

Red Dog Road – Rule 20A Underground Utilities District

BOS Meeting

August 6th, 2024



**NEVADA
COUNTY**
CALIFORNIA



What is Rule 20A?

Undergrounding of electric facilities is completed by following the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Rule 20 electric distribution tariff guideline.

Rule 20 projects typically involve undergrounding all above ground utilities and poles.

Municipalities can utilize accrued and/or assigned Rule 20A work credits for the full or partial cost of the undergrounding project.

Rule 20A and Nevada County

The County currently has roughly \$7.3 million in PG&E Rule 20A work credits and \$2.8 million from Liberty Energy Rule 20A.

- \$1.5 million could be donated to the City of Grass Valley for an undergrounding project on LaBarr Meadows Road.
- \$2.8 million in Rule 20A work credits from Liberty Energy could be donated to the Town of Truckee.
- \$5.8 million remaining credits are currently scheduled for the Red Dog Road undergrounding project.

Work credits will be reallocated by the CPUC and PG&E to other entities if the County does not form an Undergrounding District and have an active project by December 2024.



Project Goals

There are three major goals for this project:

1. Remove overhead electrical and communication lines along a major collector roadway
2. Support emergency ingress/egress and fire resiliency
3. Widen roadways and provide pedestrian, bike routes

Existing Facilities- Down lines



Potential project locations & Criteria

Location	From	To	Approximate Cost to U/G at \$3M / r	ATP - Bike Improvements High Need	PG&E Priority?	Road Type - Rank	Prior Utility Storm Damag	Cost under \$5M	ATP - Rank	Fire Severity Zone - Rank	PG&E Priority - Rank	Potential Funding Sources - Rank	Total Rank (13 Possible Points)
Banner Lava Cap Rd	All		\$ 17,160,000	No	Yes	2	2	1	0	3	2	0	10
Red Dog	Boulder Street	Quaker Hill Cross Rd	\$ 11,400,000	Class III	Yes	2	2	1	1	3	0	1	10
Tyler Foote	Hwy 49	Nevada County Limits	\$ 41,970,000	No	Yes	2	2	1	0	2.5	2	0	9.5
Idaho-Maryland Rd	Lee Lane	Banner Lava Cap Rd	\$ 2,400,000	No	Yes	2	2	0	0	3	2	0	9
McCourtney	Auburn Rd	Indian Springs Rd	\$ 14,100,000	Class II	No	3	0	1	1	2.5	0	1	8.5
North Bloomfield	Hwy 49	Coyote St	\$ 2,400,000	Class III	No	2	2	0	0.5	3	0	1	8.5
You Bet Rd	Hwy 174	Side Bet Dr	\$ 3,759,000	No	Yes	2	2	0	0	2.5	2	0	8.5
Alta	Ridge Rd	Grass Valley City Limits	\$ 1,902,000	Class III	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Old Tunnel	Banner Lava Cap	Grass Valley City Limits	\$ 1,170,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Ridge	Rough & Ready	Grass Valley City Limits	\$ 3,228,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Ridge	Nevada Union High School	Pear Orchard Way	\$ 2,700,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Ridge	Pear Orchard Way	Nevada City Limits	\$ 1,800,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Rough & Ready	Ridge Rd	Grass Valley City Limits	\$ 2,310,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	8
Brunswick	E. Bennett Rd	Wood Rose Way	\$ 1,500,000	No	Yes	3	0	0	0	3	2	0	8
Squirrel Creek	Adam Ave	Crestwood St	\$ 1,200,000	Class III	No	2	0	0	1	3	0	1	7
Loma Rica	Brunswick Rd	End	\$ 3,420,000	Class II	No	2	0	0	0.5	3	0	1	6.5
Pleasant Valley	Hwy 20	Lake Wildwood	\$ 4,200,000	Class II	No	3	0	0	0.5	2	0	1	6.5
La Barr Meadows	McKnight Way	NCOC	\$ 4,200,000	NA	No	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	6
Boulder Street	Nevada City Limits	Rod Dog Rd	\$ 513,000	No	No	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	6

Project Overview

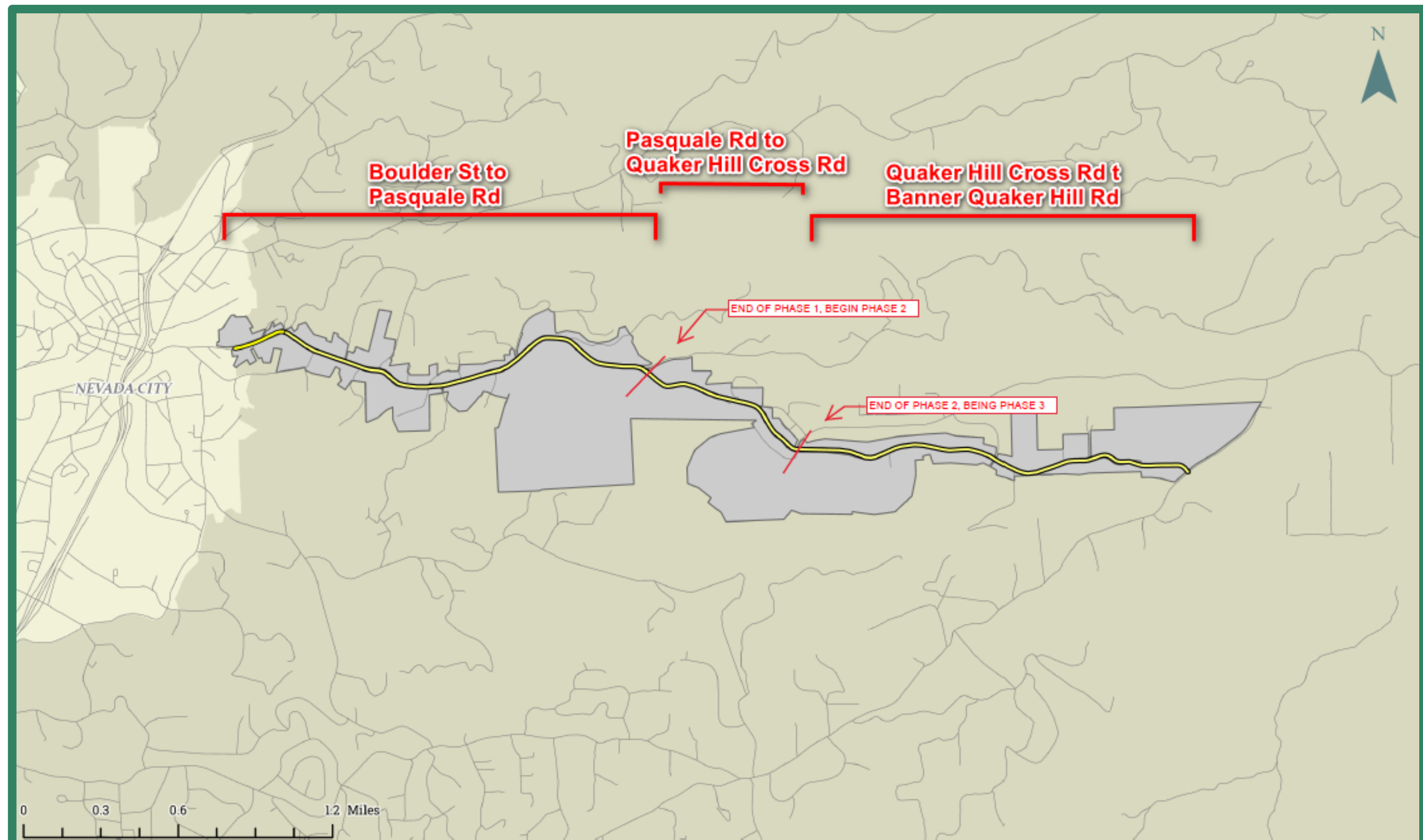
Project Location – Red Dog Road in Nevada City, CA

- Boulder Street to approx. Pasquale Road
- Future phase could include:
- Pasquale Road to Quaker Hill Cross Road
- Quaker Hill Cross Road to Banner Lava Cap

Establish an Underground Utilities District as defined by the CPUC for the Red Dog Road project location.

Establish agreements with PG&E and landowners for undergrounding.

Proposed Project Location



Rule 20A - Red Dog Road Proposed Undergrounding District Boundary

-  Red Dog Road & Boulder Street
-  Roads
-  Utility District Boundary
-  City Boundaries

Potential work with Grass Valley & Town of Truckee

- Town of Truckee
 - County has \$2.8M in credits with Liberty Energy
 - No identifiable project in Eastern County not within Town limits
- City of Grass Valley
 - City identified project on LaBarr Meadows Road \$1.5M
 - Project has benefit of undergrounding utilities from the PG&E substation toward the NCOC
 - La Barr Meadows is a major thoroughfare for County residents
 - Project has bike lanes going out from the city toward Alta Sierra

Project Roles

COUNTY ROLES

- Underground Utility District Formation
- Undergrounding Agreements
- Right of Way Definition and Mapping
- Landowner Agreements

PG&E ROLES

- Project Design
- Construction
- Coordination with Utility Companies



AT&T



COMCAST

Impact on Utility Rates

Undergrounding Districts are formed to repay the cost of construction through utility rates. These costs are expected to be marginal.

The formation of this district does not authorize the County to assess fees for this project, however, PG&E determines the project cost during design and Rule 20A work credits are deducted from the County balance.

Rule 20A work credits are not monies, but are equivalent to one U.S. dollar to discount the upfront cost of the undergrounding project.

Staff Cost

- There is no matching requirement for Rule 20A work credits
- Staff time & resources anticipated to be 5% of the overall project cost.
 - \$400,000 from 2025 to 2030
 - Currently funding is unknown. Staff will continue to search for potential funding opportunities.
- PG&E will lead design & construction, saving the County's resources & efforts

Project Planning & Outreach

- Hold a Public Outreach Informational Meeting at the Board of Supervisor Chambers.
- Publish the Notice of Public Hearing at the Board of Supervisor Chambers and hold said Public Hearing.
- Form the Rule 20A Red Dog Road Underground Utilities District encompassing all potential project phases.
- Lobby PG&E and the CPUC to be listed as an “Active” Underground Utility District.
- Complete construction of the undergrounding project by 2033.

Utility District Formation Steps

No.	Underground Utilities District Formation Step	Status Description
1	Identify the Project Envelope	Completed via consultation with PG&E
2	Map the Project Boundaries	Completed in Attachments 2 and 3
3	Conduct Public Outreach Prior to the Formation Hearing	To be scheduled by this resolution
4	Meet with Other Interested Agencies	Completed, County staff have met with all known overhead utility providers regarding the project.
5	Prepare an Informational Board Item Regarding Formation of the District	To be completed at the public info meeting and future step 6 public hearing
6	Conduct the Formation Hearing	To be scheduled by this resolution and completed in the future

← Proposed info mtg
August 28th

← Proposed BOS
meeting on
September 10th

Staff Recommendation

- Adopt the Resolution of Intention to form the Red Dog Rd Underground Utilities District.
- Schedule the Public Informational Meeting in the Board of Supervisors Chambers.
 - Recommended Date: August 28, 2024 at 6:00pm
- Schedule the Public Hearing for the formation of the Red Dog Rd Underground Utilities District in the Board of Supervisors Chambers.
 - Recommended Date: September 10, 2024 at 10:00am
- Authorize the Director of Public Works or their designee to negotiate agreements or act on behalf of the Board of Supervisors as necessary to complete the formation of the Red Dog Rd Underground Utilities District.
- Authorize staff to continue negotiations with the Town of Truckee and the City Grass Valley on use of Rule 20A funds.

Q&A Session

Contact Information

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