



Utility Trench Cut Permit Conditions & Moratorium Policy on New Pavements

July 2, 2021

Trench Cut Permit Conditions

1. Construction shall conform to the latest revision of the County “Utility Trench Cut Details”, Plan No. CU01, with the following more restrictive conditions:
 - a. For transverse trenches on arterial and collector streets, the asphalt saw cut line shall be 4 feet (rather than 1 foot) outside of the trench line
2. Final patching shall completed within the time limits specified below:
 - a. Arterial streets: 48 hours
 - b. Collector streets: 7 calendar days
 - c. All other streets (local/residential): 14 calendar days
 - d. Utility company may do a temporary patch, using hot mix asphalt, provided the permanent repair is completed within 14 calendar days (for arterials) and 28 calendar days for all other roads
3. New trenches adjacent to existing trenches: where the proposed new trench is closer than 2 feet to the edge of an existing adjacent trench (regardless of trench owner), both trenches shall be patched in accordance with the conditions herein.

Moratorium Policy on New Pavements

There shall be a moratorium on trenching in streets for non-emergency work that have been recently worked on as part of the City’s street maintenance/rehabilitation program. For streets that have had a surface treatment such as a slurry seal, chip seal or micro-surfacing, the moratorium on utility cuts in the street is three (3) years. For overlaid, mill & fill, or reconstructed/full depth reclamation streets the moratorium on utility cuts is five (5) years.

Non-emergency trench cuts on streets under the moratorium may be permitted under certain conditions by the encroachment permit process, but will be subject to additional requirements as provided herein and subject to City approval.

Additional Repairs for Moratorium Streets

When a trench cut is permitted in moratorium streets, the trench cut conditions indicated above shall apply, **and** the following additional mitigation shall apply:

- Surface treated streets shall have Type II Slurry Seal (Caltrans Std.) as follows:
 1. For residential roads and streets, the entire width of the road for the length of the trench plus a minimum of three feet on each end of the trench*. Specific conditions will be considered that could reasonably alter the extent required in order to achieve the end result.
 2. For wide/multi-lane roads the slurry seal application shall be for the length of the trench plus a minimum of 3 feet on each end of the trench* for the entire width of:
 - the affected travel lane, or
 - if multiple lanes are affected, those lanes, or
 - if in the center of the street, both directions to the nearest lane line or curb to curb.

- For overlaid or reconstructed/full depth reclamation streets, the length of the trench plus a minimum of three feet beyond each end of the trench* will be repaired such that the pavement will be cold-planed/ground down to accept a 0.15 foot depth overlay of ½ inch max gradation, Type A (Caltrans Std.) Hot Mix Asphalt for the entire width of:
- the affected travel lane, or
 - if multiple lanes are affected, those lanes, or
 - if in the center of the street, both directions to the nearest lane line or curb to curb.

*Multiple bell-hole type excavations along a street will be considered a single trench and the repair limits will extend three feet beyond the farthest edges.