



# REPORT TO LAW & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

CONSENT  
August 4, 2011

Honorable Members of the  
Law and Legislation Committee

**Title:** Ordinance Amending Section of City Code Related to Blanket  
Encroachment Permits

**Location/Council District:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Committee approve and forward to the City Council the attached ordinance amendment to Section 12.12.090 of the City Code relating to Blanket Permits.

**Contact:** Jon Blank, Supervising Engineer, 808-7914; Nicholas Theocharides, Engineering Service Manager, 808-5065

**Presenters:** Jon Blank

**Department:** Transportation

**Division:** Engineering Services

**Organization No:** 15001151

## **Description/Analysis:**

**Issue:** Utility companies have requested greater flexibility in the work which may be performed under a blanket permit. Staff agrees and proposes that section 12.12.090 of the City Code relating to blanket encroachment permits be revised to expand the work that may be performed under blanket permits and include provisions for emergency work.

**Policy Considerations:** The proposed ordinance amendment is consistent with the City of Sacramento Strategic Plan goals of improving and expanding public safety, and achieving sustainability and enhancing livability.

## **Environmental Considerations:**

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** The Planning Division, Neighborhood, Planning & Development Services Department has reviewed these amendments and has determined that they are exempt from the

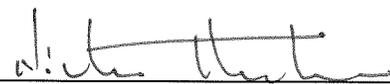
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Sections 15061(b)(1), 15061(b)(3), and 15301(c) of the CEQA Guidelines. This action involves general policy and procedures concerning the operation of City streets and has no potential adverse impact on the environment.

**Committee/Commission Action:** None.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** The amendment is necessary to expand the work which utility companies may perform under a blanket permit. The changes are being proposed at the request of a number of utility companies.

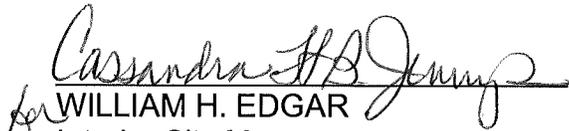
**Financial Considerations:** There are no additional fees being proposed as part of the amendments to the City Code.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** There are no ESBD considerations as there are no goods or services being purchased.

Respectfully Submitted by:   
Nicholas Theocharides  
Engineering Services Manager

Approved by:   
Jerry Way  
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:

  
WILLIAM H. EDGAR  
Interim City Manager

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**Attachment 1**

**Background:**

On June 20, 2006, staff presented information to the City Council relating to new legislation that provided for the transmission of tele-video through a statewide franchise license. As a result, the City Council directed staff to revise the City Code to provide for the regulation of utility boxes, cabinets and other facilities utilized by utility companies obtaining a state franchise license. During the revision process, staff identified additional changes to update Title 12 of the City Code.

A number of utility companies have requested that Title 12 of the City Code related to blanket permits be revised to provide for access, minor work, and emergency work. The proposed changes were provided to SMUD, AT&T and PGE for review and comment. The proposed changes are minor in nature, but include the requirements for traffic control plans and clarification of the intent of the blanket permit process.

**Attachment 2**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2011-**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

Date Adopted

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12.12.090 OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE, RELATING TO BLANKET PERMITS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

Section 12.12.090 of the Sacramento City Code is amended to read as follows:

**12.12.090 Blanket permits.**

A. The director may issue blanket permits to any person-utility company or public entity to encroach within the a public right-of-way or public utility easement for utility service connections, for the location of trouble in utility conduits or pipes and for making repairs thereto, or to access, maintain, repair or make minor service connections to the utility company's facilities; replace existing facilities with equivalent size and shape facilities in the same location; and for emergency purposes. Blanket permits shall be issued on a yearly basis only, and shall authorize only encroachments referred to in this section. Except as specifically provided otherwise in this chapter, encroachments authorized by this section shall be subject to all fees and requirements of this chapter. Work permitted under a blanket permit may include excavations that cause only minor public inconvenience, street closures, and sidewalk closures. The type and scope of work performed under a blanket permit shall be at the discretion of the director.

B. Utility companies performing work under a blanket permit that requires an excavation or the submission of a traffic control plan, should request approval from the director at least seven days prior to commencing the work and obtain approval prior to commencing work. Emergency work, performed requiring an excavation or the filing of a traffic control plan, performed under a blanket permit, shall be subject to the notice requirements of section 12.12.020.

C. Blanket permits shall have a term of one year, and shall authorize only encroachments permitted in this section. Except as specifically provided otherwise in this chapter, encroachments authorized by this section shall be subject to all fees and requirements of this chapter.

Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on \_\_\_\_\_ by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Passed for Publication:

Published:

Effective:

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- B. Utility companies performing work under a blanket permit that requires an excavation or the submission of a traffic control plan, should request approval from the director at least seven days prior to commencing the work and obtain approval prior to commencing work. Emergency work performed requiring an excavation or the filing of a traffic control plan, performed under a blanket permit, shall be subject to the notice requirements of section 12.12.020.
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