

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

TO: Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

FROM: Dr. Sukh Kaur, District 1 Councilmember

COPIES: Erik Walsh, City Manager; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; Joe Frank Picazo, Interim Assistant to the City Manager; Emily McGinn, Assistant to the City Council

SUBJECT: Improvements to the Accuracy, Effectivity, and Expediency in Construction Projects

DATE: June 4, 2024

Issue for Proposed Consideration

After coordinating this Council Consideration Request (CCR) with the City Manager, I respectfully request your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

- Requesting consideration of improvements to the accuracy, effectiveness, and expediency of construction projects

Brief Background

The City of San Antonio's intercity has some of the oldest infrastructure without accurate "as-built" documentation. During construction projects such as Zona Cultural, S. Alamo, St. Mary's, and Broadway, infrastructure projects were delayed, and public trust diminished due to issues that could have been solved with accurate "as-built" documentation or the use of Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) or other effective or accurate technologies. Examples of issues and project delays have been instigated by inaccurate, outdated, or non-existent as-built for utilities ranging from SAWS to "dry" utilities such as underground electric, gas, fiber, cable TV, telephone lines, and fiber lines.

This request establishes a comprehensive "as-built" drawing and documentation for publicly funded capital construction projects and Rehabilitated (Mill & Overlay and Reconstruction) streets. They show the dimensions and geometry and locate all of the elements of the tasks completed in a project. This vital information affects the accuracy, speed, and effectiveness of nearly every capital project and should be kept and maintained by the City of San Antonio moving forward.

As part of keeping and maintaining these records, we recommend that the City of San Antonio take the lead on verifications of utility locates and require reimbursement from utility companies for expenses related to (SUE and other effective or accurate technologies used in the process and any related construction delays). As-built records should also be available during the permitting process for developers and contractors to further ensure that fewer mistakes and issues arise during development. Getting our capital projects completed to the highest standards and on time is of the utmost importance to our residents and our business community, and thus, increasing design and planning efforts combined with robust budgeting related to SUE, or other effective, accurate technology should also be implemented. Further, we recommend that at the earliest part of the design phase of all publicly funded projects, all

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utilities be located using SUE or other effective, accurate technologies so that the engineer of record and eventual contractor can base their work on accurate information. The quality level selected for the SUE method used should be selected following ASCE 38-22 guidelines and relate to the complexity, needs of the project, and the project budget.

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Relevant Research and Documentation

- ASCE - STANDARD GUIDELINE FOR INVESTIGATING AND DOCUMENTING EXISTING UTILITIES (38-22)
- ASCE - STANDARD GUIDELINE FOR RECORDING AND EXCHANGING UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE DATA (75-22)
- SAWS - As-Built Requirements 3.24.24
- City of Orlando - As-Built Surveys
- City of Phoenix - As-Built Drawing Requirements
- City of Durham, NC - As-Built Drawing Requirements

Request

1. Each utility agency is required to maintain accurate as-built information that includes horizontal and vertical locations, materials, and sizes of their infrastructure within the City right-of-way. This as-built information shall be readily available to the City.
2. On publicly funded capital projects, the City of San Antonio will be the lead agency for identifying SUE requirements related to the project scope. Utility agencies will be responsible for reimbursing the City for all SUE-related expenses for their respective infrastructure.
3. Encourage utility agencies to increase design and planning efforts and consider a more robust budgeting process for Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) or other effective, accurate technology, to ensure accuracy, expediency, and efficiency on capital projects
4. Require compliance with the above by all utilities within the City right-of-way.



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Submitted for Council consideration by: _____

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Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures

District

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A handwritten number "6" in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.
A handwritten number "7" in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.