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State-Level Support for Burying the Power Lines on the Providence-East Providence Waterfront (bold added)

STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND AGENCIES

Burying these wires will help maintain public safety and preserve **property values** (as well as) insure that this urban waterfront park will remain a place of serenity and **recreation** for **future generations**.

Former Governor Lincoln Chafee, 7/30/05 (then Sen. Chafee)

Rhode Islanders will have to live with this decision for the next several generations. Burying the power lines will enhance one of the most attractive parts of our capital city, and provide increased opportunities for **tourism growth** and economic development in the surrounding area.

Former Lt. Gov. Charles Fogarty, 12/6/03

Burial of the power lines is most consistent with **good planning practices**. The Program recommends that the Energy Facility Siting Board [EFSB] consider and encourage feasible and prudent means to effect an undergrounding alternative as being more supportive of the State Guide Plan.

RI Statewide Planning Program Advisory Opinion, 1/30/04

Overhead power lines crossing India Point Park and Bold Point Park diminish the Park experience and subsequently the **recreational and aesthetic value** of the Park...India Point Park serves as a neighborhood park, an East Bay Bikepath amenity, and a public access point to the Providence River and Narragansett Bay ...this aesthetic and this recreational opportunity runs contrary to the reconstruction of overhead wires.

RI Dept. of Environmental Management Advisory Opinion, 1/30/04

WHEREAS, The presence of **electromagnetic fields** emanating from the E-183 transmission line **could create concern among potential investors, developers and residents**; and WHEREAS, The high voltage transmission lines serve the reliability of the entire state and the region;...RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby respectfully requests the [PUC and National Grid] to favorably consider those proposals containing provisions for burial of the E-183 line...

RI House of Representatives Resolution, passed, 62-0, 1/29/04

UNIVERSITY, LABOR, MEDIA & NON-PROFIT LEADERS

The relocation of the power lines remains a key element in the **urban revitalization** of the Providence waterfront...this investment is in the best interests of our community, our city and our state.

Presidents Paxson of Brown, Bowen of Johnson & Wales, & Maeda of RISD, Letter to Providence Mayor Taveras, 9/10/13

Chattanooga, Louisville, and San Antonio have buried shoreline wires, transforming what were once industrial backwaters into highly successful **waterfront attractions** that draw millions of people.

RI Building Trades Council, Michael Sabitoni, Letter to Mayor , 3/18/13

The case for burial is more compelling today than ever because of the **emerging economic development potential** of this waterfront area. This signature urban waterfront, which 10 million travelers a year pass through on their way to and from Cape Cod, is clearly one of the State's underutilized economic assets.

Save the Bay, Jonathan Stone, Exec. Director, Letter to EFSB, 8/22/11

The multiple parties involved...can help themselves by focusing on the advantages of burying the lines: **property values** in the area will lift substantially, enhancing development; and, of growing importance, **power failures** will be fewer.

Providence Journal editorial, 10/30/13

35 CITY & STATE ORGANIZATIONS have written letters of support, along with waterfront developers, including Churchill and Banks, Tockwotton on the Waterfront, Roosevelt International Academy, and the RI Seafood Festival. **ONLINE PETITION** signed by more than 2,000 people from all of RI's 39 cities and towns.