

# Memorandum

## Public Works Department



**To:** City Manager  
**Subject:** Right of Way Excavations  
**Date:** February 2, 2016  
**Number:** 2016-011

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Currently the City of Rock Island only allows Utilities to perform permanent pavement patch repairs in the City right of way. All other private contractors including plumbing and excavation contractors are required to use either Rock Island Public Works or a contractor that the City of Rock Island has awarded a contract to.

By revising the ordinance and allowing all licensed and bonded contractors to complete their own pavement repairs it gives city staff the opportunity to concentrate on other street maintenance and additional concrete patching locations. Contractors may also be able to complete the work at a lesser cost which would then be passed on to residents whom the work is being performed for.

Below is a summary of the proposed changes:

From the time the public right of way is excavated, the permit holder shall have seven (7) workdays to complete all work including the permanent pavement patch.

The excavation permit holder shall be liable for the maintenance of backfilling and resurfacing for a period of forty eight (48) months after the date the permit is issued for the excavations, and shall hold the city harmless for all claims for damages that may result because of excavations during that period. Backfilling and resurfacing shall be done in accordance with specifications provided by the city engineer.

The excavation permit holder shall notify the Engineering Department twenty-four (24) hours in advance of any work to be done in order that an inspection may be scheduled.

The excavation permit holder shall be responsible for placing a temporary pavement patch and or permanent pavement patch on all pavement excavations as soon as the repair has been completed.

All temporary pavement patches completed between December 1 – April 1 shall be completed using Six inches (6") of PCC Pavement placed on Six inches (6") of well compacted stone.

The excavation permit holder is responsible for maintaining the temporary patches until the permanent patch has been completed. During this maintenance period, the permit holder shall make any repairs as soon as possible after notification from the city. If the permit holder fails to make the necessary repairs within 24 hours the city will make the repairs and charge the permit holder for all the costs including any barricading and signing necessary to protect the public.

**Recommendation**

The Public Works Department recommends that the City Council approve the proposed right of way excavation changes and authorize the City Attorney to draft the appropriate ordinance changes.

**Submitted by:** Randall D. Tweet, Public Works Director  
Michael T. Bartels, Municipal Services Superintendent

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**Approved by:** Thomas Thomas, City Manager