

A POLICY
REGARDING THE USE OF STEEL PLATING
IN THE
TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

PURPOSE

When it is absolutely essential to excavate within a Town right-of-way and more particularly, the paved area of Town streets, it is the policy of the Town of West Hartford that steel plates, when directed, will be used to cover the excavated area when work is not in progress.

The Town also controls excavation within its rights of way and therefore, adopts the following Standards and Procedures.

STANDARDS

Before proceeding with any work, the Contractor or utility company must make application for and receive a permit to excavate. This procedure requires the posting of a bond which is surety that the work will be completed in accordance with Town Standards and Specifications and the submission of a Certificate of Insurance which will hold harmless the Town of West Hartford from any claims of liability.

The Contractor/utility company, is responsible for the selection of plating designed to withstand wheel loads as designated by the American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHO) HS20 Highway Loading Standard.

A 30" x 30" diamond shaped vehicular warning sign is to be placed 200-250 feet ahead of the plating or as directed by the Town Engineer.

A barricade with a working, blinking light is to be placed adjacent to the plate off the road, but visible to the motorist when located at an intersection, warning of the plating must be visible from all directions.

The Contractor/utility company shall be responsible for protective signs and lighting.

Work will be restricted to hours designated by the Town to minimize the impact of this work on vehicular traffic.

All plates are to be pinned to assure no movement.

PROCEDURES

The Contractor/utility company will make application for a permit at the Engineering Division, Room 204 Town Hall.

The Contractor/utility company will contact the Town Engineer to determine required conditions for signing, lighting and traffic control and to receive a copy of the Town's "Maintenance and Protection of Traffic and Pedestrians during Construction within Street Rights of Way". The Contractor is urged to present a modified Traffic Plan to the Town Engineer for approval. This cooperative effort will speed the approval process.

GENERAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

The Town prefers that the steel plating be recessed in the existing pavement or if recessing is not practical, the Contractor/utility company shall provide a bituminous wedge adjacent to all edges of the plate to provide smooth transition for vehicular traffic crossing the plate.

USE OF STEEL PLATING DURING WINTER MONTHS

Steel plates create hazards for snow plows and their operators. Therefore, the following restrictions are placed on the use of steel plates during the months of November thru March.

Steel Plates will be used only when absolutely essential to the safe and continued supply of public and private utilities and they shall be removed as soon as possible.

The utility/Contractor shall be responsible to call the Department of Public Works at 860-561-8100 daily when steel plates are in place on Town streets. Failure to do so will be cause to revoke the current and future permits of the Contractor/utility. Any claims resulting from improper installation or failure to notify, shall be solely that of the Contractor/utility.

Public Works will notify the snow plow operators on the affected routes.

If directed, the Contractor/utility company will remove the plating and repair the excavation upon the direction of the Town Engineer.