

1/18/01

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance amending Articles VIII and IX of CHAPTER 43, "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS," of the Dallas City Code, as amended; defining terms; providing for registration of public service providers with facilities in the public right-of-way; providing permit requirements and procedures for construction in the public right-of-way; providing insurance and indemnity requirements for construction in the public right-of-way; providing requirements, procedures, and standards relating to pavement cuts, excavations, installations, trench safety, and restoration in the public right-of-way; providing for maintenance and repair of the public right-of-way and of facilities located in the public right-of-way; providing for emergency activities in the public right-of-way; providing for the relocation of facilities to allow driveway construction; providing for enforcement; making certain semantic, grammatical, and structural changes; providing a penalty not to exceed \$2,000; providing a saving clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That Article VIII, "Pavement Cuts and Excavations," of CHAPTER 43, "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS," of the Dallas City Code, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“ARTICLE VIII.

CERTAIN USES OF PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY.

SEC. 43-135.           DEFINITIONS.

In this article:

(1) BACKFILL means:

(A) the placement of new dirt, fill, or other material to refill an excavation; or

(B) the return of excavated dirt, fill, or other material to an excavation.

(2) CITY means the city of Dallas and the city’s officers and employees.

(3) CLOSURE means a complete or partial closing of one or more lanes of traffic of a thoroughfare for any period of time.

(4) CONSTRUCTION means any of the following activities performed by any person within a public right-of-way:

(A) Installation, excavation, laying, placement, repair, upgrade, maintenance, or relocation of facilities or other improvements, whether temporary or permanent.

(B) Modification or alteration to any surface, subsurface, or aerial space within the public right-of-way.

(C) Performance, restoration, or repair of pavement cuts or excavations.

(D) Reconstruction of any of the work described in Paragraphs (4)(A) through (4)(C) of this subsection.

(E) Other similar construction work.

(5) DIRECTOR means the director of public works and transportation or any designated representative.

(6) EMERGENCY ACTIVITY means circumstances requiring immediate construction or operations by a public service provider to:

(A) prevent imminent damage or injury to the health or safety of any person or to the public right-of-way;

(B) restore service; or

(C) prevent the loss of service.

(7) EXCAVATION means the removal of dirt, fill, or other material in the public right-of-way, including but not limited to the methods of open trenching, boring, tunneling, or jacking.

(8) FACILITIES means the plant, equipment, buildings, structures, poles, wires, cables, lines, conduit, mains, pipes, vaults, and appurtenances of a public service provider and includes property owned, operated, leased, licensed, used, controlled, or supplied for, by, or in connection with the business of the public service provider.

(9) MAJOR PROJECT means any construction that requires a pavement cut of a length of 300 linear feet or greater within any single street or alley.

(10) PAVEMENT CUT means a cut made into the paved surface of the public right-of-way.

(11) PAVEMENT CUT AND REPAIR STANDARDS MANUAL means a manual published by the city of Dallas that contains engineering, technical, and other special criteria and standards established by the director for pavement cut, excavation, backfill, restoration, and repair activities in the public right-of-way.

(12) PERMITTEE means the person applying for or receiving a permit to perform construction within the city's right-of-way under the terms and conditions of this article. The term includes:

(A) any officer, director, partner, manager, superintendent, or other authorized person exercising control over or on behalf of the permittee; and

(B) any contractor or subcontractor of the permittee, for purposes of compliance with the *City of Dallas Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual* and the traffic control, construction, and maintenance requirements of this article.

(13) PERSON means a natural person, a corporation, a public service provider, a governmental entity or agency (including the city), a limited liability company, a joint venture, a business trust, an estate, a trust, a partnership, an association, or any other legal entity.

(14) PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY means any area of land within the city that is acquired by, dedicated to, or claimed by the city in fee simple, by easement, or by prescriptive right and that is expressly or impliedly accepted or used in fact or by operation of law as a public roadway, highway, street, sidewalk, alley, or utility access easement. The term includes the area on, below, and above the surface of the public right-of-way. The term applies regardless of whether the public right-of-way is paved or unpaved. The term does not include airwaves above the public right-of-way that fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States government.

(15) PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDER means any wholesale or retail electric utility, gas utility, telecommunications company, cable company, water utility, storm water utility, or wastewater utility, regardless of whether the public service provider is publicly or privately owned or required to operate within the city pursuant to a franchise.

(16) SPOILS or EXCAVATED MATERIAL means construction waste, construction supplies, or excavated dirt, fill, or other similar material that is stored or placed upon the surface of a public right-of-way.

(17) SUBDIVISION means “subdivision” as defined in Article VIII, “Plat Regulations,” of the Dallas Development Code, as amended.

(18) THOROUGHFARE means:

(A) a public traffic arterial, as designated in the city’s thoroughfare plan;

(B) a nonresidential collector street, as defined in the *City of Dallas Paving Design Manual*; and

(C) all streets within the central business district.

**SEC. 43-136. DIRECTOR’S AUTHORITY; ENFORCEMENT; OFFENSES.**

(a) The director is authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of this article, and to promulgate regulations, including but not limited to engineering, technical, and other special criteria and standards, to aid in the administration and enforcement of this article that are not in conflict with this article, this code, or state or federal law.

(b) The director is authorized to enter upon a construction site for which a permit is granted under this article or, where necessary, upon private property adjacent to the construction site, for purposes of inspection to determine compliance with the permit or this article.

(c) A person commits an offense if he:

(1) performs, authorizes, directs, or supervises construction without a valid permit issued under this article;

(2) violates any other provision of this article;

(3) fails to comply with restrictions or requirements of a permit issued under this article; or

(4) fails to comply with an order or regulation of the director issued pursuant to this article.

(d) A person commits an offense if, in connection with the performance of construction in the public right-of-way, he:

(1) damages the public right-of-way beyond what is incidental or necessary to the performance of the construction;

(2) damages public or private facilities within the public right-of-way;  
or

(3) fails to clear debris associated with the construction from a public right-of-way after construction is completed.

(e) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (d)(2) if the person complied with all of the requirements of this article and state law and caused the damage because the facilities in question:

(1) were not shown or indicated in a plan document, plan of record, record construction drawing, or field survey, staking, or marking; and

(2) could not otherwise be discovered in the public right-of-way through the use of due diligence.

(f) A person commits an offense if, while performing any construction or other activity along a public right-of-way (whether or not a building or other permit is required for the activity), the person:

(1) damages the public right-of-way or public or private facilities located within the public right-of-way; or

(2) fails to clear debris associated with the construction or other activity from a public right-of-way.

(g) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsections (f)(1) and (f)(2) that the person was performing all of the construction or other activity along the public right-of-way in compliance with any permit issued for the construction or activity.

(h) A culpable mental state is not required to prove an offense under this article. A person who violates a provision of this article is guilty of a separate offense for each day or portion of a day during which the violation is committed, continued, authorized, directed, or permitted. An offense under Subsection (d)(3) or (f)(2) is punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$2,000. Any other offense under this article is punishable by a fine of \$500.

(i) This article may be enforced by civil court action in accordance with state or federal law, in addition to any other remedies, civil or criminal, the city has for a violation of this article.

(j) Prior to initiation of civil enforcement litigation, the permittee or any other person who has violated a provision of this article must be given the opportunity to correct the violation within the time frame specified by the director. This subsection does not prohibit the director or the city from taking enforcement action as to past or present violations of this article, notwithstanding their correction.

**SEC. 43-137. REGISTRATION; OTHER REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) Nothing in this section relieves a public service provider from obtaining a permit under this article to perform work in the public right-of-way.

(b) In order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, a public service provider maintaining or operating existing facilities in the public right-of-way must register with the director in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) The registration must be on a form furnished by the director and made in the name of the public service provider that owns the facilities.

(2) Registration expires March 1 of every other year after the calendar year in which the first registration occurs. If a registration is not renewed by the expiration date, the director shall furnish written notice to the public service provider

that the registration has expired. If the public service provider fails to renew registration within 30 calendar days after the director gives notice of the expiration, the facilities of the public service provider will be deemed to have been legally abandoned.

(3) If information provided as part of the registration changes, the public service provider must inform the director in writing not more than 30 days after the date the change occurs.

(4) The public service provider shall also include the following with the registration:

(A) The name of the public service provider using the public right-of-way, including any business name, assumed name, or trade name the public service provider operates under or has operated under within the past five years.

(B) If the public service provider is a certificated telecommunications provider, the certificate number issued by the Texas Public Utility Commission.

(C) The ordinance number of any franchise or license issued by the city of Dallas that authorizes the public service provider to use the public right-of-way.

(D) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of at least two persons who will be general, day-to-day contacts for the public service provider. At least one of the addresses must be within the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area.

(E) The name and mailing address of the officer or agent designated as the person authorized to receive service of process on behalf of the public service provider.

(F) The name, address, and telephone number of any contractor or subcontractor, if known, who will be working in the public right-of-way on behalf of the public service provider.

(G) The names and telephone numbers of at least two persons serving as emergency contacts who can be reached by telephone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The telephone numbers should be accessible without the city having to pay a long distance telephone or toll charge.

(H) Proof of existing insurance that complies with the following requirements:

(i) The minimum insurance coverage for a public service provider must be commercial general liability insurance, or any combination of general liability and umbrella/excess insurance, (including, but not limited to, premises operations, personal and advertising injury, products/completed operations, and independent contractors and contractual liability) with a minimum combined bodily injury (including death) and property damage limit of \$25,000,000 per occurrence, \$25,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate, and \$25,000,000 general aggregate. The liability insurance policy must also include coverage for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards. The insurance coverage must be written by a company or companies approved to conduct business in the State of Texas. The city must be named as an additional insured on the policy by using endorsement CG 20 26 or broader.

(ii) The insurance filed by a public service provider must also meet the same requirements as insurance filed by a permittee under Section 43-140(a)(3) through (a)(7). A public service provider has the same duties, obligations, and liabilities as a permittee under Section 43-140(a)(3) through (a)(7), except that a public service provider does not have to file separate proof of insurance every time it obtains a permit to perform work in the public right-of-way.

(iii) If the public service provider is an entity that has a tangible net worth ratio of 3 to 1 (assets to liabilities) with a minimum tangible net worth of at least \$100,000,000, proof of self-insurance sufficient to meet the coverage required in this subparagraph is sufficient to satisfy the insurance requirements of this subparagraph.

(5) The insurance requirements of Subsection (b)(4)(H) of this section do not apply to:

(A) construction or other activity performed by the city's own forces or by contractors hired by the city and working on city-owned facilities within the public right-of-way; or

(B) a public service provider operating facilities or performing construction pursuant to a valid existing franchise or license approved by the city council.

**SEC. 43-138. PLANS OF RECORD.**

(a) Any public service provider with facilities in the public right-of-way shall submit plans of record in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) On or before April 1, 2001, a public service provider shall submit to the director a schedule to provide complete plans of record that show all of its facilities existing in the public right-of-way as of the date the plans of record are submitted to the director in compliance with this section. The schedule must provide for all plans of record for existing facilities inside the central business district to be furnished to the director on or before March 1, 2002 and for all plans of record for existing facilities outside the central business district to be furnished to the director on or before March 1, 2003.

(2) On or before March 1 of each calendar year following the initial submittal of its plans of record, a public service provider shall provide to the director plans of record that show all installations of new facilities, and all changes, additions, abandonments, and relocations relating to existing facilities, completed in the previous calendar year, both inside and outside of the central business district.

(3) The plans of record must be provided in a format specified by the director and must contain such detail and accuracy as are required by the director. Plans of record must be submitted in computerized or digital format.

(b) If plans of record submitted under this section include information expressly designated by the public service provider as a trade secret or other confidential information protected from disclosure by state law, the director may not disclose that information to the public without the consent of the public service provider, unless otherwise compelled by an opinion of the attorney general pursuant to the Texas Open Records Act, as amended, or by a court having jurisdiction of the matter pursuant to applicable law. This subsection may not be construed to authorize a public service provider to designate all matters in its plans of record as confidential or as trade secrets.

**SEC. 43-139. PERMIT REQUIRED; EXCEPTIONS; CONDITIONS; DENIAL AND REVOCATION.**

(a) A person shall not perform any construction, except for an emergency activity, within a public right-of-way without first obtaining a permit from the director prior to the start of construction. A person who undertakes any work outside of the public right-of-way that will cut, break, or otherwise damage the public right-of-way shall also obtain a permit under this section.

(b) A permit is not required under Subsection (a) if the activity in the public right-of-way consists exclusively of:

(1) a connection of real property to a retail utility service on the same side of the public right-of-way, if the connection does not require a pavement cut; or

(2) the replacement of a single damaged pole.

(c) The following procedures and requirements govern the application for and issuance of a permit to perform construction within the public right-of-way:

(1) A permit application must be made in writing on a form approved by the director. The application must be signed and submitted by the owner of the facility for which the permit is requested or, if the work does not involve a facility, by the owner of the improvement for which the permit is requested.

(2) Except in the case of a major project, a permit application must be submitted to the director not less than two business days before commencement of the proposed construction unless emergency activity is required, in which case immediate notice, including the reasons for the emergency activity, must be given to the director.

(3) A permit application for a major project must be submitted enough time in advance of the commencement of the proposed construction to allow the director at least 30 business days for review. During this project submission review period, schedules, alternatives to cutting the street, utility assignments, special repair requirements, and all other questions will be resolved. Adjustments to time limits specified in the *Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual* may be granted by the director for major project work. The proposed construction on the project may commence upon issuance of the permit by the director.

(4) A permit application must include a statement by the applicant that the applicant has collected all available plans for existing city of Dallas underground facilities and other public and private utilities and has included those facilities and utilities in the applicant's design, showing no apparent conflict. The statement must also affirm that the applicant will perform field verifications as necessary during construction to locate all city and other existing underground facilities.

(5) The permit application on any project must include submittal of plans to the director. When required by the Texas Engineering Practice Act, as amended, the plans must be sealed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of Texas. The plans must include the horizontal alignment of all proposed facilities in relation to all existing public and private facilities in plan view. If the project is a major project that is located within the central business district, crosses street intersections, or involves crossing proposed facilities over or under existing facilities, the plans must also include a representation of the vertical alignment of the facilities in profile view. Each sheet of the plans must have a note instructing the contractor to verify the location of underground utilities at least 100 feet in advance of all proposed utility crossings, and also at locations where the proposed facilities are shown to be running parallel to

existing facilities within five feet. The plans must be half size (11" X 17") at a scale no smaller than 1" = 40' in plan view and 1" = 6' in profile view. Each project must be assigned a project number, which must appear on each sheet.

(6) A permit is required even if other authority has been granted by the director to make a pavement cut or excavation in a public right-of-way as part of a city construction project.

(7) The director shall state on the permit the activity for which the permit is issued and include any additional restrictions or requirements determined necessary by the director.

(8) The permittee has the exclusive responsibility to coordinate with other public service providers to protect all existing facilities in the public right-of-way in which the construction occurs.

(9) The permittee shall, as an express condition of the permit, comply in all respects with the requirements prescribed for the permitted activity in the *Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual* and with all other city ordinances and state or federal laws or regulations affecting the permitted activity.

(10) The director shall notify public service providers that registered under Section 43-137 during the previous calendar year of pavement surfaces to be reconstructed or resurfaced by the city during the next calendar year.

(11) A public service provider planning construction within the public right-of-way shall notify the director by March 1 of each year of all then-known facility expansion or replacement projects planned for the next fiscal year that may require pavement cuts or excavations.

(12) The director may require any permittee to use trenchless technology or boring, instead of disturbing a public right-of-way surface, if it is:

(A) in the best interest of the city;

(B) technically, commercially, and economically feasible; and

(C) not in violation of federal or state regulations or industry safety standards.

(13) Directional drilling or boring may not be used in the central business district, unless otherwise approved by the director as being in the best interest of the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience.

(14) In using trenchless technology or boring, whether or not required under Paragraph (12) of this subsection, the permittee must:

(A) obtain and have at the construction site recent plans from the city’s water utilities department, and, where available, plans from owners of all other underground facilities, showing the horizontal and vertical placement of the underground facilities, if the permittee’s proposed facilities will:

- (i) cross other existing facilities; or
- (ii) be located within five feet of existing facilities at any point;

(B) locate all water main lines by potholing, if the permittee’s proposed facilities will:

- (i) cross other existing facilities; or
- (ii) be located within five feet of existing facilities at any point; and

(C) be able to locate the bore head at all times in accordance with the latest technologies and provide the location of the bore to the director upon request.

(15) The permittee shall maintain the construction area in a public right-of-way in a manner that avoids dust, other health hazards, and hazards to vehicular and pedestrian traffic until the public right-of-way is permanently repaired.

(16) When making a pavement cut or excavation, or placing spoils or excavated material in or along a public right-of-way, the permittee shall place barricades, warning signs, and warning lights at the location sufficient to warn the public of the hazard of the cut, excavation, spoils, or excavated material in compliance with the 1980 Edition of the *Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, as amended, published by the Texas Department of Transportation.

(17) The director may require the permittee to share trench space to minimize the disruption of vehicular and pedestrian traffic or to provide space for needed city facility installations if such sharing is:

- (A) technically, commercially, and economically feasible; and
- (B) not in violation of state or federal regulations or industry safety standards.

(d) The following additional procedures apply if it is necessary to close, in whole or in part, a public right-of-way for purposes of making a pavement cut or an excavation:

(1) For any closure of a traffic lane or blocking of a sidewalk or alley lasting one day or less, the permittee shall conspicuously mark its vehicles with the permittee's name and telephone number.

(2) Any closure of a traffic lane or blocking of a sidewalk or alley lasting longer than one day must be identified by a sign that is clearly legible to the traveling public. The sign must be posted at or in close proximity to the worksite and must contain:

(A) the name of the permittee;

(B) the name of the person performing the construction on behalf of the permittee, if any; and

(C) a local 24-hour contact number that can be used in case of emergency or to answer any questions.

(3) The requirements of Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection are in addition to any other signage, barricades, or warning devices required by law or ordinance. The sign information required by Paragraph (2) of this subsection may be included on barricades or warning devices.

(4) When permitted construction will last longer than two weeks, the permittee shall give written notification to all adjacent property occupants by conspicuously posting the notification on each adjacent property at least 72 hours before commencement of construction, unless the director determines that an emergency exists.

(5) If a street or alley must be totally closed for any duration, the permittee shall provide for reasonable alternative access to the adjacent property by the property's occupants and invitees, which access must include but is not limited to deliveries to the property.

(6) If construction on a partially closed thoroughfare stops for the day, all thoroughfare lanes must be reopened to traffic, unless an extended time of closure is expressly granted by the permit.

(7) If a pavement cut is to be covered, the permittee shall use steel plates, or equivalent plates, of sufficient strength and thickness to support all traffic.

(8) Plates must be sufficiently secured in place so as not to become dislodged or in any way cause a hazard to any traffic. Asphalt transitions must be placed as required to provide a reasonably smooth riding surface.

(9) Plates must be marked with the name of the person performing the construction and with a local 24-hour contact number that can be used in case of an emergency, unless a sign complying with Paragraph (2) of this subsection is posted at or in close proximity to the worksite.

(e) Unless it becomes necessary to conduct emergency activity, a permittee shall not cause or allow interference with traffic flow on a thoroughfare during the hours of 6:30 a.m. through 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. through 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

(f) A temporary repair may not remain on public right-of-way for more than 14 calendar days after the completion of the repair or installation of the underground structure or facility, unless a time extension has been granted by the director. The city may, at the expense of the permittee or other responsible person, remove any temporary repair remaining in the public right-of-way beyond the 14-day time limit and make permanent repairs. Any exception to the 14-day time limit, other than a relocation of a facility in advance of a city construction project in the public right-of-way, must be approved by the director prior to expiration of the time limit.

(g) If no construction has commenced under a permit within 120 calendar days after issuance of the permit, the permit becomes null and void, and a new permit is required before construction may be performed in the public right-of-way. An extension to a permit may be granted by the director only before the permit expires.

(h) The director may refuse to issue a permit if:

(1) the proposed construction will substantially interfere with vehicles or pedestrians and no procedures, or procedures inconsistent with this article, have been implemented to minimize the interference;

(2) the proposed construction will substantially interfere with another activity for which a permit has been issued, or will conflict or interfere with existing facilities already in the public right-of-way;

(3) the proposed barricading, channelizing, signing, warning, or other traffic control procedures or equipment do not comply with the requirements of the 1980 edition of the *Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, as amended;

(4) the proposed construction, incidental traffic control, or other permitted activity, or the manner in which it is to be performed, will violate a city ordinance or regulation or a state or federal statute or regulation;

(5) the permittee:

(A) failed to furnish all the information required by this article;

(B) knowingly or intentionally furnished materially false or incorrect information to the director;

(C) failed, except for good cause shown, to file the application on the approved form within the time limits prescribed by this section;

(D) failed or refused to submit plans of record as required under Section 43-138;

(E) was convicted of violating a provision of this article twice within the two-year period immediately preceding the date of application;

(F) failed to furnish or have on file with the director the insurance required under this article;

(G) is not in compliance with applicable requirements of an existing permit issued under this article; or

(H) has not obtained a current copy of the *Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual* from the director.

(i) The director may suspend construction or revoke an issued permit on the same grounds on which a permit may be denied under Subsection (h), or if the permittee:

(1) commences or performs construction in violation of an applicable requirement of this article or the permit;

(2) creates or is likely to create a public health or safety hazard by performance of the construction in question;

(3) fails to comply with an order or regulation of the director;

(4) fails to comply with restrictions or requirements of other city ordinances or state or federal laws or regulations applicable to the construction; or

(5) commences or performs work without having prior knowledge and understanding of the applicable repair standards or without having obtained a current copy of the *Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual* from the director.

(j) The director shall provide written notice of a suspension or revocation to the permittee or the person hired by the permittee to perform the construction. Construction that is suspended may not resume until the director determines that the permittee has corrected the violation, noncompliance, or hazard that caused the suspension. A permit that has been revoked may be reinstated by the director if the director determines that:

(1) the permittee has corrected the violation, noncompliance, or hazard that caused the revocation; and

(2) the health or safety of the public is not jeopardized by reinstating the permit.

(k) Any variance from the requirements of this article must be approved in advance by the director. The director may grant a variance only if an extreme hardship exists and the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience is not adversely affected by granting the variance. The director may not approve any variance that would give a competitive advantage to one public service provider over another public service provider providing the same or similar service. The director may not grant a variance from the indemnity requirements of Section 43-140(d).

**SEC. 43-140. INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY REQUIREMENTS; EXCEPTIONS**

(a) As an express precondition to being granted a permit to perform construction within a public right-of-way, the permittee shall furnish the director proof of existing insurance in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) If the construction will require a pavement cut or excavation not more than 18 inches in depth and 300 feet in length, the permittee must provide proof of commercial general liability insurance (including, but not limited to, premises operations, personal and advertising injury, products/completed operations, and independent contractors and contractual liability) with a minimum combined bodily injury (including death) and property damage limit of \$500,000 per occurrence, \$500,000 products/completed operations aggregate, and \$500,000 general aggregate. The insurance coverage must be written by a company or companies approved to conduct business in the State of Texas. The city must be named as an additional insured on the policy by using endorsement CG 20 26 or broader.

(2) If the construction will require a pavement cut or excavation exceeding either 18 inches in depth or 300 feet in length, the permittee must provide proof of commercial general liability insurance, or any combination of general liability and umbrella/excess insurance, (including, but not limited to, premises operations, personal and advertising injury, products/completed operations, and independent contractors and contractual liability) with a minimum combined bodily injury (including death) and property damage limit of \$25,000,000 per occurrence, \$25,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate, and \$25,000,000 general aggregate. The liability insurance policy must also include coverage for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards. The insurance coverage must be written by a company or companies approved to conduct business in the State of Texas. The city must be named as an additional insured on the policy by using endorsement CG 20 26 or broader.

(3) Each policy must include a provision that requires the insurance company to notify the city in writing at least 30 days before canceling or failing to renew the policy or before reducing policy limits or coverages.

(4) The permittee agrees, with respect to the insurance coverage required by this subsection, to waive subrogation against the city and its officers and employees for bodily injury (including death), property damage, or any other loss.

(5) The insurance coverage required by this subsection is considered primary insurance in regard to the city and its officers, employees, and elected representatives.

(6) Proof of insurance in the form of an original industry standard certificate of insurance showing the city as an additional insured must be provided to the director prior to any commencement of work by the permittee. The certificate of insurance must be executed by the insurer or its authorized agent and must state specific coverage, limits, and expiration dates in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

(7) The permittee shall make available to the director, upon request, a copy of the insurance policy, including any endorsements, riders, and amendments to the policy and any statements respecting coverage under the policy.

(b) A permittee who is a public service provider who has registered and filed proof of insurance under Section 43-137 of this article is not required to furnish separate proof of insurance under this section when obtaining a permit, but must comply with all other requirements of this section.

(c) If the permittee is an entity that has a tangible net worth ratio of 3 to 1 (assets to liabilities) with a minimum tangible net worth of at least \$100,000,000, proof of self-insurance sufficient to meet the coverage required in Subsection (a) is sufficient to satisfy the requirements of that subsection.

(d) The following indemnity provisions apply to a public service provider registered under Section 43-137 and are also included by reference as express terms of a permit issued under this article:

(1) A permittee who is a certificated telecommunications provider as defined in Chapter 283, Texas Local Government Code, as amended, agrees to give to the city the indemnity provided in Section 283.057, Texas Local Government Code, as amended.

(2) A permittee, other than a certificated telecommunications provider described in Paragraph (1) of this subsection, expressly agrees to fully and completely defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the city and its officers, agents, and employees, against any and all claims, lawsuits, judgments, costs, and expenses for personal injury (including death), property damage or other harm for which recovery of damages is sought, suffered by any person or persons, that may arise out of or be occasioned by any negligent, grossly negligent, wrongful, or strictly liable act or omission of the permittee or its agents, employees, or contractors, in the performance of work or activity pursuant to the permit issued under this article, regardless of whether or not the negligence, gross negligence, wrongful act, or fault of the city or its officers, agents, or employees, contributes in any way to the damage, injury, or other harm. The requirement of the permittee to defend the city also unconditionally applies regardless of whether or not the negligence, gross negligence, or fault of the city or its officers, agents, or employees contributes in any way to the damage, injury, or other harm. Nothing in this paragraph may be construed as waiving any governmental immunity available to the city under state law. This provision is solely for the benefit of the permittee and the city and is not intended to create or grant any rights, contractual or otherwise, in or to any other person.

(e) This section does not apply to:

(1) construction or other activity performed by the city's own forces or by contractors hired by the city and working on city-owned facilities within the public right-of-way;

(2) a person operating facilities or performing construction pursuant to a valid existing franchise or license approved by the city council; or

(3) construction or repair of a sidewalk or driveway approach for an abutting single-family or duplex residential property owner.

**SEC. 43-141. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS FOR STREET EXCAVATION AND INSTALLATIONS AND TRENCH SAFETY.**

(a) In addition to the other requirements of this article, a pavement cut, excavation, or repair necessitated by or as a result of construction inside or outside of the public right-of-way must comply with all of the requirements contained in this section.

(b) General.

(1) A pavement cut in the public right-of-way may be made prior to obtaining a permit only if a valid need to perform emergency activity exists. Immediate notice, including the reasons for the emergency activity, must be given to the director. Whenever an emergency activity cut is made, application for a permit must be made not later than the second business day following commencement of the emergency activity.

(2) A pavement cut in a newly constructed, reconstructed, or resurfaced street may not be made for 60 months after the substantial completion of the work, unless repairs are made in compliance with the *Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual*.

(3) The permittee and any person responsible for construction shall protect the public right-of-way surface, drainage facilities, and all other existing facilities and improvements from excavated materials, equipment operations, and other construction activities. Particular attention must be paid to ensure that no excavated material or contamination of any type is allowed to enter or remain in a water or wastewater main or access structure, drainage facility, or natural drainage feature. Adequate provisions must be made to ensure that traffic and adjacent property owners experience a minimum of inconvenience.

(c) Five-year maintenance period.

(1) All construction must be done in a good and workmanlike manner and in faithful and strict compliance with the permit, this article, other city ordinances, and regulations promulgated by the director relating to construction within the public right-of-way.

(2) All construction performed under any permit granted to a permittee by the city under this article must be maintained to the satisfaction of the director for five years after the date of completion of the construction or repair.

(3) Any damage to, or any defect or other problem in, the permitted construction occurring at any time within five years after the completion of work under the permit must be corrected to the satisfaction of the director within 10 days after the director gives notice to the permittee to correct the damage, defect, or other problem.

(4) The opinion of the director as to the necessity of correcting any damage, defect, or other problem is binding on all parties.

(d) Repairs.

(1) All damage caused directly or indirectly to the public right-of-way surface or subsurface outside the pavement cut or excavation area will be regarded as a part of the pavement cut or excavation and must be included in the total area repaired. If repaired by the city, the permittee shall reimburse the city for the actual direct and indirect costs of the repair.

(2) The director shall notify the permittee if the backfill on a permitted construction settles at any time during the five-year maintenance period required in Subsection (c) of this section, causing subsidence in the pavement of one-half inch or more, vertically measured in any three-foot horizontal direction. Upon notification, the permittee shall schedule appropriate repair work and promptly notify the director of the anticipated dates of commencement and completion of the repair work. If the repair work is not commenced or completed within the agreed-upon time schedule, or if no response is received by the director within 24 hours after notification to the permittee, the repair work may be performed by the city. The permittee shall reimburse the city for the actual direct and indirect costs of any repair work performed by the city.

(3) The permittee shall notify the director at least 24 hours before commencing any repair operations under Paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(e) Trench safety.

(1) Trench safety systems that meet U. S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards are required for construction in which trench excavation will exceed a depth of five feet.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a construction contract entered into by a permittee that is subject to the safety standards adopted under Chapter 121, Texas Utilities Code, as amended.

**SEC. 43-142. RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) The Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual and the requirements of this section govern the restoration of public right-of-way surfaces within the city. For those restoration activities not covered by the Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual or this section, the applicable provisions of the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction - North Central Texas will govern.

(b) A permittee performing construction in the public right-of-way shall restore the public right-of-way to a condition that is equal to or better than the condition prescribed by the most recent version of the Pavement Cut and Repair Standards Manual or other applicable city design and construction standards.

(c) Restoration work must be performed to the satisfaction of the director. Restoration work must include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Replacement of all sod or ground cover with sod or ground cover equal to or better than the type damaged during the work, either by sodding or seeding as required by the director.

(2) Installation or reinstallation of all manholes and handholes, as required by the director.

(3) Backfilling and compaction of all completed bore pits, potholes, trenches, or other holes, which must be performed on a daily basis unless other safety requirements are approved by the director.

(4) Street, sidewalk, and alley repair that conforms with the standards for construction established in this article and by the director.

(5) Leveling of all trenches and backhoe lines.

(6) Restoration of the excavation site to the specifications and requirements established in this article and by the director.

(7) Restoration of all landscaping, ground cover, and sprinkler systems.

(8) Restoration of any damaged traffic control devices, including but not limited to imbedded loop detectors, pavement markings, underground conduits, and signs.

(d) All location flags must be removed during the cleanup process by the permittee or the permittee’s contractor at the completion of the work.

(e) Restoration of special street, sidewalk, or drive approach surfaces designed to present unique visual images, color, or designs (regardless of the type, color, pattern, or texture of special material or process used) must be done so that the restoration matches the color, texture, and pattern of the surrounding special surfaces.

(f) Restoration must be made in a timely manner. If restoration is unsatisfactory or not performed in a timely manner, then all of the permittee’s work in progress on the project in question (except for that work related to the problem of unsatisfactory restoration) will be halted, and no other permit will be approved until all restoration is complete. Any hold on the permittee’s work will include work previously permitted but not completed.

**SEC. 43-143. CLEARANCE FOR STREET PAVING AND STORM DRAINAGE PROJECTS.**

(a) A person making a pavement cut or excavation for the purpose of adjusting facilities at the request of the city in advance preparation for a city street paving or storm drainage project shall obtain a permit under this article, except that the time limits prescribed in Section 43-139(c) and (g) do not apply.

(b) The permittee shall maintain the pavement cut or excavation until the work order authorizing the construction of the street paving or storm drainage project is issued by the city. Upon notification by the director of any problem with the maintenance of the cut or excavation, the permittee shall promptly correct the problem. The permittee shall notify the director of the anticipated date of correction. If the correction is not made by the anticipated date, or if no response is received by the director within 24 hours after the director gives notice to the permittee, the correction may be made by the city, and the permittee shall reimburse the city for the actual direct and indirect costs of the correction.

**SEC. 43-144. CONFORMANCE WITH PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.**

(a) Whenever the city or the director deems it necessary to remove, alter, change, relocate, or adapt the underground or overhead facilities of a public service provider in the public right-of-way due to the city’s reconstruction, widening, or straightening of streets; replacement of water or wastewater facilities; installation of traffic signals, traffic signs, and markings; or construction of any other city public improvement project, the public service provider that owns the facilities shall conform its facilities with the project as prescribed by the director.

(b) The facilities must be conformed, at the public service provider's expense, within 90 days after the director issues notice to the public service provider, unless a different schedule for the work is approved by the director.

(c) Facilities of a public service provider that are not conformed within the 90-day notice period or within the approved schedule will be deemed abandoned, and the city will not be liable for any damage to or destruction or removal of the facilities, or for any interruption or termination of service through the facilities, caused by the activity of the city described in this section.

**SEC. 43-145. IMPROPERLY CONSTRUCTED FACILITIES.**

(a) A permittee shall:

(1) properly construct, install, operate, repair, relocate, upgrade, and maintain its facilities existing within the public right-of-way; and

(2) repair or restore any damage to other facilities, the public right-of-way, or private property that occurs as a result of improper construction, installation, operation, repair, relocation, upgrade, or maintenance of the permittee's facilities.

(b) Facilities will be considered to be improperly constructed, installed, operated, repaired, relocated, upgraded, or maintained if:

(1) the construction, installation, operation, repair, relocation, upgrade, or maintenance endangers public health or safety or creates a public inconvenience;

(2) the facilities encroach upon private property or extend outside the right-of-way location designated in the permit;

(3) above-ground facilities located within the right-of-way are less than one and one-half feet from the face of the curb or less than six inches from a sidewalk;

(4) the construction, design, or configuration of the facilities does not comply with applicable local, state, or federal laws or regulations;

(5) the construction, installation, operation, repair, relocation, upgrade or maintenance is conducted in a manner that damages private property or another public service provider's facilities;

(6) the facilities are not capable of being located or maintained using standard practices; or

(7) the facilities are placed in an area that interferes with another public service provider's facilities.

(c) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsections (b)(3) and (b)(4) of this section that the facilities were constructed or installed in the public right-of-way before March 1, 2001.

(d) Nothing in this section may be construed to diminish the authority of the director to require specific placement of specific facilities.

**SEC. 43-146. EMERGENCY REPAIRS.**

(a) If the director determines during construction that an emergency repair to a public right-of-way is necessary to correct a situation that is hazardous to the public, the director shall immediately notify the permittee. If the permittee does not commence the emergency repair promptly, the director may, in his sole discretion, cause performance of such emergency repair work as is necessary to correct the hazardous situation. The permittee shall reimburse the city for the actual direct and indirect costs of the work necessary to correct the hazardous situation, including cleanup. The permittee shall maintain the emergency repair until the permittee completes final repairs.

(b) If the director determines that a problem with a public service provider's existing facility in a public right-of-way requires an emergency repair to correct a situation that is hazardous to the public, the director shall immediately notify the public service provider. If the public service provider does not commence the emergency repair promptly, the director may, in his sole discretion, cause performance of such emergency repair work as is necessary to correct the hazardous situation. The public service provider shall reimburse the city for the actual direct and indirect costs of the work necessary to correct the hazardous situation, including cleanup. The public service provider shall maintain the emergency repair until the public service provider completes final repairs.

**SEC. 43-147. EFFECT OF ARTICLE ON PERSONS ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTION.**

Any permit issued prior to March 1, 2001 will remain subject to the terms and conditions of city ordinances and requirements in effect at the time of issuance of the permit and is not affected by this article, except that, upon expiration or conclusion of the permit, a new or renewal permit must be obtained in accordance with this article.

~~[PAVEMENT CUTS AND EXCAVATIONS.]~~

~~SEC. 43 135. DEFINITIONS.~~

~~In this article:~~

- ~~(1) BACKFILL means the restoration of excavated material.~~
- ~~(2) DIRECTOR means the director of the department designated by the city manager to enforce and administer this article, or the director's authorized representative.~~
- ~~(3) EMBANKMENT means excavated material placed on the surface.~~
- ~~(4) PAVEMENT CUT means a cut made into the paved surface of a public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk.~~
- ~~(5) PAVEMENT EXCAVATION means the removal of material below the public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk paved surface.~~

~~SEC. 43 136. PERMIT REQUIRED; EXCEPTION; REFUSAL TO ISSUE; RESTRICTIONS.~~

~~(a) No person may make a pavement cut or pavement excavation or place an embankment on a public street, alley, or sidewalk without first obtaining a permit from the director. A person must apply for a permit at least 48 hours prior to the proposed activity unless an emergency exists in which case immediate notice must be given to the director. No permit is required, however, if specific authority has been granted under a building permit to cut a sidewalk or curb.~~

~~(b) The director may refuse to issue a permit if the proposed activity will:~~

~~(1) substantially interfere with vehicles or pedestrians and no procedures, or procedures which are inconsistent with this article, have been implemented to minimize the interference; or~~

~~(2) interfere with another activity for which a permit has been issued.~~

~~(c) The director shall state on the permit the activity for which the permit is issued and any restrictions or requirements which he determines are necessary.~~

~~(d) A person issued a permit under this section shall comply with all restrictions and requirements of the permit, this article and all other applicable city ordinances, and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.~~

~~SEC. 43 137. RESTORATION OF PAVEMENT TO FORMER CONDITION.~~

~~A person who makes a pavement cut or excavation or places an embankment on a public street, alley, or sidewalk shall, as rapidly as practicable after a project is completed, backfill the excavation to a firm and solid bearing in a manner that will prevent the settling of the earth and shall restore the base and pavement surface as near as possible to its former condition. Restoration work must be completed to the satisfaction of the director.~~

~~SEC. 43 138. BARRICADES, WARNING SIGNS AND SIGNAL LIGHTS.~~

~~A person who makes a pavement cut or excavation or places an embankment in or along a public street, alley, or sidewalk shall place barricades, warning signs and signal lights at the location, sufficient to warn the public of the hazard of the cut, excavation, or embankment, and which are in compliance with applicable state and local laws and regulations. The person shall attach to each barricade, warning sign, and signal light, the name, street address, and 24-hour telephone number of the person responsible for the warning device.~~

~~SEC. 43 139. AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR.~~

~~For purposes of enforcement of this article, the director has the following authority:~~

~~(1) The director shall determine the time and method of pavement cuts and excavations in order to minimize interference with traffic and to eliminate the unnecessary cutting of pavement.~~

~~(2) The director may enter premises for the purpose of inspection of pavement cuts, excavations, restorations, embankments, barricades, warning signs, and signal lights.~~

~~(3) The director may order removal of encroachments on the right of way, placement of proper barricades and warning devices, and repair of substandard restoration work.~~

~~(4) The director may exercise police power in the enforcement of this article.~~

~~(5) Whenever any work is being done contrary to the provisions of the permit, this article, any other applicable city ordinance, or applicable state or federal law or regulation, the director may order the work stopped by notice in writing served on any person engaged in the work or causing the work to be done. A person issued this notice shall stop work immediately until authorized by the director to proceed with the work.~~

~~SEC. 43-139.1. OFFENSES; PENALTY.~~

~~(a) A person commits an offense if:~~

~~(1) he violates Section 43-136, 43-137, or 43-138 of this article;~~

~~(2) he fails to comply with restrictions or requirements placed on the permit by the director; or~~

~~(3) he fails to comply with an order of the director issued under Section 43-139.~~

~~(b) A person commits an offense if while performing a pavement cut or pavement excavation he:~~

~~(1) damages the paved surface of a public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk and the damage is not reasonably necessary to the performance of the activity; or~~

~~(2) fails to clear debris from a public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk after completion of the activity.~~

~~(c) A person commits an offense if while performing an activity along a public street, alley, or sidewalk which requires a permit from the building official, he:~~

~~(1) damages the paved surface of a public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk without authority under the permit; or~~

~~(2) fails to clear debris from a public street, alley, curb, or sidewalk which is not within the site area designated under the permit.~~

~~(d) A person who violates a provision of this article is guilty of a separate offense for each day or portion of a day during which the violation is committed, continued, or permitted. Each offense is punishable by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500; except, that an offense under Subsection (b)(2) or (c)(2) of this section is punishable by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$2,000.]”~~

SECTION 2. That Article IX, "Driveways Generally," of CHAPTER 43, "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS," of the Dallas City Code, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

**"ARTICLE IX.**

**DRIVEWAYS GENERALLY.**

**SEC. 43-149 [139.2]. DIRECTOR DEFINED.**

In this article, DIRECTOR means the director of the department designated by the city manager to enforce and administer this article, or the director's designated representative.

**SEC. 43-150 [140]. DRIVEWAYS NOT TO BE WITHIN THREE FEET OF POLES, ETC.**

No person shall open up or construct any driveway or other way for the use of any character of vehicle on or across any sidewalk, parkway, or other space between any public improved roadway and any private property so as to include or to be within less than three feet of any telephone, telegraph, electric light, or other pole[s], anchor[s], or guy wire[s], or any water plug, mailbox, or ~~[any]~~ other structure located in such portion of any public street in the city where such structure is so located by virtue of any franchise, license, permit, or other right.

**SEC. 43-151 [141]. REMOVAL OF POLES, ETC., TO PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAYS - REQUIRED.**

Wherever any person desires to locate any driveway and there is any structure that ~~[, which]~~, under Section 43-150 ~~[the terms of the preceding section]~~, would prevent the location of such driveway as desired, the person owning such structure or having the right to so maintain it shall move it as far as may be necessary to permit the desired location of such driveway, if ~~[; provided, that]~~ the person desiring to locate the driveway ~~[shall]~~ first complies ~~[y]~~ with all of the terms of this article.

**SEC. 43-152 [142]. SAME - PLANS TO BE APPROVED BY DIRECTOR.**

In the event any poles, structures, or improvements are to be located and installed in or upon any public street in the city or relocated for the convenience or necessity of the person maintaining them, the person desiring to construct, erect, install, or relocate such poles, structures, or improvements shall first submit to the director a sketch or ~~[a]~~ blueprint of the plan of such construction or relocation for approval. The director shall immediately inspect the sketch or blueprint of the plan ~~[same]~~ and, if satisfactory, the director shall approve the plan ~~[same]~~. Until such approval is given, no work may be done in that connection. ~~If [; provided, that should]~~ the plan of construction or relocation does not meet with the director's approval, the director shall return the plan to the person submitting it with any objections. The construction or relocation of all structures, improvements, and poles must be subject to the supervision of the director.

**SEC. 43-153 [143]. SAME - ALLOCATION OF COSTS FOR RELOCATION.**

(a) Any person desiring to locate or open a driveway, the location of which is prevented by reason of any structure ~~[of character]~~ described in Section 43-150 [140], and who desires to secure the shifting of the structure so as to permit such location shall, at the time of filing an application for a permit with the building official to construct, locate, or open such drive and ~~[, shall,]~~ prior to locating, constructing, or opening the drive, file a sketch, drawing, or map with the director that ~~[,]~~ shows~~[ing]~~ the location of the proposed drive or other way, ~~[and]~~ the relative location of the structure or structures ~~[that are]~~ in the way of the proposed driveway, and ~~[showing]~~ the name of the person maintaining the structure obstructing the proposed driveway or preventing its location. The director shall immediately notify the person maintaining the structure on the street, giving the name of the persons desiring the structure or structures moved.

(b) Immediately upon the filing of the drawing, sketch, or map under Subsection (a), the director shall prepare or obtain ~~[cause to be prepared]~~ a statement of the expense or cost of the removal of the structure. ~~The [and, if it is ascertained according to the statement and estimate prepared by the director that the cost does not exceed the sum of \$30, then the] person requesting the relocation of the structure shall pay the cost of relocation. [If the cost and expense exceeds the sum of \$30, then the director shall adjust the expense between the person requesting the relocation of the structure and the person maintaining the structure in such manner as, in the opinion of the director, may be just and equitable; provided, that the cost apportioned to the person requesting the relocation may not be less than \$30 where the cost exceeds such amount.]~~ Upon the ascertainment of the estimated cost or expense as found by the director ~~[or the amount apportioned to the person requesting the change]~~, such person shall deposit the sum of money required with the director, ~~[city auditor]~~ and then the person maintaining the structure shall promptly remove the structure ~~[it]~~ so as not to

interfere with the proposed driveway. Upon completing movement of the structure, with all attachments, to the satisfaction of the director ~~[and upon certificate of such fact to the city auditor]~~, the person moving or relocating the structure is entitled to receive the deposit.

**SEC. 43-~~154~~ [144]. PERMIT FOR DRIVEWAY TO BE ISSUED AFTER POLES, ETC., REMOVED.**

As soon as the structure interfering with the construction, location, or opening of the proposed driveway has ~~[have]~~ been moved out of the way, the building inspector shall issue a permit authorizing the location, construction, or opening of such way as may be desired upon compliance with all other applicable city ordinances ~~[laws in connection therewith]~~.

**SEC. 43-~~155~~ [145]. APPEALS.**

If either the person maintaining any pole or structure described in Section 43-~~150~~ [140] or the person desiring the structure or pole to be moved is dissatisfied with the estimate ~~[as made by the director or the apportionment]~~ of the expense made or obtained by the director under ~~[as provided for in]~~ this division or as to the location of the pole or structure, either or both of them may appeal from the decision ~~[as to the expense or apportionment as made by the director]~~ by filing with the city controller a statement of their objections within five days from the date of the director's findings of the estimated expense or location ~~[apportionment by the director]~~.

**SEC. 43-~~156~~ [146]. FEE WHERE POLES, ETC., TO BE RELOCATED.**

At the time the person files the sketch seeking the removal of any obstructing structure described in Section 43-~~150~~ [140], he shall also pay the building inspector a fee of one dollar, which must ~~[shall]~~ be used in defraying the expense of carrying out the provisions of this article and for no other purpose.”

SECTION 3. That CHAPTER 43 of the Dallas City Code, as amended, will remain in full force and effect, save and except as amended by this ordinance. The rights of persons that have vested prior to the effective date of this ordinance by virtue of the previous Article VIII, Chapter 43 of the Dallas City Code remain unaffected by this ordinance, and all rights and remedies that have accrued in favor of the city of Dallas under the previous Article VIII, Chapter 43 of the Dallas City Code prior to the effective date of this ordinance are preserved for the benefit of the city of Dallas.

SECTION 4. That the terms and provisions of this ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 1-4 of CHAPTER 1 of the Dallas City Code, as amended.

SECTION 5. That this ordinance will take effect on March 1, 2001, and it is accordingly so ordained.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MADELEINE B. JOHNSON, City Attorney

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Attorney

Passed \_\_\_\_\_