



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: October 15, 2024

In Control: Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Razi Hosseini

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

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

SUMMARY:

On June 4, 2024, Councilmember Dr. Sukh Kaur issued a Council Consideration Request (CCR) requesting consideration of improvements to the accuracy, effectiveness, and expediency of construction projects.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

According to the CCR, the City of San Antonio's intercity has some of the oldest infrastructure. Capital improvement construction projects are often delayed due to unforeseen utility conflicts, further impacting the public. Some of these utility conflicts and associated issues are primarily attributed to inaccurate, outdated, or non-existent as-built documentation for utilities such as sewer, water, underground electric, gas, cable TV, telephone, and fiber lines.

The CCR requests comprehensive "as-built" drawings and documentation for publicly funded capital and rehabilitated street construction projects to resolve and minimize utility conflict issues through Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) or other effective and accurate technologies. As-built drawings and documentation show all utility joint-bid elements, dimensions, geometry location, and associated tasks for every capital project.

As part of keeping and maintaining these records, the CCR recommends that the City of San Antonio require:

- Each utility agency to maintain accurate as-built information that includes the horizontal and vertical locations, materials, and sizes of its infrastructure within the City right-of-way. Upon permitting, this information shall be readily available to the city and developers/contractors.
- On publicly funded capital projects, the City of San Antonio will be the lead agency for identifying SUE requirements related to City-funded projects. Utility agencies will be responsible for reimbursing the City for all SUE-related expenses related to their respective infrastructure.
- 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.
- All utilities within the City right-of-way comply with the above-listed requirements.

A presentation on this CCR was given at the August 2024 meeting of the City Council Governance Committee.

ISSUE:

Staff will brief the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee on the CCR, current efforts and recommended preliminary step.

FISCAL IMPACT:

For briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

For briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends pursuing with the execution of Memorandums of Understanding with utility partnership agencies SAWS and CPS to include the following key terms: pre-work such as identification of underground utility conflicts, constructability reviews by the contractor, and pot-holing; signatory to any joint-bid contracts; categorize projects to increase accuracy, expediency, and efficiency; and dispute resolution process.

