

ORDINANCE #2025-2

Adopted by County Board Action on February 25, 2025

COUNTY OF ANOKA
Anoka County, Minnesota

ANOKA COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY ORDINANCE

**Right of Way Ordinance #2000-2, dated November 28, 2000,
is replaced in its entirety by Ordinance #2025-2**

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The Anoka County Board of Commissioners does hereby ordain and adopt this Ordinance establishing regulations and standards for the management of the County Right-of-Way pursuant to Minn. Stat. Chapters 160 and 163, Minn. Stat. Sections 394.222, 237.163, 160.18, and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7819.

Right of Way Management

Section 1.01. Findings, Purpose, and Intent

Anoka County holds the Right of Way within its geographical boundaries as an asset in trust for its citizens. Under Minnesota law, the County is to manage the use of the Right of Way and other uses for public purposes, including use by public utilities. The County hereby enacts this amended and restated Ordinance to provide for the health, safety and well-being of its citizens and to ensure the structural integrity of its roads and appropriate uses of rights-of-way. This ordinance regulates Right of Way permits and administration. It imposes regulation on the placement and maintenance of facilities and equipment currently within its Right of Way or to be placed therein at some future time. It is intended to complement the regulatory roles of state and federal agencies. Under this ordinance, persons excavating and obstructing the Right of Way will bear financial responsibility for their work. Finally, this ordinance provides for recovery of out-of-pocket and projected costs from persons using the public Right of Way.

This ordinance shall be interpreted consistently with 1997 Session Laws, Chapter 123, substantially codified in Minn. Stat. §§ 237.16, 237.162, 237.163, 237.79, 237.81, and 238.086 (the "Act") and the other laws governing applicable rights of the County and users of the Right of Way. This ordinance shall also be interpreted consistent with Minn. Rules 7819.0050 to 7819.9950 where possible. To the extent any provision of this ordinance cannot be interpreted consistently with the Minn. Rules, that interpretation most consistent with the Act and other applicable statutory and case law is intended. This ordinance shall not be interpreted to limit the regulatory and police powers of the County to adopt and enforce general ordinances necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Section 1.02. Election to Manage the Public Right of Way

Pursuant to the authority granted to the County under state and federal statutory, administrative and common law, the County hereby elects, pursuant Minn. Stat. 237.163 subd.2(b), to manage Right of Way under its jurisdiction. This Ordinance shall not be interpreted to limit the regulatory and police powers of the County to adopt and enforce general ordinances necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

"Manage the Right of Way" means the authority of the County to do any or all of the following:

- require registration (including any information deemed reasonably necessary by the local government unit for the efficient administration of the Right of Way);
- require construction performance bonds and insurance coverage;
- establish installation and construction standards;
- establish and define location and relocation requirements for equipment and facilities;
- establish coordination and timing requirements;
- Require Right of Way users to submit infrastructure/project data, as required by the County, to enable the development of a Right of Way mapping system, which may include a GIS system information;
- require Right of Way users to submit, upon request of the County, existing data on the location of user's facilities occupying the public Right of Way within the County. The data may be submitted in the form maintained by the user in a reasonable time after receipt of the request based on the amount of data requested;
- establish Right of Way permitting requirements for excavation and obstruction;
- establish removal requirements for abandoned equipment or facilities, if required in conjunction with other Right of Way repair, excavation or construction; and,
- impose reasonable penalties for unreasonable delays in construction.

Section 1.03. Definitions

The following definitions apply in this Ordinance. References hereafter to "sections" are, unless otherwise specified, references to sections in this Ordinance. Defined terms remain defined terms whether or not capitalized.

"Abandoned Facility" means (1) a facility no longer in service or physically disconnected from a portion of the operating facility, or from any other facility, that is in use or still carries service; OR (2) a facility that is deemed abandoned by the Right of Way user. The County Engineer may also deem facilities abandoned if the equipment or Facilities in the Right of Way have remained unused for one year; or Facilities that are not registered or located by Gopher State One Call; or Facilities for which the Registrant is unable to provide proof that it has a plan to begin using the Facilities within the next twelve (12) months from date of notification.

"Access" means the physical connection to public or private property over Right of Way for residential, agricultural, commercial or municipal street purposes.

"Access Permit" means the permit which must be obtained from the County before a person or entity may make a physical connection (temporary or permanent) to a County road or highway.

"Aerial" means work done above any part of the Right of Way.

"Applicant" and/or **"Registrant"** means (1) any Person requesting permission to occupy, use, access, excavate/grade, place a utility service, place a wireless support structure or small wireless facility, landscape, and/or obstruct a Right of Way, and who has completed a Right of Way permit application and has paid the appropriate permit fees. An Applicant or Registrant includes any Person who has or seeks to keep its facilities or equipment located in any County-managed public Right of Way.

"Commission" means the State Public Utilities Commission.

"Congested Right of Way" means a crowded condition in the subsurface of the public Right of Way that occurs when the maximum lateral spacing between existing underground facilities does not allow for construction of new underground facilities without using hand digging to expose the existing lateral facilities in conformance with Minn. Stat. § 216D.04, subd. 3, over a continuous length in excess of 500 feet.

"Construction Performance Bond" means any of the following forms of security provided at Permittee's option:

- (a) Individual project bond for the period of Right of Way use and all restoration activities;
- (b) Cashier's check;
- (c) Security of a form listed or approved under Minn. Stat. § 15.73, subd. 3;
- (d) Letter of Credit, in a form acceptable to the County;
- (e) Blanket bond for projects within the County or construction bond for a specified time and in a form acceptable to the County.

"County" means the County of Anoka, Minnesota. For purposes of Section 1.28 Indemnification and Liability, County means its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees and agents.

"County Engineer" means the Anoka County Engineer or the County Engineer's designee.

"Degradation" means a decrease in the useful life of the Right of Way caused by excavation in or disturbance of the Right of Way, resulting in the need to reconstruct such Right of Way earlier than would be required if the excavation did not occur.

"Degradation Cost" subject to Minn. Rules 7819.1100 means the cost to achieve a level of restoration as determined by the County to the condition at the time the permit is issued (before work is performed), not to exceed the maximum restoration shown in plates 1 to 13, set forth in Minn. Rules parts 7819.9900 to 7819.9950.

"Degradation Fee" means the estimated fee established at the time of permitting by the County to recover costs associated with the decrease in the useful life of the Right of Way caused by the excavation, obstruction, patching, or restoration and which equals the Degradation Cost.

"Delay Penalty" means the penalty imposed as a result of unreasonable delays in Right of Way excavation, obstruction, patching, or restoration as established by a permit. Such penalty shall be determined by the County Board and may include all damages as defined

in MN Rule 7819.1000. A delay penalty will not be imposed if the delay in project completion is due to circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, such as inclement weather, acts of God, or civil strife.

"Department" means the Anoka County Transportation Division, which may also be referred to as the Highway Department.

"Department Inspector" means any Person authorized by the Director to carry out inspections related to the provisions of this Ordinance.

"Director" means the Chief Officer of the Anoka County Transportation Division and County Engineer (or designee), whose office is located at 1440 Bunker Lake Boulevard NW, Andover, MN 55304.

"Emergency" means a condition that (a) poses a clear and immediate danger to life or health, or of a significant loss of property; or (b) requires immediate repair, replacement, or relocation of facilities in order to restore service to a customer. Such emergency may require excavation of an emergency hole in the Right of Way, necessitated by the emergency condition.

"Equipment" means any tangible asset used to install, repair, or maintain facilities in any Right of Way.

"Excavate" means to dig into or in any way remove or physically disturb or penetrate any part of a public Right of Way.

"Facility or Facilities" means any tangible asset in or above the Right of Way required to provide related service to citizens or businesses within or adjacent to the County.

"Five-Year Project Plan" shows projects adopted by the County which are proposed for construction within the next five years.

"High Density Corridor" means a designated portion of the public Right of Way within which telecommunications Right of Way users, having multiple and competing facilities, may be required to build and install facilities in a common conduit system or other common structure.

"Hole" means an excavation in the Right of Way, with the excavation having a length less than the width of the corresponding lane of traffic or boulevard for the section of the roadway corridor where the work is occurring.

"Local Government Unit" means a county, home rule charter or statutory city, town, or the Metropolitan Council.

"Driveway Permit" means a permit issued by Anoka County authorizing the Permittee to make improvements to or widen an existing- residential driveway for residential access purposes within County right-of- way as specifically described in the permit.

"Local Representative" means a local Person or Persons, or designee of such Person or Persons, authorized by a Registrant or Applicant to accept legal notice or service and to accept communications and to make decisions for that Registrant/Applicant regarding all matters within the scope of this Ordinance.

"Management Costs" means the actual costs the County incurs in managing its public Right of Way. Management Costs include, if incurred, those associated with:

- registering applicants;
- issuing, processing, and verifying Right of Way Permits and/or small wireless facility permit applications;
- inspecting job sites and restoration projects;
- maintaining, supporting, protecting, or moving user equipment and facilities during public Right of Way work;
- determining the adequacy of Right of Way restoration;
- restoring work inadequately performed after providing notice and the opportunity to correct the work;
- revoking Right of Way Permits;
- mapping of "as built" locations of facilities located in rights-of-way;
- revoking Right of Way or small wireless facilities permits; and
- performing all other functions required by this Ordinance.

"Management Costs" do not include:

- Payment by a Telecommunications Right of Way User for the use of the Right of Way;
- Fees and cost of litigation relating to the interpretation of Minn. Session Laws 1997, Chapter 123; Minn. Stat. §§ 237.162 or 237.163 or any ordinance enacted under those sections; or
- County fees and costs related to appeals taken pursuant to Section 130 of this Ordinance.

"Mapping Information" means the information required in Section 1.23 of this Ordinance.

"Obstruct" means to place any tangible object in a public Right of Way as to hinder free and open passage over that or any part of the Right of Way.

"Patch or Patching" means a method of pavement or boulevard replacement that is temporary in nature. A patch consists of (a) the compaction of the subbase and aggregate base, and (b) the replacement, in kind, of the existing pavement for a minimum of two feet beyond the edges of the excavation in all directions. A patch is considered full restoration only when the pavement is included in a project programmed by the County, or as approved by the Director. A patched boulevard may include the above definition if the disturbed surface is a paved walk, trail, or property access, or may consist of earthen backfill without turf if the disturbed surface is turf.

"Pavement" means any type of improved surface that is within the public Right of Way and that is paved or otherwise constructed with bituminous, concrete, aggregate, or gravel.

"Permit" has the meaning given **"Right of Way Permit"** in Minn. Stat. § 237.162, including but not limited to, the various activities that require issuance of a permit pursuant to this Ordinance:

- Obstruction of Right of Way;
- Utility use;
- Special Event;
- Access or Driveway; and
- General Work or Excavation permits.

"Permittee" or "Permit Holder" means any person to whom a Right of Way Permit has been granted by the County under this Ordinance.

"Permit Fee" means money paid to the County by an applicant or registrant to cover the costs as provided in Section 1.12.

"Person" means an individual or entity subject to the laws and rules of this state, however organized, whether public or private, domestic or foreign, for profit or nonprofit, a charitable or social organization, or a government entity or agency; and whether natural, corporate, or political. Examples include but are not limited to any type of business or commercial enterprise, carrier or utility, corporation, LLC, partnership, cooperative, joint venture, state or local government unit, or a combination of any of those entities.

"Registrant" means any person or entity which (a) has or seeks to have its facilities located or placed in any Right of Way, or (b) in any way occupies or uses, or seeks to occupy or use, the Right of Way.

"Restore or Restoration" means the process by which the Right of Way and surrounding area including pavement, foundation, turf, and other county facilities are returned to the same condition and useful life that existed before excavation or intrusion/encroachment by a Person's facilities.

"Restoration Cost" means the amount of money paid to the County by a Permittee to achieve the level of restoration according to plates 1 to 13 of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission rules.

"Right of Way" or "Public Right of Way" means the area on, below, or above a public roadway, highway, street, boulevard, cartway, walking/bicycle trail or lane and public sidewalk in which the County has an interest, including other dedicated rights-of-way

for travel purposes and utility easements of the County. The lands described by an easement, deed, dedication, title, law or occupation of a road, highway, street, cartway, bicycle lane, or sidewalk may be included as Right of Way.

"Right of Way Permit" means a permit issued by the Highway Department, which must be obtained before a Right of Way user may access, obstruct, or conduct work or activities in the Right of Way. The permit allows the permit holder to access and use only the specified portion of the Right of Way described in the permit, by placing equipment, constructing and excavating, or installing facilities described therein on the right-of-way.

"Right of Way User" means (a) a tele-communications Right of Way User as defined by Minn. Stat. §237.162, subd. 4; or (b) a person owning or controlling a facility in the Right of Way that is used or intended to be used for providing utility service, and who has a right under law, franchise, or ordinance to use the public Right of Way; or (c) a person or entity that is issued a Right of Way permit for a specific use.

"Service or Utility Service" includes but is not limited to:

- those services provided by a public utility as defined in Minn. Stat. § 216B.02, subds. 4 and 6;
- telecommunications, pipeline, community antenna television, fire and alarm communications, water, sewer, electricity, steam, light, heat, cooling energy, or power services;
- cable communications systems as defined in Minn. Stat. Chapter. 238;
- natural gas or electric energy or telecommunications services provided by a city;
- services provided by a cooperative electric association organized under Minn. Stat., Chapter 308A;
- services provided by a corporation organized for the purposes set forth in Minn. Stat. 301B.01; and
- Telecommunications Right of Way User as defined in this section.

"Small Wireless Facility" means:

- a wireless facility that meets both of the following qualifications:
 - each antenna is located inside an enclosure of no more than six cubic feet in volume or, in the case of an antenna that has exposed elements, the antenna and all its exposed elements could fit within an enclosure of no more than six cubic feet; and
 - all other wireless equipment associated with the small wireless facility, excluding electric meters, concealment elements, telecommunications demarcation boxes, battery backup power systems, grounding equipment, power transfer switches, cutoff switches, cable, conduit, vertical cable runs for the connection of power and other services, and any equipment concealed from public view within or behind an existing structure or concealment, is in aggregate no more than 28 cubic feet in volume.

or

- a micro wireless facility. The County will not supply electricity for the operation of small or micro wireless facilities.

"Special Event Permit" means a permit that must be obtained before a person or entity may:

- Obstruct or use any part of a Right of Way for a sponsored event;
- Close a traffic lane, turn lane, or shoulder;
- Direct traffic in the Right of Way for the event; and/or
- Place any tangible object in Right of Way for the duration of the event specified.

"Supplementary Application" means an application made to excavate or obstruct more of the Right of Way than allowed in, or to amend or extend a permit that had already been issued.

"Telecommunication Right of Way User" means a person owning or controlling a facility in the Right of Way or seeking to own or control a facility in the Right of Way, that is used or is intended to be used for transporting telecommunication or other voice or data information. For purposes of this Ordinance, a cable communication

system defined and regulated under Minn. Stat. Chap. 238, telecommunication activities related to providing natural gas or electric energy services whether provided by a public utility as defined in Minn. Stat. § 2168.02, a municipality, a municipal gas or power agency organized under Minn. Stat. Chaps. 453 and 453A, or a cooperative electric association organized under Minn. Stat. Chap. 308A, are not telecommunications Right of Way Users for purposes of this Ordinance.

"Temporary Surface" means the compaction of subbase and aggregate base and replacement, in kind, of existing pavement only to the edges of the excavation. It is temporary in nature except when the replacement is of pavement included in the current year or the year following the current year in the County's Five-Year Project Plan.

"Traffic Control Facilities" includes but is not limited to the traffic signal poles and control cabinets.

"Trench" means an excavation in the Right of Way, with the excavation having a length equal to or greater than the width of the pavement of the corresponding lane of traffic or boulevard for the section of the roadway corridor where the work is occurring. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the definition shall include directional boring and/or plowing.

"Wireless Facility" means equipment at a fixed location that enables the provision of wireless services between user equipment and a wireless service network, including:

- equipment associated with wireless service;
- a radio transceiver, antenna, coaxial or fiber-optic cable, regular and backup power supplies, and comparable equipment, regardless of technological configuration; and
- a small wireless facility.

"Wireless Facility" does not include:

- wireless support structures;
- wireline backhaul facilities; or
- coaxial or fiber-optic cables between utility poles or wireless support structures, or that are not otherwise immediately adjacent to or directly associated with a specific antenna.

"Wireless Service" means any service using licensed or unlicensed wireless spectrum, including the use of Wi-Fi, whether at a fixed location or by means of a mobile device, that is provided using wireless facilities. Wireless service does not include services regulated under Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, including a cable service under United States Code, title 47, section 522, clause (6).

"Wireless Support Structure" means a new or existing structure in a public Right of Way designed to support or be capable of supporting small wireless facilities, as reasonably determined by a local government unit.

"Work" means to dig into or in any way remove or physically disturb or penetrate any part of a Right of Way, or encroachment into a Right of Way, including above ground improvements.

Section 1.04. Administration

The Director is the principal County official responsible for the administration of the Right of Way, Right of Way Permits, and ensuring compliance with the Ordinance and laws related thereto. The Director may delegate any or all of the duties hereunder.

Section 1.05. Registration and Right of Way Occupancy

Subd. 1. Registration. Each person who occupies, uses, or seeks to occupy or use, the Right of Way or place any equipment, facilities, or wireless support structures in the Right of Way, including persons with installation and maintenance responsibilities by lease, sublease or assignment, must register with the County. Registration will consist of providing application information as requested. In order for the registration to remain

active, the certificate of insurance for the registered user must be updated annually by submitting a certificate of insurance to the Highway Department's Permit Office.

Subd. 2. Registration Prior to Work. No person may construct, install, repair, remove, relocate, or perform any other work on, or use any facilities or any part thereof in any Right of Way without first being registered with the County. Registration shall be required on an annual basis.

Subd. 3. Exceptions. (a) Resident-owned sewer and water service lines to a city main and resident owned drain tile lines shall not be required to register, unless requested by the County, but shall be required to obtain permits for excavation and obstruction when lines are installed; and (b) Persons acting as agents, contractors or subcontractors for a registrant who has properly registered in accordance with this section (note: a Right of Way Permit is still required).

However, nothing herein relieves a person from complying with the provisions of the Minn. Stat. Chap. 216D, "Gopher State One Call" Law.

Section 1.06. Registration Information

Subd. 1. Information Required. The information provided to the Director at the time of registration shall include, and be on the form approved by the County or this ordinance, but not be limited to:

- (a) Each Registrant's name, Gopher State One Call (GSOC) registration certificate number, address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers.
- (b) The name, address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers of a Local Representative. The Local Representative or designee shall provide a 24-hour emergency telephone number to be available at all times. Current information regarding how to contact the Local Representative in an Emergency shall be provided at the time of registration.
- (c) A certificate of insurance or self-insurance, in compliance with the coverage requirements set forth in the Right of Way Permit, including:
 - (1) Verifying that an insurance policy has been issued to the Registrant by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Minnesota, or a form of self insurance acceptable to the Director;
 - (2) Verifying that the Registrant is insured against claims for Personal injury, including death, as well as claims for property damage arising out of the (i) use and occupancy of the Right of Way by the Registrant, its officers, agents, employees and Permittees, and(ii) placement and use of Facilities in the Right of Way by the Registrant, its officers, agents, employees and Permittees, including, but not limited to, protection against liability arising from completed operations, damage of underground Facilities and collapse of property;
 - (3) Naming Anoka County as an additional insured as to whom the coverage required herein are in force and applicable and for whom defense will be provided as to all such coverage;
 - (4) Requiring that the Director be notified thirty (30) days in advance of cancellation of the policy or material modification of a coverage term;
 - (5) Indicating comprehensive liability coverage, automobile liability coverage, workers compensation and umbrella coverage established by the Director in amounts sufficient to protect the County and the public and to carry out the purposes and policies of this Ordinance. The County reserves the right to modify the coverage amounts depending upon the project and will provide insurance requirements to Applicants as part of the permitting process.
- (d) The County may require a copy of the actual insurance policies and endorsements.
- (e) If the Person is a corporation, proof that the company is authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota.

- (f) A copy of the Person's order granting a certificate of authority from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) or other applicable state or federal agency, where the Person is lawfully required to have such certificate from said Commission or other state or federal agency.
- (g) Upon completion of the Project, the Right of Way User shall submit to the County a completion certificate in compliance with Minnesota Rule 7819.1300, showing completion date, work performed, installer and designers of record, and as-built drawings or maps. The Certificate shall inform the County if all restoration work has been completed or if there are additional tasks that need to be accomplished (seasonally) with a tentative completion date.

Subd. 2. Notice of Changes. The Registrant shall keep all the information listed above current at all times by providing to the Director information as to changes within fifteen (15) days following the date on which the Registrant has knowledge of any change.

Section 1.07. Reporting Obligations

Subd. 1. Operations. Each registrant that provides utility service shall, at the time of registration and by December 1 of each year, file a construction and major maintenance plan ("the Plan") for underground facilities with the Director. Such plan shall be submitted using a format designated by the Director and shall contain the information determined by the Director to be necessary to facilitate the coordination and reduction in the frequency of excavations and obstructions of Right of Way. The County shall maintain in the file a copy of the County's construction plan for construction projects ("County's Plan"). The utility facility plans shall be kept up to date by the registrant. The plans shall be on file and available for public inspection.

The Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- (a) The locations and estimated beginning and ending dates of all projects to be commenced during the next calendar year (in this section, a "Next-Year Project");
- (b) How the registrant will coordinate and accommodate the County's Plan;
- (c) To the extent known, (1) the type size of any anticipated Facilities and tentative depths of any mains, cables, conduits, switches, and related equipment or Facilities; and (2) estimated beginning and ending dates for all Projects contemplated for the five years following the next calendar year (in this section, a "Five-Year Project").

It is the Registrant's responsibility to keep informed about available County Plans.

The term "Project" in this section shall include both Next Year Projects and Five-Year Projects but does not include individual service line hookups and minor maintenance unless they are part of an area wide program.

Subd. 2. Additional Next Year Projects. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Director will not unreasonably deny an application for a Right of Way Permit for failure to include a project in a plan submitted to the County if the registrant has used reasonable efforts to anticipate and plan for the project.

Section 1.08. Permit Requirement

Subd. 1. Permit Required. Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, no person may access, landscape, place a utility service, excavate/grade, install or place facilities in the Right of Way, hold a sponsored event, interfere with the flow of traffic or pedestrians, or obstruct any Right of Way without first registering and having obtained the appropriate Right of Way permit from the County to do so.

Subd. 2. Permit Extensions. No Person may excavate or obstruct the Right of Way beyond the date or dates specified in the permit unless such person (i) makes a supplementary application for another Right of Way permit before the expiration of the

initial permit and/or (ii) amends or extends the original permit by written agreement with the County; or (iii) applies for a new permit.

Subd. 3 Routine Maintenance Activities. An annual obstruction permit is required for any maintenance activities that obstruct the roadway or pedestrian facilities within the Right of Way. The Director may approve a permit plan which allows for maintenance activities upon reasonable notice of such activities. Annual maintenance permits are issued at the County's discretion.

Subd. 4. Delay Penalty. In accordance with Minn. Rule 7819.1000 subp. 3 notwithstanding subd. 2 of this Section, the County shall establish and impose a delay penalty for unreasonable delays in Right of Way excavation, obstruction, patching, or restoration. The delay penalty shall be established from time to time by the Director and shall include any delays or damages charged by the County's construction contractor and may include liquidated damages consistent with the permit or contract.

Subd. 5. Permit Display. Permits issued under this Ordinance shall be conspicuously displayed or otherwise available at all times at the indicated work site and shall be available for inspection by the County.

Section 1.09. Permit Applications

Application for a permit is made to the Director. Right of Way permit applications shall contain, and will be considered complete only upon compliance with the requirements of, the following provisions:

- (a) Registration with the County pursuant to this Ordinance;
- (b) Submission of a completed permit application form, including all required attachments, and scaled drawings showing the location and area of the proposed project and the location of all known existing and proposed Facilities;
- (c) Payment of money due the County for:
 - (1) permit fees, estimated Restoration Costs and other Management Costs;
 - (2) prior Obstructions or Excavations;
 - (3) any undisputed loss, damage, or expense suffered by the County because of Applicant's prior excavations or Obstructions of the Right of Way, or any Emergency actions taken by the County;
 - (4) franchise fees or other charges, if applicable.
- (d) Payment of disputed amounts due the County by posting security or depositing in an escrow account an amount equal to at least 110% of the amount owing; and,
- (e) Posting an additional or larger construction performance bond for additional facilities when applicant requests an excavation or obstruction permit to install additional facilities and the County deems the existing construction performance bond inadequate under applicable standards.

Section 1.10. Issuance of Permit; Conditions

Subd. 1. Permit Issuance. If the applicant has satisfied the requirements of this Ordinance, the County shall issue a permit.

Subd. 2. Conditions. The Director may impose reasonable conditions upon the issuance of the permit and the performance of the applicant thereunder to protect the health, safety and welfare or, when necessary, to protect the Right of Way and its current and future use.

Section 1.11. Permit Fees

Subd. 1. Permit Fee. The County shall establish Right of Way permit fees in amounts sufficient to recover the following costs. Permit fees shall be reviewed periodically by the County Board and may be amended at any public meeting.

- (a) Administration and County Management Costs;
- (b) Degradation Costs, if applicable.

Subd. 2. Payment of Permit Fees. No Right of Way permit shall be issued without payment of the permit fee.

Subd. 3. Non refundable. Permit fees that were paid for a permit that the Director has revoked for a breach as stated in Section 1.21 are not refundable.

Subd. 4. Application to Franchises. Unless otherwise agreed to in a franchise, management costs may be charged separately from and in addition to the franchise fees imposed on Right of Way User in the franchise.

Section 1.12. Right of Way Patching and Restoration

Subd. 1. Timing. The work to be done under the excavation permit and the patching and restoration of the Right of Way as required herein must be completed within the dates specified in the permit, increased by as many days as work could not be done because of extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the Permittee or when work was prohibited as unseasonable or unreasonable under Section 1.15.

Subd. 2. Temporary Surfacing, Patch and Restoration. Permittee shall patch its own work.

- (a) County Restoration. If the County restores any part of the Right of Way, Permittee shall pay the costs thereof within thirty (30) days of billing. If the County restores only the surface of the Right of Way and the pavement settles during the twelve (12) months following such restoration, the Permittee shall pay to the County, within thirty (30) days of billing, all costs related to restoring the Right of Way or associated with having to correct the defective work, which may include removal and replacement of any or all work done by the Permittee. These costs shall include administrative, overhead mobilization, material, labor, and equipment.
- (b) Permittee Restoration. If the Permittee restores the Right of Way his or herself, he/she shall, at the time of application for a Right of Way permit requiring excavation within Anoka County Right of Way, post a Construction Performance Bond in an amount determined by the Director to be sufficient to cover the cost of restoration. If, within twelve (12) months after completion of the restoration and County-approved inspection of the Right of Way, the Director determines that the Right of Way has been properly restored, the surety on the Construction Performance Bond shall be released.
- (c) Degradation Fee and Patching in Lieu of Restoration to PUC Standards. In lieu of Right of Way restoration, a Right of Way User may elect to pay a degradation fee. However, the Right of Way User shall remain responsible for patching and the degradation fee shall not include the cost to accomplish these responsibilities.

Subd. 3. Standards. The Permittee shall perform Temporary Surfacing Patching and Restoration including backfill, compaction, and landscaping according to the standards and with the materials specified by the Director. The Director shall have the authority to prescribe the manner and extent of the restoration and may do so in written procedures of general application or on a case-by-case basis. The Director, in exercising this authority, shall comply with PUC standards for Right of Way Restoration (see PUC Rules 7819.990 to 7819.9950) and require conformance to Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) standard specifications and local government specifications and drawing and shall further be guided by the following considerations:

- (a) The number, size, depth and duration of the excavations, disruptions or damage to the Right of Way;
- (b) The traffic volume carried by the Right of Way; the character of the neighborhood surrounding the Right of Way;
- (c) The pre-excavation condition of the Right of Way; the remaining life-expectancy of the Right of Way affected by the excavation;
- (d) Whether the relative cost of the method of restoration to the Permittee is in reasonable balance with the prevention of an accelerated depreciation of

the Right of Way that would otherwise result from the excavation, disturbance or damage to the Right of Way; and,

- (e) The likelihood that the particular method of restoration would be effective in slowing the depreciation of the Right of Way that would otherwise take place.

Subd. 4. Guarantees. The Permittee guarantees its work and shall maintain it for thirty-six (36) months following its completion. During this 36-month period it shall, upon notification from the Director, correct all restoration work to the extent necessary, using the method required by the Director. Said work shall be completed within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of the notice/order from the Director, not including days during which work cannot be done because of circumstances constituting force majeure or days when work is prohibited as unseasonable or unreasonable under Section 1.15.

Subd. 4(a). Duty to Correct Defects. The Permittee shall correct defects in patching, or restoration performed by Permittee or its agents. Permittee, upon notification from the County, shall correct all restoration work to the extent necessary, using the method required by the County. Said work shall be completed within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of the notice from the County, not including days during which work cannot be done because of circumstances constituting force majeure or days when work is prohibited as unseasonal or unreasonable under Section 1.15.

Subd. 5. Failure to Restore. If the Permittee fails to restore the Right of Way in the manner and to the condition required by the Director or fails to satisfactorily and timely complete all restoration required by the Director, the Director at its option may do such work. In that event, the Permittee shall pay to the County, within thirty (30) days of billing, the cost of restoring the Right of Way. If Permittee fails to pay as required, the County may exercise its rights under the Construction Performance Bond.

Section 1.13. Joint Applications

Subd. 1. Joint Application. Registrants may jointly apply for a permit for Installation of Utilities or for Placing Obstructions on County Highway System at the same place and time.

Subd. 2. Shared Fees. Registrants who apply for permits for the same obstruction or excavation, which the Director does not perform, may share in the payment of the permit fee. Registrants must agree among themselves as to the portion each will pay and indicate the same on their applications.

Subd. 3. With County Construction Projects. Registrants who join in a scheduled obstruction or excavation coordinated with a county construction project by the Director, whether it is a joint application by two or more registrants or a single application, are not required to pay the obstruction and degradation portions of the permit fee, but a permit is still required.

Section 1.14. Supplementary Applications and Amendments

Subd. 1. Limitation on Area. A Right of Way Permit is valid only for the area of the Right of Way specified in the permit. No Permittee may do any work outside the area specified in the permit, except as provided herein. Any Permittee which determines that an area greater than that specified in the permit must be obstructed or excavated must, before working in that greater area, (i) make application for a permit amendment and pay any additional fees that may be required thereby, and (ii) be granted a new permit or an amended permit.

Subd. 2. Limitation on dates. A Right of Way Permit is valid only for the dates specified in the permit. No Permittee may begin its work before the permit start date or, except as provided herein, continue working after the end date. If a Permittee does not finish the work by the permit end date, it must apply for an amended permit or a new permit for the additional time it needs and receive the new permit or amended permit before working after the end date of the previous permit. If a Supplementary Application is required that application must be done before the permit end date. Permits for non-emergency work shall be submitted at least two weeks prior to the planned start of work with not less than 3 business days prior to the actual start date.

Section 1.15. Other Obligations

Subd. 1. Compliance With Other Laws. The Applicant must notify and obtain a permit from any township or city through which it passes if said township or city so requires. The County's Right of Way Permit does not relieve Permittee of its duty to obtain all other necessary permits, approvals, licenses, and authority and to pay all fees required by the County, city, township or other entity. Permittee shall comply with other local codes, rules, regulations and laws, including any road load restrictions. A Permittee shall comply with all requirements of local, state and federal laws, including Minn. Stat. § 216D.01-.09 ("Gopher State One Call Excavation Notice System"). A Permittee shall perform all work in conformance with all applicable codes and established rules and regulations and is responsible for all work done in the Right of Way pursuant to its Permit, regardless of who does the work.

Subd. 2. Prohibited Work. Except in an Emergency, and with the approval of the County, no Right of Way Obstruction or Excavation may be done when seasonally prohibited or when conditions are unsafe or unreasonable, in the County's discretion, for such work to be performed.

Subd. 3. Interference with Right of Way. A Permittee shall not obstruct a Right of Way so that the natural free and clear passage of water through the gutters, culverts, ditches tiles or other waterways shall be interfered. Private vehicles of those doing work in the Right of Way may not be parked within or next to a permit area, unless parked in conformance with county or applicable township and city parking regulations. The loading or unloading of trucks must be done solely within the defined permit area unless specifically authorized by the permit.

Traffic control shall conform to the MMUTCD and its field manual and any written directions of the County Engineer or his designee.

Section 1.16. Denial of Permit

The County may deny a permit for failure to meet the requirements and conditions of this Ordinance or if the County determines that the denial is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare or when necessary to protect the Right of Way and its current and future use. The County may deny a permit if the utility has failed to comply with previous permit conditions. The County may withhold issuance of a permit until conditions of previous permit are complied with.

Section 1.17. Installation Requirements

The excavation, backfilling, Patching and Restoration, and all other work performed in the Right of Way shall be done in conformance with Minn. Rules 7819.1100 and 7819.5000 and shall conform to MnDOT standard specifications and other applicable local requirements, in so far as they are not inconsistent with the Minn. Stat. §§ 237.162 and 237.163.

Section 1.18. Inspection

Subd. 1. Notice of Completion. When the work under any permit hereunder is completed, the Permittee shall furnish a Completion Certificate in accordance with Minn. Rule 7819.1300.

Subd. 2. Site Inspection. Permittee shall make the work-site available to the County and to all others as authorized by law for inspection at all reasonable times during the execution of and upon completion of the work.

Subd 3. Authority of County

- (a) At the time of inspection, the Director may order the immediate cessation and correction of any work which poses a serious threat to the life, health, safety or well-being of the public.
- (b) The Director may issue an order to the Permittee for any work which does not conform to the terms of the permit or other applicable standards, rules, laws, conditions, or codes. The order shall state that failure to correct the violation will be cause for revocation of the permit. Within ten (10) days after issuance of the order, the Permittee shall present proof to the Director that the violation has been corrected. If such proof has not been presented

within the required time, the Director may revoke the permit pursuant to Sec. 1.22.

- (c) The cost of any action required by the County shall be paid by the Permittee.

Section 1.19. Work Done Without a Permit

Subd. 1. Emergency Situations. Each Registrant shall immediately notify the Director of any event regarding its Facilities that it considers to be an Emergency. The Registrant may proceed to take whatever actions are necessary to respond to the Emergency. Within two business days after the occurrence of the Emergency the Registrant shall apply for the necessary permits, pay the fees associated therewith and fulfill the rest of the requirements necessary to bring itself into compliance with this Ordinance for the actions it took in response to the Emergency.

If the County becomes aware of an Emergency regarding a Registrant's Facilities, the County will attempt to contact the Local Representative of each Registrant affected, or potentially affected, by the Emergency. In any event, the County may take whatever action it deems necessary to correct the Emergency, the cost of which shall be borne by the Registrant whose Facilities occasioned the Emergency.

Subd. 2. Non-Emergency Situations. Except in an Emergency, any Person who, without first having obtained the necessary permit, Obstructs or Excavates a Right of Way must subsequently obtain a permit, pay double the normal fee for said permit, pay double all the other fees required by the County Code, and deposit with the County the fees necessary to correct any damage to the Right of Way and comply with all of the requirements of this Ordinance.

Section 1.20. Supplementary Notification

If the Obstruction or Excavation of the Right of Way begins later or ends sooner than the date given on the permit, Permittee shall notify the County of the accurate information as soon as this information is known.

Section 1.21. Revocation of Permits

Subd. 1. Substantial Breach. The County reserves its right, as provided herein, to revoke any Right of Way Permit, without a fee refund, if there is a substantial breach of the terms and conditions of any statute, ordinance, rule or regulation, or any material condition of the permit including a threat to the safety of workers or public, or the Right of Way User or the utility users. A substantial breach by Permittee shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (a) The violation of any material provision of the Right of Way Permit;
- (b) The failure to maintain the required bonds or other security and insurance;
- (c) An evasion or attempt to evade any material provision of the Right of Way Permit, or the perpetration or attempt to perpetrate any fraud or deceit upon the County or its citizens;
- (d) Any material misrepresentation of fact in the application for a Right of Way Permit;
- (e) The failure to complete the work in a timely manner; unless a permit extension is obtained, or unless the failure to complete work is due to reasons beyond the Permittee's control, or failure to relocate existing facilities as specified in this Ordinance;
- (f) The failure to correct, in a timely manner, work that does not conform to applicable standards, conditions or codes, upon inspection and notification by the County of the faulty condition;
- (g) Failure of the utility to pay any required costs, fees, or charges billed by the County;
- (h) Failure to provide traffic control that conforms to the provisions of the most current version of the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, including the Temporary Work Zone Traffic Control Field Manual; or,

- (i) The failure to comply with the terms and conditions of any applicable federal, state, regional and local laws, rules and regulations, including any provision of this Ordinance.

Subd. 2. Written Notice of Breach. If the County determines that the Permittee has committed a substantial breach of a term or condition of any statute, ordinance, rule, regulation or any condition of the permit, the County Engineer or his/her designee shall make a written demand upon the Permittee to remedy such violation. The demand shall state that continued violations may be cause for revocation of the permit and/or denial of future permits. A substantial breach, as stated above, will allow the County, at its discretion, to place additional or revised conditions on the permit to mitigate and remedy the breach.

Subd. 3. Response to Notice of Breach. Within a reasonable period of time as determined by the County after Permittee has received notification of the breach, Permittee shall provide the County with a revised plan, or other conditions acceptable to the County Engineer, that will cure the breach. Permittee's failure to so contact the County, or the Permittee's failure to submit an acceptable plan, or Permittee's failure to reasonably implement the approved plan, shall be cause for immediate revocation of the permit.

Subd. 4. Reimbursement of County Costs. If a permit is revoked, the Permittee shall also reimburse the County for the County's reasonable costs, including nonconformity correction, Restoration Costs and the costs of collection and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in connection with such revocation. Such reimbursement shall be made within 30 days of billing.

Subd. 5. Revoked Permit. If the County revokes a utility's permit for breach of this ordinance, the utility will not be allowed to obstruct or excavate within the County Right of Way until the breach situation is corrected to the satisfaction of the County Engineer and a new permit is issued.

Section 1.22. Mapping Data

Subd. 1. Information Required. Each Registrant and Permittee shall provide Mapping information required by the County in accordance with Minn. Rules 7819.4000 and 7819.4100. Therefore, in managing the use of its public Right of Way, a local government unit may establish, develop, and implement a Right of Way mapping system. The purpose of a mapping system is to:

- (a) allow flexibility in its use by the local government as an effective management tool;
- (b) enhance public safety and user facility safety;
- (c) provide for long-term cost savings;
- (d) improve public Right of Way design quality; and
- (e) allow for better information collection and cooperative usage among local government units, telecommunications companies, and other users of the public Right of Way.

Subd. 2. Application required. When a local government unit requires a permit for excavation in or obstruction of its public Right of Way, a person wishing to undertake a project within the public Right of Way shall submit a Right of Way permit application, which may require the filing of mapping information pursuant to subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. Information. The local government unit may require as part of its permit application the filing of all the following information:

- (a) location and approximate depth of applicant's mains, cables, conduits, switches, and related equipment and facilities, with the location based on:
 - (1) offsets from property lines, distances from the centerline of the public Right of Way, and curb lines as determined by the local government unit;
 - (2) coordinates derived from the coordinate system being used by the local government unit; or
 - (3) any other system agreed upon by the Right of Way User and local government unit;

- (b) the type and size of the utility facility;
- (c) a description showing excavations and above ground appurtenances;
- (d) a legend explaining symbols, characters, abbreviations, scale, and other data shown on the map, and,
- (e) any facilities to be abandoned in conformance with Minn. Stat. § 216D.04, as amended.

Subd. 4. Changes and corrections. The application must provide that the applicant agrees to submit "as built" drawings, reflecting any changes and variations from the information provided under subdivision 3, items (a) to (e).

Subd. 5. Additional construction information. In addition, the Right of Way User shall submit to the local government unit at the time the project is completed a completion certificate according to part 7819.1300.

Subd. 6. Manner of conveying permit data. A Right of Way User is not required to provide or convey mapping information or data in a format or manner that is different from what is currently utilized and maintained by that user. A permit application fee may include the cost to convert the data furnished by the Right of Way User to a format currently in use by the local unit of government. These data conversion costs, unlike other costs that make up permit fees, may be included in the permit fee after the permit application process.

Subd. 7. Data on existing facilities. At the request of a local government unit, a Right of Way User shall provide existing data on its existing facilities within the public Right of Way in the form maintained by the user at the time the request was made, if available.

Section 1.23. Location and Relocation of Facilities

Priority of use: The County has priority of use of County-owned infrastructure, and County-managed public Right of Way. To the extent consistent with applicable federal, state, and local law, the County Engineer may determine that certain classes of County-owned infrastructure or specific units of County-owned infrastructure are necessary for the County's exclusive use due to legal, mechanical, structural, safety, environmental, service, or other requirements and are unavailable for use by any other person.

Subd. 1. Placement, Location, and Relocation. Placement, location, and relocation of facilities must comply with the Act, with other applicable law, and with Minn. Rules 7819.3100, 7819.5000, and 7819.5100, to the extent the rules do not limit authority otherwise available to cities and counties. By submitting a request for a permit, the person recognizes they must conform to the existing ordinances and codes of other units of government related to underground placement regardless of how the application is written or permit granted.

Utility poles and guy anchors, and any other equipment, shall conform to NCHRP 350 standards for crash worthiness or must be located outside of applicable clear zones. Any installation that does not conform to Minnesota Department of Transportation clear zone standards must be approved by the Director and the facility owner shall indemnify and hold harmless the County.

Subd. 2. Corridors. The County may assign specific corridors within the Right of Way, or any particular segment thereof as may be necessary, as a best management practice for each type of Facility that is, or, pursuant to current technology, the County expects will someday be, located within the Right of Way. All Right of Way Permits issued by the County involving the installation or replacement of Facilities shall designate the proper corridor for the Facilities at issue. A typical cross section of the location for utilities may be on file at the Director's office. This section is not intended to establish "high density corridors".

Any Registrant who has Facilities in the Right of Way in a position at variance with the corridors established by the County shall, no later than at the time of the next reconstruction or excavation of the area where the Facilities are located, move the Facilities to the assigned position within the Right of Way, unless this requirement is waived by the County for good cause shown, upon consideration of such factors as

the remaining economic life of the Facilities, public safety, customer Service needs and hardship to the Registrant.

Subd. 3. Nuisance. One year after the passage of this Ordinance, any Facilities found in a Right of Way that have not been Registered shall be deemed to be a nuisance. The County may exercise any remedies or rights it has at law or in equity, including, but not limited to, abating the nuisance or taking possession of the Facilities and restoring the Right of Way to a useable condition and requiring payment to the County for the costs involved.

Subd. 4. Limitation of Space. To protect health, safety, and welfare or when necessary to protect the Right of Way and its current use, the County shall have the power to use best management practices to prohibit or limit the placement and location of new or additional Facilities within the Right of Way. In making such decisions, the County shall strive to the extent possible to accommodate all existing and potential users of the Right of Way, but shall be guided primarily by considerations of the public interest, the public's need for the particular Utility Service, the condition of the Right of Way, the time of year with respect to essential utilities, the protection of existing Facilities in the Right of Way, and future County plans for public improvements and development projects which have been determined to be in the public interest.

Subd. 5. Relocation of Facilities. A Registrant must promptly and at its own expense, with due regard for seasonal working conditions, permanently remove and relocate its facilities in the Right of Way whenever the Director for good cause requests such removal and relocation. The Registrant shall restore the Right of Way consistent with PUC standards, local regulations and MnDOT standard specifications. The Director may make such request to prevent interference by the Company's Equipment or Facilities with (i) a present or future County use of the Right of Way, (ii) a public improvement undertaken by the County, (iii) an economic development project in which the County has an interest or investment, (iv) when the public health, safety and welfare require it, or (v) when necessary to prevent interference with the safety and convenience of ordinary travel over the Right of Way.

- (a) **Relocation Notification Procedure:** The Director shall notify the utility owner at least six (6) months in advance of the need to relocate existing facilities so the owner can plan the relocation. The Director shall provide a second notification to the owner one (1) month before the owner needs to begin the relocation. The utility owner shall begin relocation of the facilities within one (1) week of the second notification. All utilities shall be relocated within one (1) month. The Director may allow a different schedule if it does not interfere with the County's project. The utility owner shall diligently work to relocate the facilities within the above schedule. In the event that emergency work by the County or a municipality in the County Right of Way requires relocation of a utility, the notification requirements above are waived. The County and utility shall coordinate efforts to minimize delay in responding to such emergency.
- (b) **Delay to County Project:** The Director shall notify the utility owner if the owner's progress will not meet the relocation schedule. If the owner does not take action to ensure the relocation will be completed in accordance with the above schedule and the Director feels this delay will have an adverse impact to a County project, then the Director may hire a competent contractor to perform the relocation. In that event, the County may charge the utility owner all costs incurred to relocate the facility.

The County may charge the utility owner for all costs incurred and requested by a contractor working for the County who is delayed because the relocation is not completed in the scheduled timeframe and for all costs incurred by the County due to the delay.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, according to the PUC rules, a Person shall not be required to remove or relocate its Facilities from any Right of Way which has been vacated in favor of a non-governmental entity unless and until the reasonable costs thereof are first paid to the Person.

However, this does not exempt the utility company from paying for the value of any taking of said property by occupation without compensation.

Section 1.24. Pre-Excavation Facilities Location

In addition to complying with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216D.01-.09 ("One Call Excavation Notice System") as amended before the start date of any Right of Way excavation, each Registrant who has Facilities or Equipment in the area to be excavated shall mark the horizontal and vertical placement of all said Facilities. Any Registrant whose Facilities are in the area of work shall notify and work closely with the excavation contractor to establish the exact location of its existing Facilities, newly installed Facilities, and any abandoned Facilities, and the best procedure for excavation to protect the safety of workers and Right of Way users and other utility users. All available location information, including geospatial data, must be provided to the County upon request. If the utility is not at the approved depth or location, it shall be exposed at the Permittee's expense or by the County upon written notice to the Permittee. The County may, upon said notice, locate said utility at the Permittee's expense.

Section 1.25. Damage to Other Facilities

When the County does work in the Right of Way and finds it necessary to maintain, support, or move a Registrant's Facilities to protect it, the County Engineer shall notify the Local Representative as early as is reasonably possible. The costs associated therewith will be billed to that Registrant and must be paid within thirty (30) days from the date of billing. Each Registrant shall be responsible for the cost of repairing any Facilities in the Right of Way that it or its Facilities damages. When the Permittee does damage to County facilities in the Right of Way, such as, but not limited to, culverts, road surfaces, curbs and gutters, or tile lines, they shall correct the damage immediately. If they do not, the County may make such repairs as necessary and charge all the expenses of the repair to the Permittee. The Permittee shall pay for said repairs within 30 days of billing. Each Registrant shall be responsible for the cost of repairing any damage to the Facilities of another Registrant caused during the County's response to an Emergency occasioned by that Registrant's Facilities.

Section 1.26. Right of Way Vacation

Reservation of Right. If the County vacates a Right of Way that contains the facilities of a registrant, the registrant's rights in the vacated Right of Way are governed by Minn. Rule 7819.1250 and other applicable laws.

Section 1.27. Indemnification and Liability

By registering with the County, or by accepting a permit under this Ordinance, a Registrant or Permittee agrees to defend and indemnify the County in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Rule 7819.1250.

All permits are granted subject to the ownership rights the County may have in the property involved and to the extent that state, federal local laws, rules and regulations allow and said permit is subject to all such laws and rules.

Section 1.28. Abandoned or Unusable Facilities

Subd. 1. Discontinued Operations. A registrant who has determined to discontinue all or a portion of its operations in the County must provide information satisfactory to the County that the registrant's obligations for its facilities in the Right of Way under this ordinance have been lawfully assumed by another registrant.

Subd. 2. Removal. Any registrant who has abandoned or unusable facilities in any Right of Way shall remove them from that Right of Way if required in conjunction with other Right of Way repair, excavation, or construction, unless the County waives this requirement.

Section 1.29. Appeal

A Right of Way User that: (1) has been denied registration; (2) has been denied a permit; (3) has had permit revoked; or (4) believes that the fees imposed are unreasonable, may have the denial, revocation, or fee imposition reviewed, upon written request, by the County Engineer. The County Engineer shall act timely on the written request. Should the matter not be resolved to the satisfaction of the Right of Way User after timely review by the County Engineer, the Right of Way User may submit the denial, revocation, or fee

imposition for review to the County Board of Commissioners. The County Board shall act on a timely written request at its next regularly scheduled meeting. A decision by the County Board affirming the denial, revocation, or fee imposition will be in writing and supported by written findings establishing the reasonableness of the decision.

Section 1.30. Reservation of Regulatory and Police Powers

A Permittee's or Registrant's rights are subject to the regulatory and police powers of the County to adopt, amend, and enforce general ordinances necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Section 1.31. Severability

If any portion of this ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof. Nothing in this Ordinance precludes the County from requiring a franchise agreement with the applicant, as allowed by law, in addition to requirements set forth herein.

Section 1.32. Penalty for Violations and/or Delay

Subd. 1. Violations

A person or entity shall be subject to a fee or penalty for violation of this ordinance when a person or entity is obstructing the Right of Way beyond the date specified in the permit, is performing non-emergency work in the Right of Way without having been issued a permit, or when a person causes the County to incur costs as a result of actions or inactions of the person or entity. Assessment of a penalty shall be determined by the Director per occurrence, per site, per mile, and/or per day, as long as may be applicable unless a penalty or fine is otherwise specifically designated in this Ordinance or on the permit itself.

Additionally, the Director may issue an order to the Permittee for any work which does not conform to the terms of the permit or other applicable standards, rules, laws, conditions, or codes so long as the nonconformance constitutes a "substantial breach" as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 237.163, subd. 4(c)(1)-(5). The order shall state that failure to correct the violation will be cause for revocation of the permit.

Within a reasonable time after issuance of the order, the Permittee shall present proof to the Director that the violation has been or will be corrected within the time period set forth by the Director in the order. If such proof has not been presented within the required time, the Director may revoke the permit pursuant to this Ordinance or as specified in the Permit.

The costs of any action required by the County to address or cure such violation(s) shall be paid by the Permittee.

Subd. 2. Delay penalty


The County reserves the right for its Director to establish and impose a delay penalty and fees for unreasonable delay in Right of Way excavation, obstruction, patching, restoration, or other activities. If the Permittee disagrees with the delay penalty it may be reviewed by the County Board of Commissioners upon request. A delay penalty will not be imposed for delays due to force majeure, including inclement weather, civil strife, acts of God, or other circumstances beyond the control of the permit holder. The delay penalty for violation of this Ordinance may be levied daily for as long as the violation occurs. The amount of the delay penalty will be based upon and reflect the unnecessary inconvenience to the County and/or hazard exposure to the public.


Section 1.33. Effective Date

This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Anoka County, Minnesota, the 25th day of February 2025.

ATTEST:

By:  _____
Jim Dickinson
County Administrator

By:  _____
Michael R. Gamache, its Chair