

AUG 20, 2013 PH+1
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Ft Lauderdale City Commission Meeting Aug 20, 2013 Talking Points

None of us like not being given inaccurate and incomplete information on any issue that affects us. This has been a common practice of this non-transparent Home owners association.

CONVINCING
INFO

1. They claim that they take Straw votes but in reality the results are self-serving.
2. It is rude that Ken Cooper does not respond to e-mails that our former neighborhood spokesman Charles Thayer sent seeking answers to UG concerns. If you are going to be the President of an association you should not pick and choose what you want to respond too. It's obvious Ken does not want to create a debate. Once an e-mail debate gets going it takes a life of its own.
3. Never once has the association sent a letter to all residents (whether members or non-members of HO Assoc.) explaining and disclosing the scope of this project. Such as Transformers replacing Utility poles in yards, r/r pavers, lawns dug up, sprinkler systems and most importantly the consequences of burying Utility lines below a rising sea level (that hurricane Sandy exposed in NY). And most residents are not aware of the virtual lifelong cost of UG from \$1500 to \$3000 per year.
4. Here is what is not logical. We hear that 90% of all Las Olas HO want UG, but actual HO membership accounts for about 50% of all home owners that pay a voluntary \$550 a year to become members. **Do you think when push turns into shove the non-members who are not interested in paying a \$550 annual membership fee now are going to be interested in raising their own taxes? I doubt it.** At this point we really don't know how many HO members are really interested.
5. Here is what I suggest. Before the City Commission agrees to assess each resident a two year fee for a UG Cost proposal, the City should send out a certified letter to each resident to obtain the real level of interest of all homeowners affected, outlining all of the concerns above, but not limited to the above concerns as well as any potential benefits. The UG issue has been going on for a long time. Extending it by a couple of months to obtain the real level of interest does not seem unreasonable.
6. Also, if some of the other neighborhoods are getting an estimate, we will be able to get an idea of what it may cost us based on their results.

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SUPPORT

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