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Subject: Utility pole legislation DPU 26-10/DTC 26-1, DPU 25-10/DTC 25-1
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Good Afternoon,

I received a memo regarding the subject proposed utility pole legislation. On behalf of the Town of Cohasset, I respectfully request incorporating language below to address a persistent utility wiring problem.

The Town of Cohasset has overhead service for electric, phone, and cable. Cohasset's electric provider is very responsive to wires down and other required wire responses. Unfortunately, the providers for phone and cable are less responsive or unable to contact for hanging or downed wires that may impact vehicular and pedestrian traffic or become a public nuisance.

From experience I view these issues occurring in many other communities. I'm hoping that part of the proposed legislation can include required emergency contacts and response times to address downed and/or low hanging wires.

Low voltage wires (phone/cable) are not only an eyesore but more importantly a public hazard which residents have frequently reported as downed power wires, requiring emergency response or other costly resources. The public, particularly children, also frequently encounter low hanging (or at grade) facilities which can lead to further damage or injury.

I respectfully request the following **verbiage** (or similar) be **included** in the proposed legislation:

1. All utility companies, including but not limited to, electric, phone, cable, and fiber must provide updated emergency phone and email contact lists for reporting emergency and/or downed wires to service communities every 6 months, and no less than annually.
2. Downed wires reported to utilities by communities via provided contacts, must be repaired or made safe in a timely manner (and no less than 30 days after initial report). Wires made safe must be removed or resuspended in the overhead space 14'-16' above grade, and/or at safe utility wire elevation. No excess spooling or unnecessary excess wiring shall be affixed to poles or utility wires or left at grade. Junction or splice fittings must be secured at the same elevation as the overhead utility wire it is attributed to and not hanging below the service wire elevation.
3. Double poles resulting from pole replacements must be removed within 6 months of new replacement pole installation date (and no less than 1 year).

I'm open to discuss at your convenience and plan to attend the public webinar on May 27th. Please

email any questions or comments.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.



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