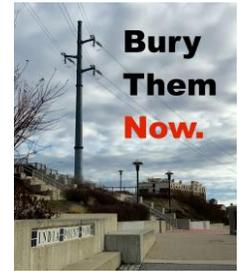




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## **SUMMARY: The Case for Burying the Power Lines On the Providence/East Providence Waterfront**

**The next 100 years is at stake for our waterfront:** National Grid proposes to replace towers dating from 1918 with new towers that would dominate the head of Narragansett Bay for another century.

### **Economic Benefits**

- Beautifying our waterfront will inspire more people to stop, discover the wonders of RI, and spend money here, instead of speeding by to Cape Cod and the Islands, as millions do.
- generate 500 jobs for the burial project.
- enhance the marketability & property values of key development parcels and increase the tax base in both cities for generations to come.

### **Environmental Benefits**

- beautify four waterfront parks (incl. India Pt, Bold Pt & Linear Pk) used by 200,000 people/yr.
- eliminate the antiquated towers over the Seekonk River, which have to be replaced anyway.
- reduce risk of outages for thousands of residents by protecting wires from storms.
- eliminate the public health risk of exposure to electro-magnetic fields.

### **Public Support**

- 2,100 petition-signers & 400 comments on our petition at [www.friendsofindiapointpark.org](http://www.friendsofindiapointpark.org)
- over 50 organizations & leaders, including business, labor, environmental, and civic groups, state and local governmental agencies and, development commissions.
- seven *Providence Journal* editorials, five Op-eds, and three joint letters from the Presidents of Brown, RISD, and Johnson & Wales.

### **Project Status**

- Close to shovel-ready: after extensive engineering studies, National Grid's consultant has concluded that the project is "constructible" (underline added).
- \$18 million raised, which will dissipate and result in no comparable benefit, if not used for burial.
- Using the bridges over the Providence & Seekonk Rivers would avoid drilling under the rivers and significantly reduce the latest project cost estimate of \$33.9 million.

### **Solution**

- The funding gap for the full burial project could be absorbed statewide, just as other RI utility projects also deemed to benefit the state are funded.
- It would cost about 12 cents/month, for the average RI ratepayer (declining annually over 30 years), or about one tenth of 1% of the average RI electrical bill of \$95.

*To sign our petition and get more info, go to [www.friendsofindiapointpark.org](http://www.friendsofindiapointpark.org)  
or contact [info@friendsofindiapointpark.org](mailto:info@friendsofindiapointpark.org).*