



PUBLIC WORKS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: PAVEMENT CUT POLICY	POL TD-10	PAGE 1 OF 2
EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/1/00	REVISION DATE: 3/3/25	SUNSET DATE: 3/3/32

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

PURPOSE:

To provide a policy for coordinating utility activities with the County of San Diego (County) road construction and resurfacing projects to avoid pavement cuts within three years after road pavement treatment. This Policy intends to minimize excavation into new road surface treatments to the extent possible.

BACKGROUND:

Coordinating Department of Public Works (DPW) road work with underground projects owned by Utility Companies and Special Districts (Utilities), or private developers, is critical to avoid pavement cuts soon after roads are constructed or resurfaced. In general, road excavation and pavement cuts reduce structural integrity of asphalt pavements. This impact increases road maintenance costs and negatively impacts service life of the road.

SCOPE:

This policy shall apply to all parties performing excavation within road right-of-way maintained by DPW.

POLICY:

Pavement cuts required for installing underground utilities in a newly constructed, reconstructed, or resurfaced County road shall be prohibited for three years following a pavement treatment. County roads include County-maintained, Permanent Road Division (PRD), and County Service Area (CSA) roads. Pavement treatment shall be defined as asphalt, concrete surfacing, chip seal, slurry seal, and other treatments performed as major road maintenance through DPW's Capital Improvement Program. Prohibition shall include, but not be limited to, excavation for utility system installations, replacements, upgrading, or maintenance. Emergency repairs to utility systems resulting in the cutting of pavement are not exempt from this policy.

If the County concurs with a request from an agency or private entity for cutting through pavement of a County road that has received a pavement treatment within the last three years, repairs shall include resurfacing the entire width of the affected road, and not change or divert the existing drainage pattern. The method of resurfacing shall be the same as adjacent pavement. (If proposed pavement cut is approximately perpendicular to the road centerline or consists of potholing no greater than 12"x12", repairs shall be in accordance with the most recent County Regional Standard Drawings (RSD) and notes [currently G- 24 A & B and G-25].

PROCEDURES:

1. This policy requires coordination and cooperation among the various DPW sections. Staff in each section shall carry out their responsibilities to ensure objectives of this policy are achieved. They shall collaborate and share information on projects affected by this policy to avoid cuts in pavements treated within the last three years.
2. DPW Right-of-Way and DPW Utilities Coordinator shall notify Utilities of pending road construction and/or resurfacing projects at the earliest time possible during project planning and design.
3. Planning and Development Services (PDS) coordinates with DPW for work within the maintained right-of-way and will not issue a pavement excavation permit for three years following new road pavement treatment, without DPW's prior approval of an exception to this policy. The Director of DPW may grant such an approval subsequent to receipt of a signed letter of appeal (from the individual, business or agency requesting the exception) explaining why installation is now necessary and was not completed prior to the road being resurfaced, newly constructed or reconstructed.

It should be noted that, in the event of regulatory exemptions issued by a governmental agency with greater authority, DPW may be required to waive this policy. However, DPW maintains the right to require pavement repair standards are met or exceeded such that the road continues to be operationally safe and protected.

REFERENCES:

None

APPROVED BY:

MARISA K. BARRIE, PE, DIRECTOR