Temporary traffic control plans are required for all public improvement projects in the right-of-way (ROW) and City properties. These plans shall conform with the adopted City, State and Federal standards including the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). In addition to these standards, new stricter requirements, signs and barricades, as discussed below, are necessary to maintain the health and safety of the public, pedestrian and bicyclist during construction.

Effective immediately, “OPEN TRENCH” C27 (CA) sign on Type 3 barricade (open trench sign) shall be installed as additional temporary traffic control device within the ROW and City properties. The following are guidelines for the installations:

1. All new construction projects with trenches that are greater than 3 inches in depth in the public ROW and City properties are required to install open trench signs. The attached Figure A is a depiction of the placements of this sign.

2. The open trench signs shall be placed on all open trenches in accordance with California MUTCD Section 6F.103 (CA).

3. Continues barricade preventing bikers and pedestrians from entering the construction zone from the direction of the traffic flow shall be installed near the trench area.

In addition to this open trench sign, all other appropriate traffic control devices, signage and markings per the California MUTCD shall be shown on all temporary traffic control plans. These plans shall be reviewed and approved by the City prior to construction.
Please notify your Project Managers, Resident Engineers, designers, consultants, and maintenance crews of the new standard. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Corson Smith at 619-446-5108 (SmithCT@sandiego.gov) or Ahmed Aburahmah at 858-495-4740 (AAburahmah@sandiego.gov).

James Nagelvoort, PE C-55919
City Engineer

Attachment: Figure A – Open Trench Sign on Barricade Placement

Distribution List:
Honorable Mara Elliott, City Attorney
Kris Michell, Chief Operating Officer
Ronald H. Villa, Assistant Chief Operating Officer
Colin Stowell, Fire Chief, San Diego Fire & Rescue Department
Erik Caldwell, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Smart and Sustainable Communities
Johnnie Perkins, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Infrastructure/Public Works
Robert Vacchi, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Neighborhood Services
Jeff Sturak, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Internal Operations
Alia Khouri, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, General Services
Lee Friedman, Infrastructure Policy Manager, Office of the Mayor
Christina Bibler, Director, Economic Development Department
Thyme Curtis, Executive Director, ADA Compliance & Accessibility Department
Andy Field, Interim Director, Parks & Recreation Department
Jonathon Glus, Executive Director, Commission for Arts and Culture
Mike Hansen, Director, Planning Department
Bahija Humphrey, Director, Performance and Analytics Department
Misty Jones, Director, Library Department
Elyse Lowe, Director, Development Services Department
Kris McFadden, Director, Transportation & Storm Water Department
Mario X. Sierra, Director, Environmental Services Department
Cybele Thompson, Director, Real Estate Assets Department
Shauna Lorance, Director, Public Utilities Department
Brad Hawthorne, Interim Director, Internal Operations/Fleet Services
Myrna Dayton, Assistant Director & Chief Deputy City Engineer, Public Works Department
Tom Tomlinson, Assistant Director, Planning Department
Greg Hopkins, Assistant Director & City Land Surveyor, Development Services Department
Christine Jones, Chief of Civic Art Strategies, Commission for Arts and Culture
Deputy City Engineers
Daniel Kay, Principal Engineer, Civic San Diego
GENERAL NOTES:
1. THIS LAYOUT FOR OPEN TRENCH SIGNS ON BARRICADE ONLY APPLIES TO TRENCHES THAT ARE GREATER THAN 3 INCHES IN DEPTH.

2. TRENCHES SHALL BE IDENTIFIED BY ALTERNATING OPEN TRENCH (C27(CA)) AND NO SHOULDER (C31A(CA)) SIGNS SET IN THE TRENCH AT INTERVALS OF 200' MINIMUM AND NOT TO EXCEED 2,000 FEET.

3. REMOVE BARRICADE IF THERE IS NO BIKE LANE.

4. BIKE LANE NEXT TO OPEN TRENCH SHALL BE CLOSED.

5. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES SHALL BE SHOWN ON ALL TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL PLANS.

6. CONTINUOUS BARRICADE PREVENTING BIKERS AND PEDESTRIAN FROM ENTERING THE CONSTRUCTION ZONE FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE TRAFFIC FLOW SHALL BE INSTALLED NEAR THE TRENCH AREA.

FIGURE A - OPEN TRENCH SIGN ON BARRICADE PLACEMENT