

Section 7 - Existing Utilities

7.1 General.

Unless otherwise required, at least 2 working days prior to starting work on the project, the Contractor shall notify in writing all affected public "utility agencies of the approximate time that the work set forth in these specifications will start. The Contractor shall also notify Underground Service Alert (USA) and make all arrangements for marking of existing underground utilities.

Attention is directed to the possible existence of underground main or trunk line facilities not indicated on the plans or in the special provisions and to the possibility that underground main or trunk lines may be in a location different from that which is indicated on the plans or in the special provisions. The Contractor shall ascertain the exact location of underground main or trunk lines whose presence is indicated on the plans or in the special provisions, the location of their service laterals or other appurtenances of any other underground facilities which can be inferred from the presence of visible facilities such as buildings, meters and junction boxes prior to doing work that may damage any of such facilities or interfere with their service.

If the Contractor discovers underground main or trunk lines not indicated on the plans or in the special provisions, he shall immediately give the Engineer and the Utility Company written notification of the existence of such facilities. Such main or trunk lines shall be located and protected from damage as directed by the Engineer.

Further attention is directed to Section 1540 (a) (1) of the Construction Safety Orders (Title 8 California Administration Code Section 1540), issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board pursuant to the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973, which states in part:

- (1) "Prior to opening an excavation, effort shall be made to determine whether underground installations; i.e., sewer, water, fuel, electric lines, etc., will be encountered and, if so, where such underground installations are located. When the excavation approaches the approximate location of such an installation, the exact location shall be determined by careful probing or hand digging; and, when it is uncovered, adequate" protection shall be provided for the existing installation. Underground Service Alert (USA) shall be advised of proposed work at least 48 hours prior to the start of actual excavation."

Utility notification and verification of the location of existing underground utilities is the Contractor's responsibility. All costs to the Contractor related to this Section shall be considered as included in the various contract bid prices and no additional compensation shall be made therefore.

7.2 Utility Relocation and Rearrangement.

The right is reserved to the City and the owners of utilities or their authorized agents to enter upon the work area for the purpose of making such changes as are necessary for the rearrangement repair and/or connections of their facilities. The Contractor shall cooperate with forces engaged in such work and shall conduct his operations in such a manner as to avoid any unnecessary delay or hindrance to the work being performed by such forces and shall allow the respective utilities time to relocate and/or repair their facilities.

The Contractor assumes responsibility for the removal, relocation, or protection of existing facilities wherein said facilities are identified by the plans or special provisions. It is the duty of the Contractor at all times to coordinate with the owner of utility facilities for the rearrangement of said facilities.

In the event that certain underground utilities not known to the City or in a different location than shown on the plans or special provisions are found to exist, the Contractor shall:

- (1) notify the City Engineer of the existence of said facilities immediately,
- (2) take steps to ascertain the exact location of all underground facilities prior to doing work that may damage such facilities or interfere with their service, and
- (3) notify the owner(s) of the utility.

Where it is determined by the Engineer that the rearrangement of an underground utility, the existence of which is not shown on the plans or in the special provisions, is essential in order to accommodate the contemplated improvement, the Engineer will provide for the rearrangement of such facility by other forces or such rearrangements shall be performed by the Contractor and will be paid for as extra work.

When the special provisions or plans indicate that a utility is to be relocated, altered or constructed by others, the City will conduct all negotiations with the owners and the work will be done at no additional cost to the Contractor.

The Contractor shall not be assessed liquidated damages for delay in completion of the project, when such delay was caused by the failure of the public agency or the owner of the utility to provide for removal or relocation of the existing facilities as it affects a controlling item of work.

Temporary or permanent relocation or alteration of utilities, desired by the Contractor for his own convenience shall be his responsibility, and he shall make arrangements and bear all costs.

7.3 Notification and Location.

Prior to doing any underground work or excavation, the Contractor shall give the Underground Service Alert (USA) (phone number 800-642-2444) forty-eight (48) hour notice, in addition to direct notification of all agencies providing utilities shall be made.

It shall be the Contractor's responsibility to determine the exact location and depth of all utilities, including service connections, which have been marked by the respective

owners and which he believes may affect or be affected by his operations. If no pay item is provided in the Contract for this work, full compensation for such work shall be considered as included in the prices bid for other items of work.

7.4 Coordination with Other City Projects.

The Contractor shall coordinate his work with all other City projects within or adjacent to the contractors work as necessary to avoid conflicts.

All expenses incurred for coordination with other City projects shall be borne by the Contractor, as included in bid prices.

7.5 Payment.

Full compensation for conforming to all the provisions of this Section on Existing Utilities shall be considered as included in the prices bid for the various contract bid items of work and no additional compensation will be allowed therefore.