

## Business Support for Burying Power Lines On Providence/East Providence Waterfront

India Point Park...fails to meet its full potential as a visitor destination due in part to the unsightliness and intrusion of the power lines....Other cities that have buried waterfront power lines have reaped huge benefits in increased programming and usage of waterfront areas.

Providence-Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau CEO Martha Sheridan

It is our experience that buried power lines **enhance property values and improve views**, which are critical components to successful real estate development. We strongly support burying the power lines in this key Providence district.

The Procaccianti Group, Peter Ziegler, VP for Asset Management

**Power lines kill a sale.** Buyers comment on the impact of power lines on either property values or the incidence of higher cancer rates. In both cases, proximity to power lines reduces property values. Our most expensive property assessments are always in places where power lines are buried.

Residential Properties President and CEO, Sally Lapides

Burying the wires will not only enhance our future project, but will be **a major asset** for the Providence waterfront and the redevelopment of the new I-195 parcels.

Churchill and Banks Exec. Vice President Richard Baccari II

We considered having a helicopter company do tours of Providence from India Point Park, but the power lines make that a no fly zone....Continuing to improve the Park will **pay dividends for tourism** and attracting new businesses.

Rhode Island Seafood Festival Co-Founder TJ McNulty

We made a multi-million dollar investment in creating an international education organization at the old Tockwotton Home. When potential students and their parents visit, **the power lines often elicit negative comments**. Their photos of the area are shared globally (literally) and become a lasting and public image of Providence.

Roosevelt International Academy Managing Partner Ben Ben Tre

I hear first-hand from our residents and their families about their aversion to the towers and lines. The **mammoth towers are a blight on the developing East Bay landscape.** Moving them will provide new business development and job creation for the Providence and East Providence waterfronts.

Tockwotton on the Waterfront Exec. Director Kevin McKay

Burying the wires will create a more attractive **waterfront destination for tourists**, more business for local merchants, more sales tax revenue, and potentially more jobs, on top of the jobs created to bury the lines.

<u>Wickenden Area Merchants Assn.</u> President Vincent Scorziello

WAMA represents 34 Wickenden area businesses

The power lines are **an eyesore** next to the \$52 million new Tockwotton on the Waterfront. Burying them will create a more attractive waterfront for future high-quality private development, as well as for current residents.

East Providence Waterfront District Commission

Vice Chairman William Fazioli