



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☐ CITY COUNCIL ☒ NPUA

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Title: Authorize a Joint Use of Poles between the City of Needles and the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Telecommunications Inc. for Eagle Pass Road and Needles Highway

Background: The NPUA currently has active Joint Pole Agreements with Frontier Communications and Route 66 broadband to connect to electric power poles throughout the city. The Joint Pole Agreements allow the communications companies access to install communication services above ground rather than directly buried. The Joint Pole agreement is an agreement whereby each party has the right to attach to and occupy space on a power pole.

Currently, the power poles within the city cannot handle additional weight from communications lines. The Fort Mojave Indian Tribe's Telecommunications Inc. has requested approval to utilize NPUA power poles to cross two areas to increase their service. The first location is Eagle Pass Road where the NPUA has two poles that cross BNSF tracks and the second is on Needles Highway to cross a San Bernardino County flood control area.

The recommended action is to authorize the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Telecommunications Inc. to a Joint Pole Agreement for only the two proposed locations. The agreement also only permits the applicant to apply for the power poles by an anchor and does not authorize drilling into the poles which may impact the integrity of the pole.

The Board of Public Utilities approved the recommended action on December 3, 2024.

Fiscal Impact: Slight increase of electric revenue increased annually by a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)

Environmental Impact: N/A

Recommended Action: Authorize a Joint Use of Poles between the City of Needles and the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Telecommunications Inc. for Eagle Pass Road and Needles Highway

Submitted By: Rainie Torrance, Utility Manager

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 12/4/2024

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____

Approved: ☐

Not Approved: ☐

Tabled: ☐

Other: ☐