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# California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board

July 13, 2021

Agenda Item No. 7 (Information Item) – Staff Report

*Attachment A: Preliminary Public Works Excavation Survey Data*

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## Public Works Excavation Survey

*Results for June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021*

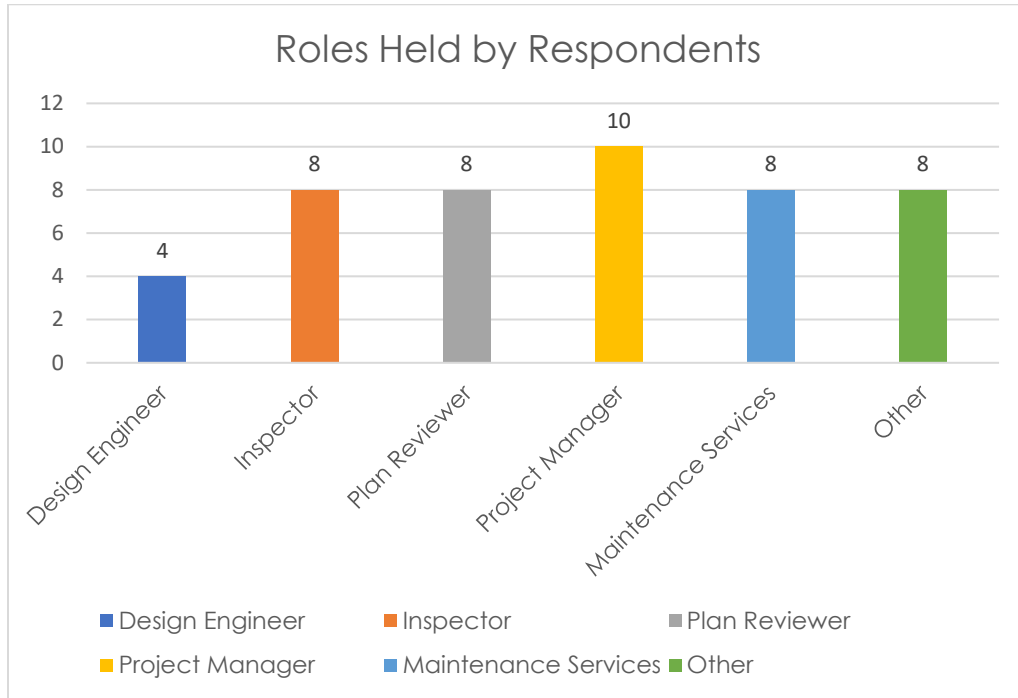
1. Your Name *(optional)*

- Oliver Malkin
- Steve Woo
- Brad Arnold
- Robert Chacon
- Craig Hackett
- Wes Rigsby
- Chris Mastrup
- Kelly Vandergon
- Jimmy Rangel
- Kitty OKeefe
- Dave Ruby
- Mark Crews
- Jesse Hampton
- Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE
- Deems Katada
- Lawrence Hirsch

2. Title *(optional)*

- Helix Water District
- Director CARCGA
- Associate Park planner
- General Manager
- Field Supervisor
- Director of Utilities
- Traffic Signal Systems Supervisor
- Director of Construction & Project Management
- Supervisor of Field Engineering and Planning
- Construction & Maintenance Superintendent
- Outreach Coordinator
- Engineer II
- Engineering Tech
- Plant Operations Manager
- Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks
- Engineer II
- Program Coordinator

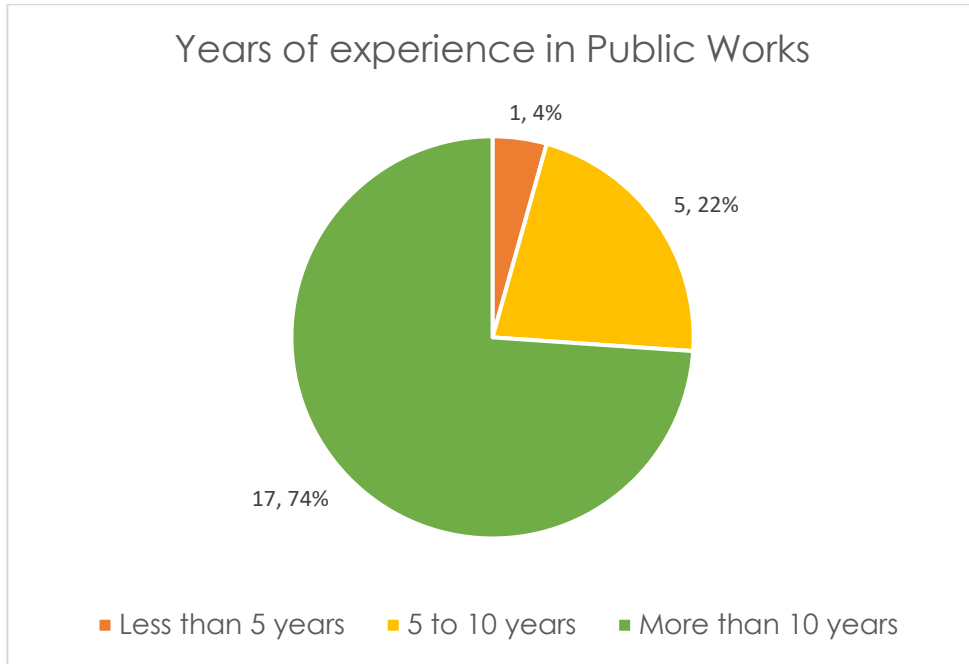
3. Role/s in public works



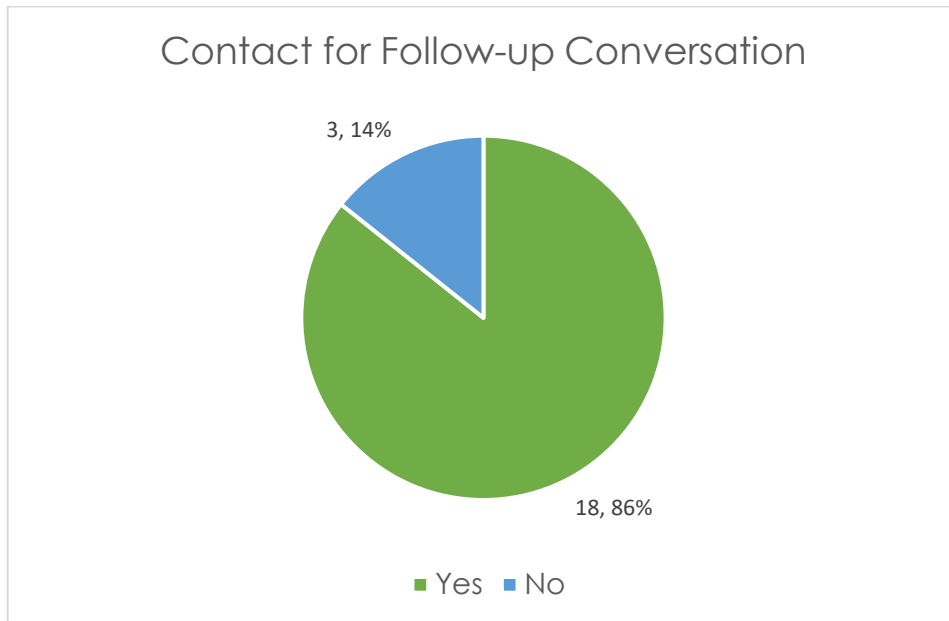
Other

- Field Operations Manager
- Director CARCGA
- Supervisor
- None
- Traffic Engineering
- Interim County Engineer
- Licensing Board
- Coordinator

4. Years of experience in public works (Select one)

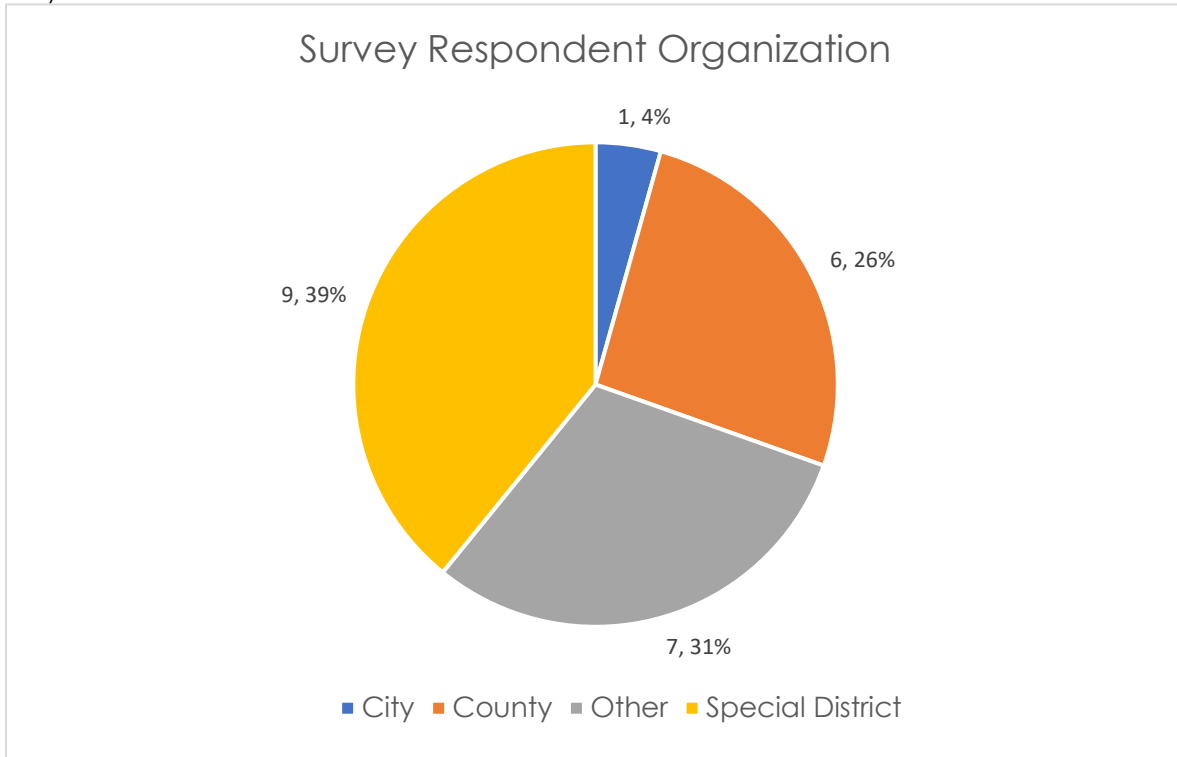


5. May we contact you for a follow up conversation if we have a question?



6. Preferred contact information (email and/or phone number)

7. Do you work for a



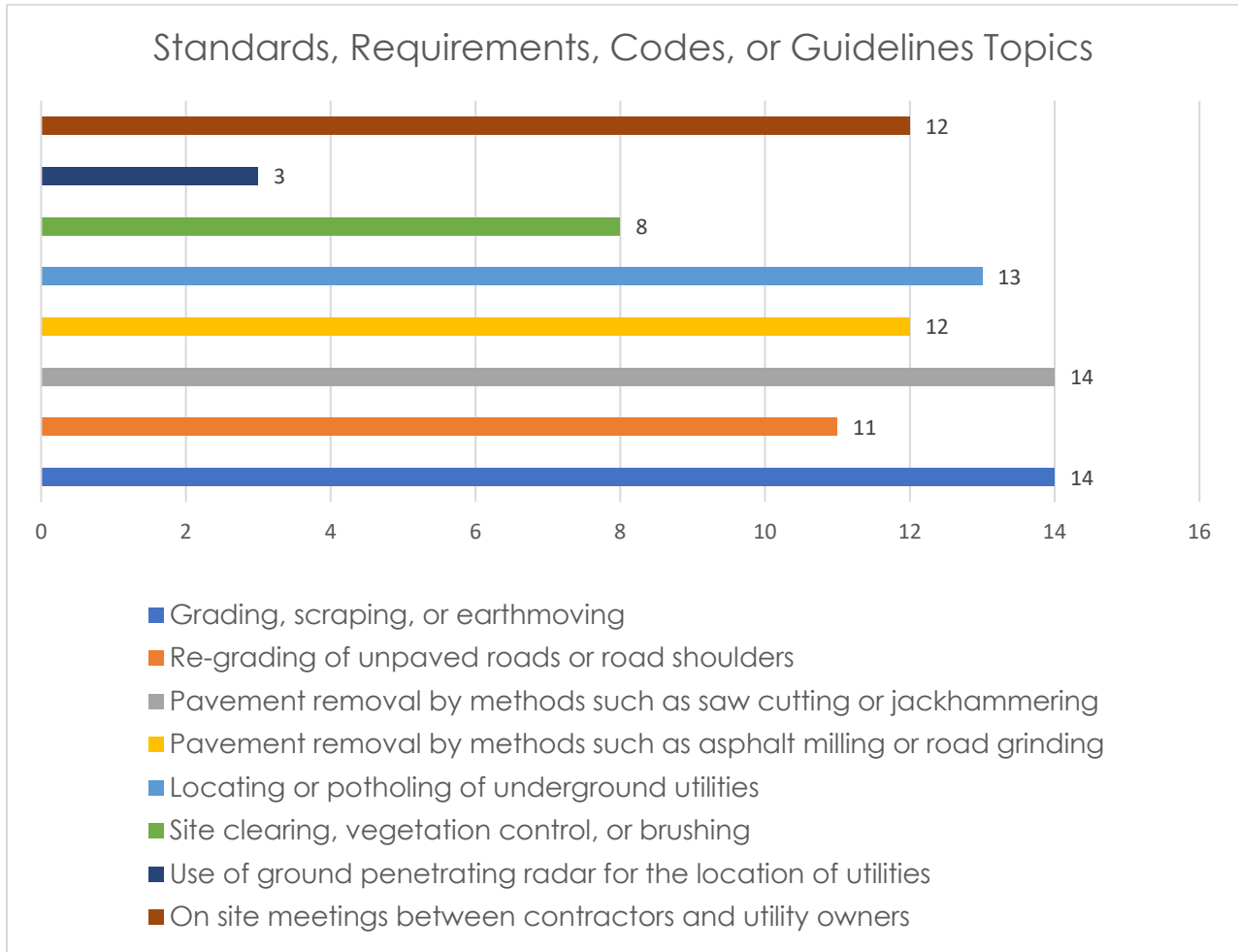
Other

- Special water district
- Contractor
- Park district
- Public Agency
- Community Services
- Blue Star Gas – Private Utility
- Private Consultant, Former government PW Engineer
- Water district
- Municipality
- State agency
- Special District
- Private Company
- State

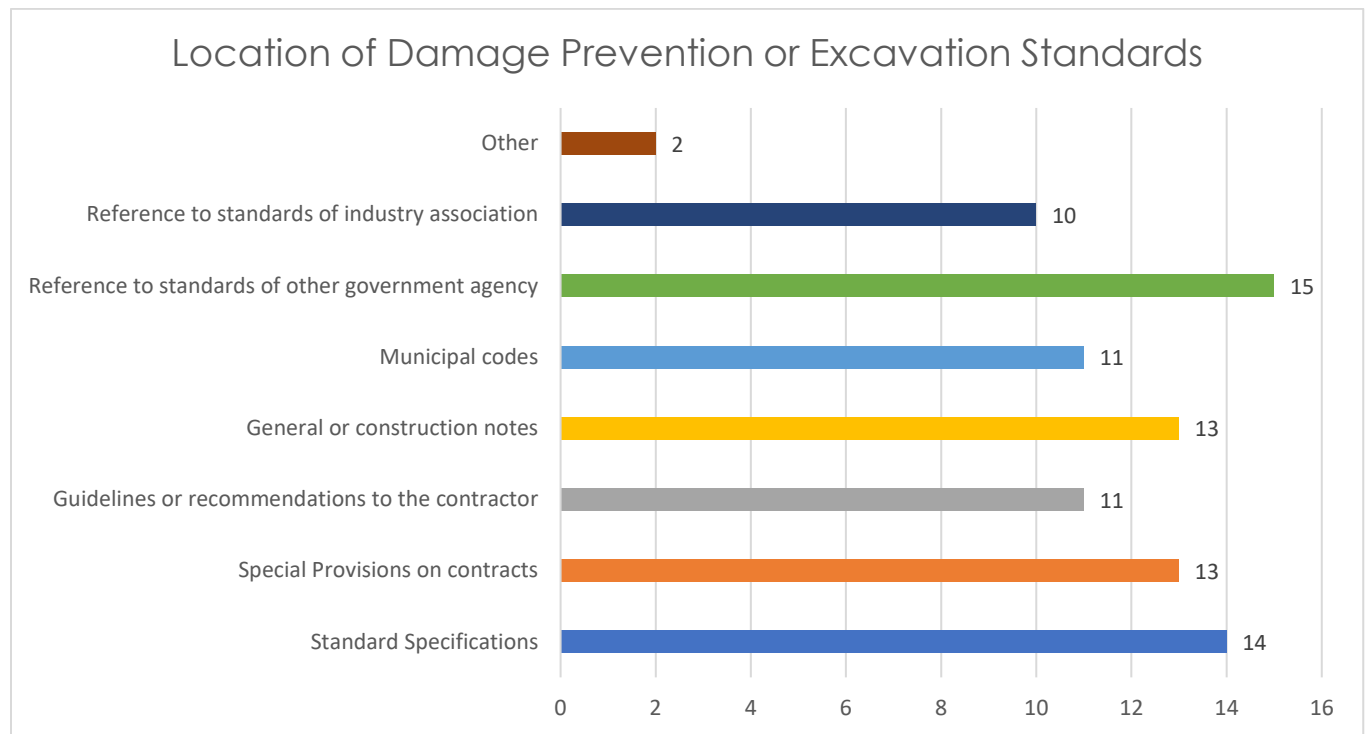
8. If applicable, what city or county do you work for?

- Various
- Trowbridge, California
- N/A
- City of Dos Palos , Merced County
- County of Santa Clara
- Sonoma County, Siskiyou County, Del Norte County, Humboldt County
- Lockeford CSD
- Westlands Water District
- Alameda/Contra Costa County
- Portland, Oregon
- Rodeo
- County of Tuolumne
- Plumas County
- L.A. County
- Monterey
- San Benito County
- County of San Diego

9. Does your organization have any standards, requirements, specifications, codes, or guidelines for any of the following topics: (Select any)



10. Does your organization require damage prevention or excavation standards in any of the following



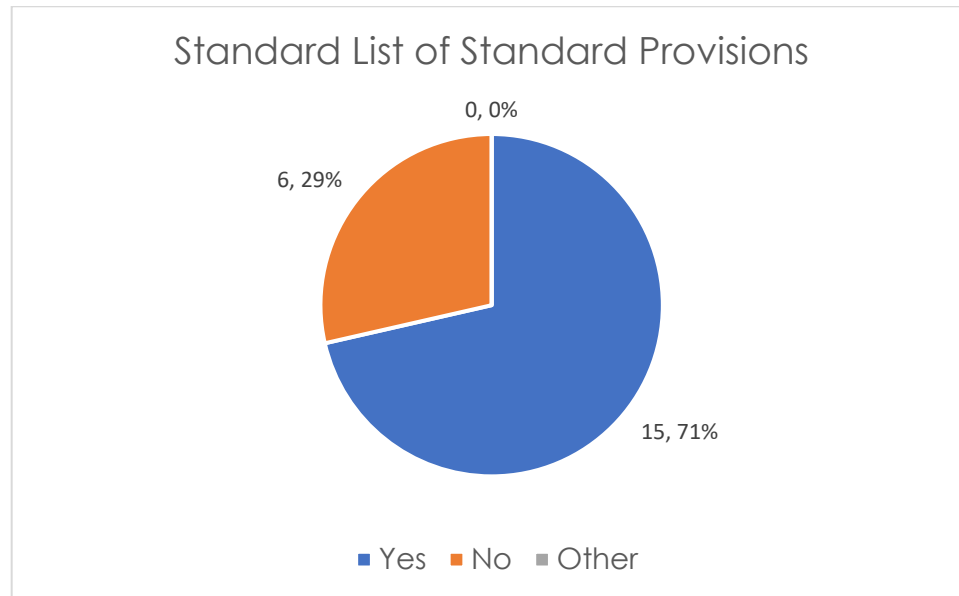
Other

- Follow OR811 Dig Laws
- Monument Preservation

11. If these documents are publicly available, please add a link to them here:

- 4216. General Order 128. Cal OSHA Title 8. Sacramento county standards
- <https://countyroads.sccgov.org/home>
- <https://www.bnibooks.com/products/2021-greenbook-standard-specifications-for-public-works-construction>
- <https://digsafelyoregon.com/>
- <https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16754/Tuolumne-County-Dig-Once-Policy-adopted-2021-02-02>
- <https://ccwd.org/engineering/construction-standards/>
- Monterey County Code:  
[https://library.municode.com/ca/monterey\\_county/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT14STS1\\_PUPL\\_CH14.04ENEXCOSPEV](https://library.municode.com/ca/monterey_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT14STS1_PUPL_CH14.04ENEXCOSPEV). Other standards available on Monterey County website.
- Most other standards are the Caltrans standards.
- <https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/sanbenitocounty/latest/overview>
- [https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/pls\\_act\\_unannotated.pdf](https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/pls_act_unannotated.pdf)
- [http://ppmoe.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/construction\\_contract\\_standards/std\\_specs/2015\\_StdSpecs/2015\\_StdSpecs.pdf](http://ppmoe.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/construction_contract_standards/std_specs/2015_StdSpecs/2015_StdSpecs.pdf)

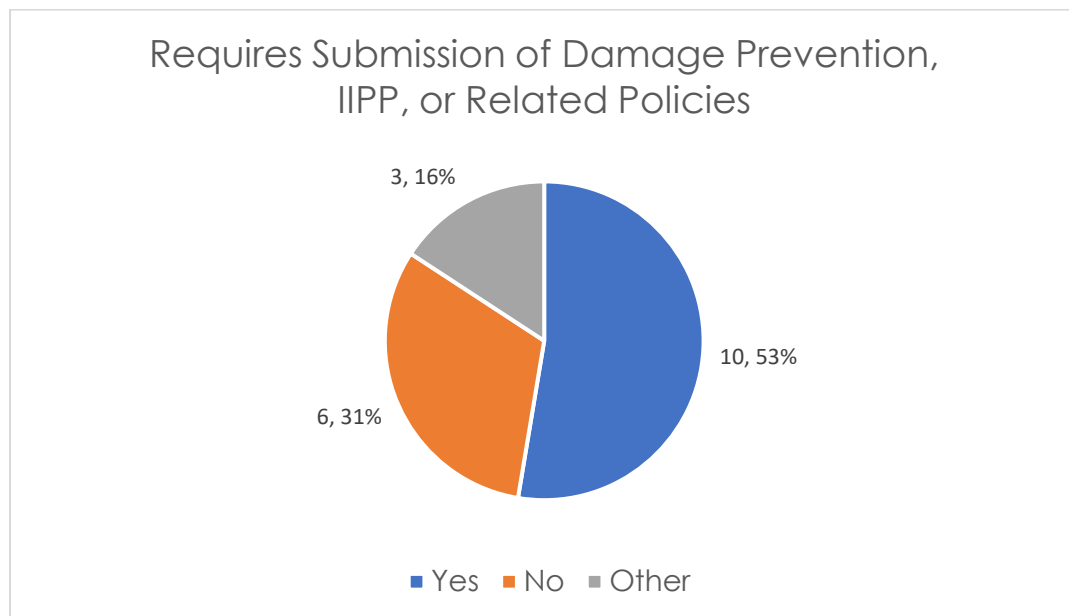
12. Does your organization have a standard list of special provisions to include with permits or contracts?



Other

- None

13. Does your organization require the submission of any damage prevention, injury and illness prevention plans, or related policies of a contractor?



Other

- We have our own
- Oregon does not require mandatory reporting
- Corner Record Pre / Post Construction



14. If yes, when do you collect this information?

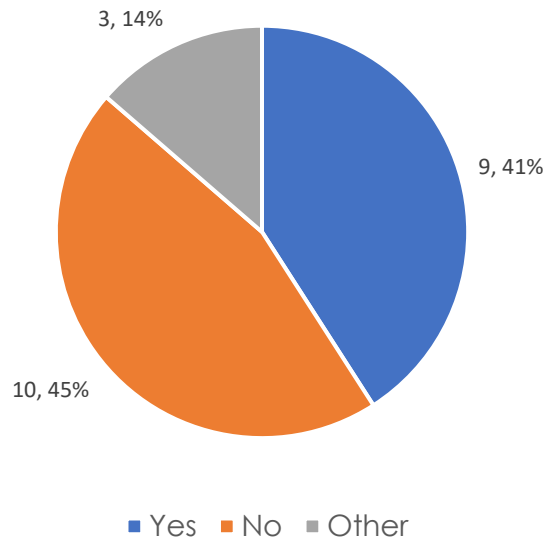
- Required knowledge of rules and laws by all sub-contractors Before every project and at the start of each days work.
- A copy is given to contractor as soon as he/she is ready to start work
- At pre construction meetings.
- After the bidding process but before issuing and NTP.
- Prior reward of contracts
- If entering contract to construct a County capital project.
- During the acceptance of bid
- Before and after jobs are complete.
- These are required submittals to an awarded contractor. Typically submitted prior to or during the pre-construction meeting with the awarded contractor.
- Prior to issuance of Notice to Proceed.
- This information is collected after the project is awarded.

15. Under what if any circumstances will your organization require on site meetings between public works contractors and utility owners whose infrastructure may be impacted by the work?

- If there are any concerns an on site meeting is required. All High Priority facilities require a field meet.
- Pre construction
- N/A
- We will meet with anyone that will be doing any work
- Cross work areas that includes Water Mains
- Roads Dept permits and contracts call for pre-construction meetings
- Always
- When underground boring
- Standard 811 ticket process
- We require meetings when activities are over the top of existing underground pipelines and for potholing specific pipe types in the District.
- 1. when the permit requires it, which is most of the time 2. when there is a high risk priority line in the vicinity
- before filling up holes
- Whenever possible, whether via a capital project, emergency project, or encroachment permit or other agency project.
- Depends on the job being done
- If in conflict or if the scope of work changes.
- Whenever field meeting is requested. Sometimes this is during the design phase.
- Utility coordination meeting takes place when there are existing utilities impacted and needs to be relocated.
- On-site meetings between public works contractors and utility owners are are not required. However, these site meetings are commonly held when the utility requires stand-by or when the utility facility is being "protected in place".

16. Is your organization digitalizing or adding to a geographic information system (GIS) the as-built plans provided by public works contractors?

## Digitalizing or Adding Contract As-Builts to GIS

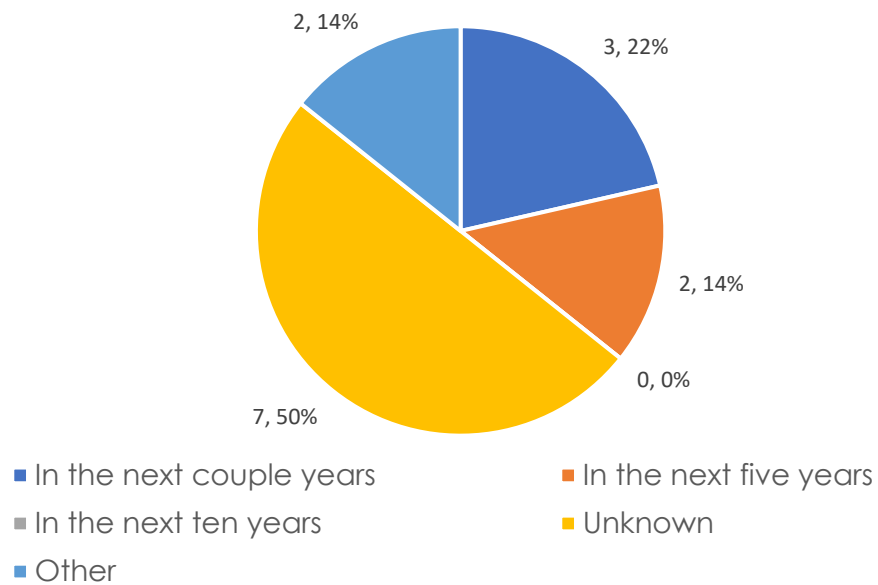


### Other

- Working on Google Earth
- In the works
- In the works

17. If not, when does your organization plan to begin the digitalization of as-built plans provided by public works contractors?

## If Not, When Will Digitalization of Contract As-Builts Begin?



### Other

- When required by contract.

18. How does your organization prioritize as-built plans for digitalization in general?

- We are all up to date. Continued as-builts updated.
- Per Customer requirements.
- As new projects build out.
- in house systems
- N/A
- Not Available, Google Maps
- Trying to get that done as we go
- When budget approve
- It is something we have already begun and fairly high on our priority list.
- not sure how it will be, but probably beginning with most troublesome spots.
- It has not been prioritized, though it is an acute need.
- We currently do not store digital copies of as-built plans.
- Funding
- When projects are completed, or as time allows by administrative staff. Sometimes professional staff need to perform.
- Approved plans are already digitized but not added to our GIS system.
- Unknown

If your organization does not have experience with unpaved roads and road shoulders, you can skip to question 21.

19. What steps does your organization take if an unpaved road or road shoulder needs re-grading?

- 1. Once plans are approved and received, a survey of the site and delineation of the work area is required. 2. USA ticket is applied for. A professional never assumes anything about possible underground facilities as the sole responsibility to determine conflict with any facilities is the Excavator.
- NA
- We deal with water only
- Dont do that type of work
- Survey Existing and establish cut/fill as necessary for fire and security roads. Provide Erosion control measures and protect existing features including utility lines
- Call USA 811 first
- A grading permit is required, and along with it, approved plans, testing, etc.
- Work with the County
- Notify underground utilities by calling USA Alert at 811. Then grade dirt road or dirt shoulder.
- Send out our road maintenance crew to re-grade the unpaved road or shoulder, mostly prior to winter season. They need to call 811 (USA) prior to any digging.

20. Are there any actions you recommend to safely re-grade unpaved roads or shoulders that may contain underground utilities and have experienced an above average degree of erosion?

- All facilities must be identified, accurately located and marked prior to any excavation. If there is a high degree of erosion it is the responsibility of the Engineer to properly design the depth of the facilities to account for erosion or place structures resistant to erosion.
- NA
- N/A
- Call a licensed grading contractor
- Rely on 8-1-1 markings and utility owner participation in identifying lines -especially if they are shallower than standard cover.
- see above
- USA the road prior to work; meet with utility stakeholders to locate facilities and articulate standards, specs, and expectations.
- We call USA North before starting work
- Sometimes when the County is regrading

- Call USA, meet with utility representatives on recommendations, and typically backfill material over the over-eroded location.
- Always call 811 (USA) prior to digging.
- Hire appropriately licensed individuals

21. Is there anything else you'd like to tell the Board about increasing safety in public works projects around underground utilities?

- Education in Excavation safety is not just for Contractors but all participants in excavation including Public Works employees.
- None
- No
- Cross boring sections around sewer mains are potentially an issue id cutters are needed to clear root debris
- Permit and contract standard language advises contractors to call USA 48 hours before start of excavation.
- More awareness to call before you dig.
- No
- Make 8-1-1 Engineering Tickets for project research
- Hold PG&E more accountable to correctly mark their lines and also in a timely fashion, before someone is severely injured.
- Communication is key
- Always call 811 prior to digging. 2. Call utility owner's representative to monitor critical works that may affect or impact the utilities.
- Monument Preservation needs to be included as part of the utility work. Per Gov Code 8771
- The County of San Diego goes to great lengths to accurately identify the location of all utilities within the limits of its projects.

22. Thank you for your time today and your help improving public safety. Would you please forward this to someone else that you know who can speak to these topics?

- N/A
- Yes
- N/A
- No
- Yes
- Yes
- No.
- Yes