



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego

NEWS RELEASE

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City Taking Steps to Keep Streets Smooth
Changes Would Minimize Excavation Impacts on Roads

SAN DIEGO, CA (September 13, 2012) – City Councilmember Todd Gloria today shared the latest effort to smooth San Diego’s streets. Proposed changes to the Municipal Code would create procedures, requirements, and limitations for excavating San Diego’s roads and implement a Street Damage Fee. The City Council Land Use and Housing Committee today forwarded the changes to the full City Council for consideration. A City Council hearing date has not yet been set.

“City of San Diego has wisely increased our investment in road repairs and repaving over the last three years. The changes that moved forward today will help ensure our streets are protected when utilities need to excavate or trench in the public right-of-way,” said Councilmember Gloria.

Historically, streets were often torn up for water or sewer improvements or utility work shortly after being repaved or repaired. The changes discussed today would coordinate excavation work and resurfacing work so roads can be maintained longer term and the City’s investments are not wasted.

Among the other changes proposed:

- Requires that all utilities twice per year submit to the City major work anticipated to be completed in the public right-of-way in the upcoming 24 months so that projects can be better coordinated;
- Requires that excavation work begin within 90 calendar days of the permit start date and is completed within one year;
- Increases the length of the existing moratorium for excavations on slurried/resurfaced streets from 1 year/3 years for slurry/overlay to 3 years/5 years in order to maintain the improved condition of the street for a longer period of time;
- Extends the cost recovery for degradation of the asset resulting from excavations in the public right-of-way to municipal excavators by charging them the Street Damage Fee.

“I believe the parties who excavate in the public right-of-way should bear the full cost of restoring smooth road conditions following their work,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“San Diego taxpayers drive and bike on our roads, and we pay for their repaving. We should not be forced to also pay to restore the same roads that other people damage.”**

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