

Unified Government Damage Prevention Best Practices Implementation

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas adopted modifications to their Right-of-Way Management Regulations. This was done administratively. The full regulations can be found on the Internet at <http://www.marc.org/telecom/UG%20ROW%20Regs.pdf>.

Following is the language that appears in the Right-of-Way Management Regulations regarding the specific damage prevention best practices.

Horizontal Directional Drilling

- 6.9 Horizontal Directional Drilling: Horizontal directional drilling under any street or paved alley shall be at a minimum depth of 4 feet. Additional guidelines are set forth in the HDD Handbook, appendix B.

In-Ground Facility Identification

- 6.4 Tracer wire: New non-metallic underground facilities placed in the right of way shall be accompanied by tracer wire as provided below, tracer wire shall comply with the Unified Government's Technical Provisions and Standard Drawings. Except spot repairs that replace less than 100 feet are not required to have tracer wire.
 - 6.10.1 New nonmetallic underground facilities placed by trenchless methods shall have a tracer wire placed with the underground facility.
 - 6.10.1.1 If conduit or innerduct is used the tracer wire can be preinstalled or blown in after conduit or innerduct installation.
 - 6.10.1.2 If conduit or innerduct is not used then the tracer wire should be installed as integral part of the facility installation.
 - 6.10.2 Tracer wire shall be accessible at least every three hundred feet. Access points may include valve boxes, hand-holes, manholes, vaults or other covered access devices. Access point covers should be clearly marked with the type of facility.

Potholing

- 1.1 Potholing:
 - 1.1.1 Prior to excavating in the public rights-of-way, permittee must pothole to verify existing utilities when the following circumstances are present:

- 1.1.1.1 Whenever an excavation or bore, including one using trenchless technology except CIPP or slip lining, will be within the tolerance zone of an existing underground facility
- 1.1.1.2 Whenever an excavation using trenchless technology except CIPP or slip lining will parallel an underground facility within three feet of that facility, potholing is required every 100 feet.
- 1.1.1.3 Whenever an excavation will be in the vicinity of an area of congested underground facilities.
- 1.1.1.4 Whenever an excavation is within three feet of a hazardous or vital underground facility.
- 1.1.2 The preferred method of excavating a pothole is air vacuum excavation. When air vacuum excavation is not feasible the preferred method of potholing is the use of water vacuum excavation or hand digging. When potholing, exposed underground facilities should be protected and supported. Potholes shall be backfilled in accordance with current Technical Provisions.
- 1.1.3 If potholing reveals incorrectly located lines, permittee must report discrepancy to the facility owner and Kansas One Call along with proper location information.

Design Drawings

- 1.2 Sketch submittal: Driveway, driveway culvert, and individual site excavation permit applications, and multiple site excavation permit applications where work consists of discrete locations, shall be accompanied by a location sketch. If an applicant is a service provider, drawings shall be prepared by a Kansas licensed professional engineer. Information shown shall include at a minimum:
 - 1.2.1 Scaleable drawing showing extents of pavement, curb and sidewalk, building foundation, and a graphic scale and north arrow (such as shown on the plot plan for the property);
 - 1.2.2 The property address, permittee's name and phone number, labels for the adjacent street and an indication of the direction to and name of the nearest cross street;
 - 1.2.3 Location, size and material of proposed improvements;
 - 1.2.4 For an individual site excavation permit, the location of the existing utility mains and the location and presumed size of the excavation;
 - 1.2.5** Sketch shall be legible and line weights and styles, symbols and abbreviations shall be distinct and widely recognized by practitioners in the Kansas City area.