

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE July 31, 2015

TO Honorable Members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee: Jennifer S. Gates (Chair),
Philip T. Kingston (Vice Chair), Rickey D. Callahan, Scott Griggs, Lee M. Kleinman, Erik Wilson

SUBJECT Street Cut Standards, Policies and Practices

On Monday, August 3, 2015, the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee will be briefed on Street Cut Standards, Policies and Practices. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill Jordan".

Jill A. Jordan P.E.
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

Street Cut Standards, Policies and Practices



Presented to Budget Finance and Audit
Committee

By Public Works
August 3, 2015





Purpose

- Update the committee on street cut policies and practices
- Recommend updates to the street cut ordinance



History

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Management Ordinance for street cuts is managed by Public Works
 - City Code Chapter 43, Article VIII
 - Approved by City Council January 2001
 - Became effective March 2001
 - Last modification effective March 2006



Ordinance Goals

To Protect the Public and the City's Street Investment by:

- Tracking all utility providers
- Providing street repair specifications

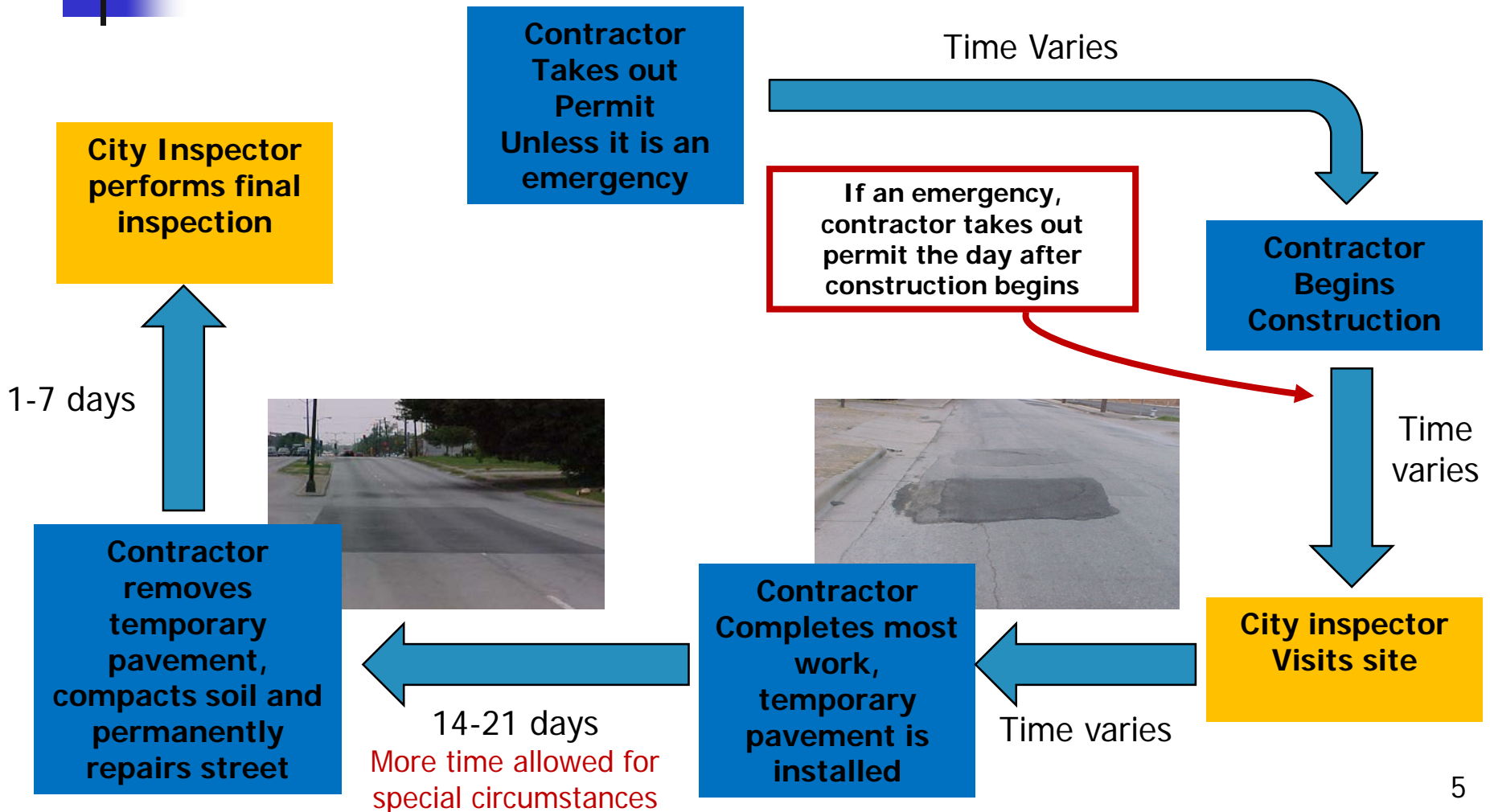
Resulting in:

- The reduction of street infrastructure damage
- A balance with utility service and the preservation of street infrastructure
- An increase in the safety and convenience of the traveling public

ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Identification and Accountability

Current Street Cut Typical Process



ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Identification and Accountability

- Registration of Public Service Providers (PSP)
 - Firm name and address
 - Certified telecommunications provider PUC number
 - Day to day contacts
 - Emergency contacts
 - Names of contractors and subcontractors
- Final construction plans required
- Major project defined
- Insurance requirements
- Project identification sign on site
- Warranty – Materials & workmanship



ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Street Repair Specifications

- Joint trenches encouraged
(multiple utilities in one trench)
- Temporary repair standards
(minimum standards)
- Restoration requirements for
new permanent pavement
- Permits are not required for:
 - Excavation outside the City's ROW
 - Single pole replacement



Temporary Repair to Asphalt Street

ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Street Repair Specifications

Permanent Repair to Concrete Street since Ordinance change in 2006



Before ordinance



Full lane replacement
required by ordinance

ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Street Repair Specifications

Permanent repair on asphalt surface that was constructed, reconstructed, or resurfaced less than sixty (60) months prior to the repair requires slurry seal of the entire street surface



ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Street Repair Specifications

Permanent Repair on asphalt surface that was constructed, reconstructed, or resurfaced more than sixty (60) months prior to repair must have the full lane replaced for where the street was cut



Allowed Before
Ordinance



Required by
Ordinance



ROW Management Ordinance

Highlights related to Enforcement and Coordination

- Permits may be denied, suspended, or revoked
- Construction must conform with other public improvements
- Allowances are made for emergency/safety repairs
- Annual work plans require mutual notification
- Boring or directional drilling projects have other special requirements



Current Permit Tracking

- Computer database records and issues permits
(the current computer system was installed in 2000 and needs to be updated)
- Internet access to permit system for 94 system PSPs
 - 33 registered subscribers
 - Self input of permit information
 - Allowed to do emergency repairs without first securing a permit
 - 61 registered non-subscribers
 - Less frequent users of the ROW
 - Not allowed self input of permit information
 - Not allowed to do emergency repairs without first securing a permit



Permit Activity for 2014

January 1 thru December 31

- 13,385 permits recorded
 - 5,285 Water/Wastewater
 - 197 Electric
 - 4,817 Gas
 - 1,692 Telecommunications and/or Cable
 - 1,394 Other (soil testing, DART, bond program projects, driveways, one time projects, etc.)

- No current fee for permit
 - ONCOR & ATMOS under franchise agreement
 - DWU is assessed a street rental fee



Permit Activity for 2014

By reason for the work

- Repair existing service – 5,734
- New services – 5,054
- Other – 2,774 (Soil testing, DART, bond program projects, driveway permits, one time projects, etc.)
- Stop service/abandon line – 1,125
- Exploration – 45

Note: The total exceeds overall permit total because some permits include multiple reasons for the work. Numbers are rounded.



Permit Activity for 2014

By location for the work

- Street – 8,302
- Sidewalk – 3,257
- Alley – 2,091
- Parkway – 512
- Median – 93

Note: The total exceeds overall permit total because some permits include multiple locations for the work. Numbers are rounded.



Results and Compliance

- Improved street damage incidents tracking
- More thorough and detailed construction plans
- Joint trenches and multiple ducts emphasized
- Compliance with temporary repair timeframe
- Better street repairs and coordination
 - Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual
 - Continuous training outreach to utility providers and contractors



Results and Compliance

- Inspection resources
 - Cut Control 10 FTEs (Supervisor and Inspectors)
- Computer permit system tracks non-compliance
- Area sweeps for lingering temporary repairs
- Enforcement through actions against the permit
 - Denying permits
 - Suspending permits
- A violator may be cited
 - \$500 to \$2,000 for failure to clear debris from ROW
 - \$500 for all other offenses



What Is Next?

New software being procured that will improve:

- Communication with PSPs and contractors
- Tracking of work
- GIS compatibility with permit administration
- Real-time access to permit system for inspectors
- Coordination with Traffic Control Plan approvals
- Coordination with Special Event planning



Council Request

Seek Council approval to amend City Code Chapter 43, Article VIII for street cuts to include the following requirements:

- Require an on-site inspection between a city inspector and the contractor 24 hours prior to any construction
- Require on site signage noting of temporary paving in place
- Require notification to the City upon completion of a temporary repair



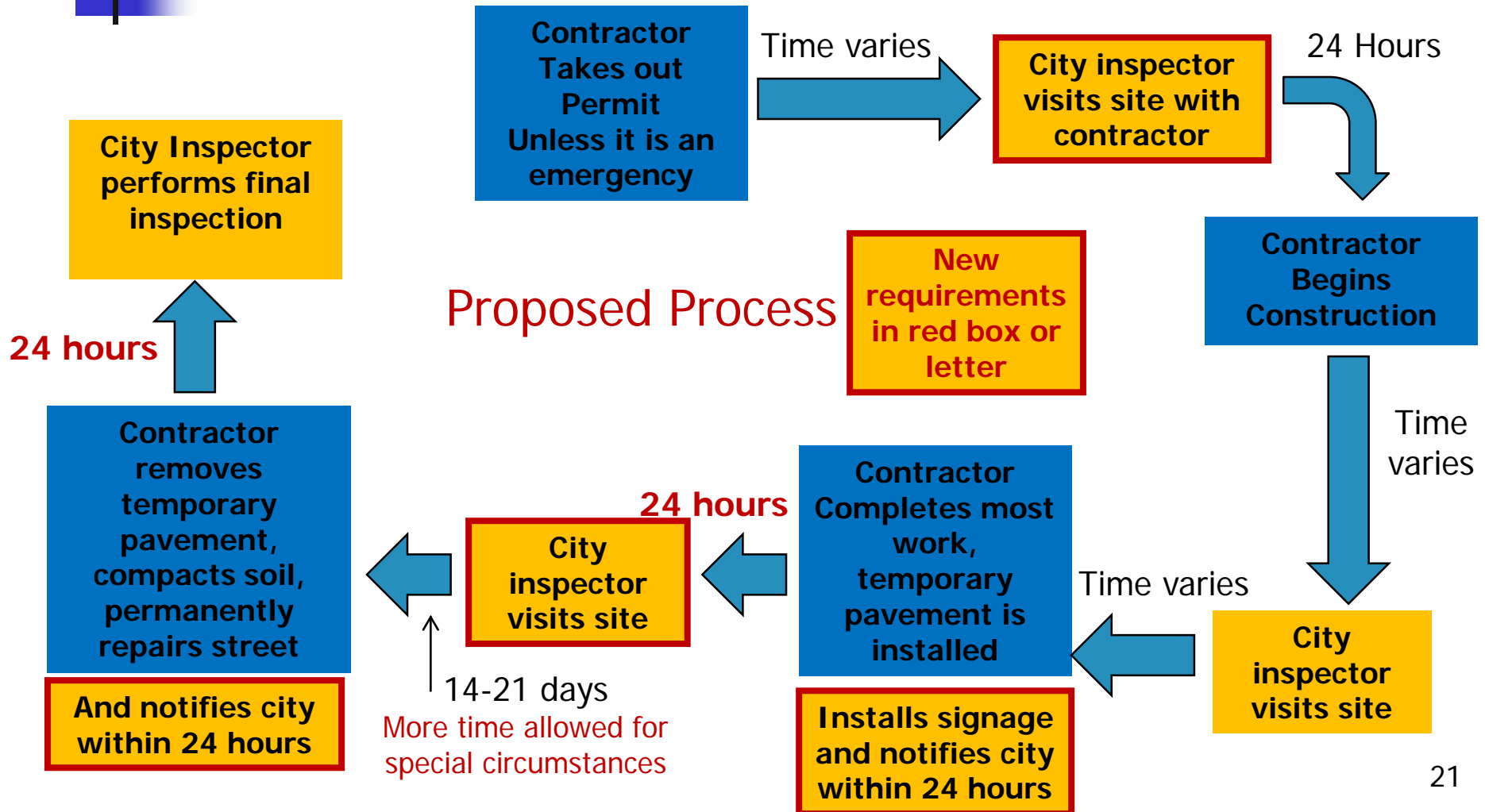
Council Request

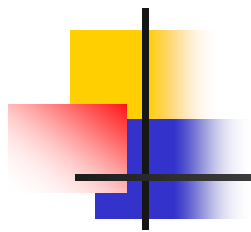
Seek Council approval to amend City Code Chapter 43, Article VIII for street cuts to include the following requirements:

- Require notification to the City 24 hours prior to commencing final permanent repair
- Compaction of back-fill on utility repairs or installation must meet the current street repair standards or trench must be filled with an approved flowable fill mix.



Process After Amended Ordinance





Comments/Questions