



From: Tyra Sandy, PE, Engineering Program Manager/Assistant City Engineer

CC: Gayle Sturdivant, PE, Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer

Date: July 22, 2024

Re: Policy Clarification – Allowable Methods for Installation of Underground Utilities

Purpose

This policy clarification defines the allowable methods for the installation of underground utilities within public rights-of-way (ROW) and public utility/improvement easements.

Background

The City of Colorado Springs (City) has experienced an increase in the installation of underground utilities within public ROW and in public utility/improvement easements. This increase in volume has led to various installation methods being utilized and a significant increase in hits and near misses related to public utilities. Additionally, there has been an increase in the amount of blind boring and encroachment on existing utilities.

Policy

The City will only approve the directional drilling and open trenching methods for the installation of underground utilities. Pneumatic missiles and micro/macro trenching are not allowed within the public ROW and public/utility improvement easements.