



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

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

Date: February 6, 2025

Re: Policy Clarification – Pneumatic Installation of Underground Utilities

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## Purpose

This policy clarification defines when pneumatic methods for installation of underground utilities within public rights-of-way (ROW) and public utility/improvement easements may be utilized.

## 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

Pneumatic missiles may be used with the following requirements:

- The contractor is required to have located existing utilities and adhere to Colorado 811 law.
- Plans submitted with the excavation permit shall show locations of proposed pneumatic installation.
- Shots shall be less than 25-feet in length.
- Shots cannot run parallel to an existing utility.

Contractors found to be non-compliant with the policy will not be granted additional permits for work within the ROW or any public/utility improvement easements. Additionally, they may face fines from damage prevention enforcement.