



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **City to Host Community Information Meeting on Thousand Oaks Boulevard Utility Undergrounding Project**

A long-planned effort to remove overhead electrical and communications lines from a large portion of Thousand Oaks Boulevard will be starting in late Winter 2016. The City will be holding a community information meeting in the Oak & Park Rooms on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Civic Arts Plaza on 6pm Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to provide details about the project to the community and residents, and answer questions.

The Thousand Oaks Boulevard Utility Undergrounding Project is slated to begin construction in late Winter 2016, and will remove 48 electrical poles and all associated overhead communication and cable lines along a 1.5-mile portion of Thousand Oaks Boulevard between Duesenberg Drive and Westlake High School at Via Merida.

The City has prepared a communications plan to keep the community apprised of construction activity, including door-to-door visits, email updates, informational booths in high-traffic areas, a project webpage, and a public meeting to be held before construction begins.

“This project is a key investment toward transforming Thousand Oaks Boulevard for the future,” said Nader Heydari, the City’s Division Manager of Capital Projects. “The City is committed to doing everything possible to minimize inconveniences for businesses and residents.”

The undergrounding project will improve the appearance of the City’s main boulevard and enhance public safety. Moving electrical and communication lines underground will also limit the need for future tree topping, improve aesthetics, increase service reliability, improve pedestrian and ADA access, and enable future visitor seating at Westlake High School stadium. Nearly all utility boxes, switches, and transformers will also be placed underground. A limited number of utility structures that cannot be placed underground will be placed behind the sidewalk.

Construction is expected to commence in late Winter 2016 and continue through Spring 2017. The project schedule was designed to minimize inconveniences during the holidays and peak hour traffic demands. The City of Thousand Oaks is working closely with local utility agencies to coordinate the various project phases with minimal impact to the surrounding community. During construction, there will be periodic lane closures and increased traffic congestion along Thousand Oaks Boulevard. On-street parking may be limited in some locations and speed limits may be reduced during construction.

For more information about the project, visit [www.toaks.org/UndergroundTOB](http://www.toaks.org/UndergroundTOB) or contact the City’s project team at [UndergroundTOB@toaks.org](mailto:UndergroundTOB@toaks.org) or 805-228-9020.

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