



Austin Transportation Department

Right of Way Management Division

P.O. Box 1088, Austin, Texas 78767

Excavation (EX): Considerations

Below is a list of types of Excavation work. Most types of work will require evidence of COA project consent. In the list below, we have indicated when that is necessary. ****This list is not comprehensive. Email rightofway@austintexas.gov for help, if your work scope is not captured below****

Construction Entrance

The point where construction vehicles enter and exit a site. Bull rock required.

- Location must be approved on Site Plan (if it is a Commercial Development) or by Environmental Inspector (if it is a Residential Development)
- If questions, contact [Environmental Inspections](#)
- Allows for signage and bull rock placement ONLY

Dry Utilities

- **Electrical**

This is to install, replace, repair, or abandon electrical lines and/or components such as handholes, pull boxes, conduit, and manholes

- Attach approved Austin Energy plan sheet to permit application

- **Gas**

This is to install, replace, repair, or abandon gas lines and/or components such as valves

- If private company is doing the work, approval from the utility owner is required

- **Telecommunications**

When you install, replace, repair, or abandon telecom lines and/or components such as manholes, duct banks, conduit, and fiber optic cable

- Attach approved civil sheet to permit application

Fencing

*Placing a fence in the ground around your site in the ROW (**placed in the ground; digging required**)*

Landscaping

This is work that contributes to the plantings, lawn areas, as well as any specialized horticulture work

- If work relates to routine homeowner maintenance, a ROW permit is **not** required
- If work involves acquiring or leasing City property (**ex. planting trees in the ROW**), it will require a [License Agreement](#). Email landmanagement2@austintexas.gov for help.
- A [tree permit](#) is required to plant or remove certain trees

Potholing/Investigative Work

This is work that creates a test hole with the purpose of obtaining visual confirmation of utilities and underground obstructions near or crossing the planned bore path or trench. This work may also be conducted to perform an analysis of subsurface properties.

Retaining Wall

A wall built to prevent land erosion



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- If wall is less than 3 ft tall or less, it requires a waiver from Sam West Samuel.West@austintexas.gov with Public Works
- If a wall is more than 3ft tall, it requires a [License Agreement](#). Email landmanagement2@austintexas.gov for help.

Retention System

This is when you stabilize the surrounding soil, so it doesn't topple over onto the project area that's unearthed or is in the process of being unearthed

- [License Agreement](#) number must be referenced in permit application. Email landmanagement2@austintexas.gov for help.

Site Preparation

This work is for levelling and preparing the ground for construction. It includes the demolition of buildings and other structures, blasting, test drilling, landfill, levelling, earth-moving, excavating, land drainage and other land preparation.

- ***In addition*** to obtaining EX permits for site preparation, a [Temporary Use of the Right of Way permit \(TURP\)](#) is required for your long-term setup

Utility Pole Install/Replacement

When a utility pole is installed or replaced in the ROW

- If excavation occurs on private property or an easement and ROW is required only for traffic control, apply for a [Temporary Use of the Right of Way permit \(TURP\)](#)

Wet Utilities

- **Chilled Water**

This is to purposefully make water cooler as part of an industrial system (ex. part of a building HVAC system for local temperature adjustment)

- **Fireline/Irrigation/Wastewater/Water**

This is to install, replace, repair or abandon irrigation, wastewater, and/or water lines

- Installing or upgrading requires:
 - Attach approved tap plan sheet
 - Turn in Cost and Quantities to [Site and Subdivision Inspections](#)
 - Pay all associated fees
 - Provide name of assigned inspector on ROW permit application
- Irrigation requires [License Agreement](#). Email landmanagement2@austintexas.gov for help.

- **Stormwater**

This is to install, replace, repair, or abandon stormwater systems

- If Private company doing work, approval from [Watershed Protection](#) required