilities that are beyond their useful life.

DISCUSSION:

The Hunter Substation 4kV to 12kV Make-Ready for Circuits 21 and 22 Project (Project) will upgrade electric distribution facilities located in the vicinity north of Marlborough Avenue and Strong Street, south of Palmyrita Avenue and Nash Street, west of Chicago Avenue, and east of Main Street. The scope of work includes the replacement of twenty-two (22) wooden poles, twenty-three (23) overhead transformers, approximately 4,983 circuit feet of primary conductors, and related overhead distribution facilities. The new poles and infrastructure will comply with current construction standards in accordance with California State regulations in General Order 95.

This make-ready project is an important step in facilitating future voltage conversions and is the first phase in the replacement of aging 4kV distribution facilities with new 12kV electric distribution facilities to improve the electric system reliability and safety and improve power quality and service to customers in the area.

RPU electric field forces will perform the construction of this project, and no civil underground electric work is planned. Intermittent electric service disruptions will be coordinated during construction and advanced outage notifications will be issued to minimize the impact on customers.



Pole Replacement



4-12kV Conversion – Transformer and Cross-arm Replacement

The project/fiscal breakdown is as follows:

Work Type:	Performed By:	Amount (\$):			% of Total:
Design	RPU Engineering	\$332,989			17%
Construction - Electrical Work	RPU Field Forces and Operations	Labor	\$1,110,165	\$1,667,011	83%
		Equipment	\$222,303		
		Material	\$334,543		
Work Order Total:	\$2,000,000				100%
Anticipated Start Date:	March 2026				
Anticipated Duration:	8 Months				

The Work Order total above is, in effect, the Engineer's Estimate for this project since it is an in-house project being designed and constructed by Public Utilities staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$2,000,000. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities Electric Capital Account No. 6130100-470644.

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Approved by:	David A. Garcia, Utilities General Manager
Certifies availability of funds:	Julie Nemes, Interim Finance Director
Approved by:	Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Rebecca McKee-Reimbold, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Project Site Map
2. Presentation