



District Funding of Excavation Costs

Background

In certain areas of the state, excavation within a typical 60-foot street right-of-way (ROW) is performed instead of or in combination with clearing and grubbing, to prepare for the installation of water, wastewater, and drainage facilities. Since the late 1980s, the commission has approved funding for up to 50 percent of the excavation costs within street ROWs. Since 2008, some districts have requested funding for clearing and grubbing and excavation within the same street ROW, and the commission has allowed varying percentages of excavation costs to be funded by a district.

This document discusses the portion of excavation costs that districts will now be allowed to fund.

Guidance

Based on field conditions, the excavation of a street ROW is sometimes considered a necessary part of street construction, and facilitates the installation of underground utilities by:

- Removing and disposing of material from the street ROW area.
- Leveling the ground surface for the operation of trench-digging equipment.
- Reducing the depth of the trench required for utilities.

To the extent that standard water, wastewater, and drainage facilities are within a 60-foot ROW, funding will be allowed for up to 50 percent of the total excavation costs. If the ROW is more than 60 feet wide, or does not include all three district utility types (water, wastewater, and drainage), the excavation costs allowed for funding will be reduced proportionately. This document does not in any manner waive the requirements for competitive bidding of excavation work.