

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN
Cable Television Commission

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ROBERT E. SMITH
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 20, 1984

For Agenda of:
December 4, 1984

To: Sacramento City Council

From: Bob Smith, Executive Director
 Sacramento Metropolitan Cable Television Commission

Subject: CONSTRUCTION - OPEN TRENCHES ON THE WEEKENDS

On November 8, 1984, the Board of Directors of the Cable Television Commission adopted a motion recommending that each of the participating jurisdictions approve a change in the uniform construction specifications permitting cable television trenches to remain open over the weekend.

Under the current specifications, the 4" wide, 1½" deep trenches must be back-filled and paved so that none remain open and uncovered more than 24 hours. Mr. Marion Woods of the Johnson-Woods Group, one of Cablevision of Sacramento's prime contractors, addressed the Cable Commission and explained that their productivity was being reduced 20%; because, in order to cut cable television trenches on Fridays, they would have to pave on Saturdays. He stated that this practice was being unfairly applied to cable television and not to other utilities. He explained that the costs to apply asphalt on Saturdays were prohibitive because of a \$250.00 surcharge and minimum load requirements by the asphalt vendor. In addition, his firm would also incur overtime charges for its workers. The total estimated cost increases for working on Saturdays are \$700 per day, or 30% above the normal costs.

Representatives of both the City and County Department of Public Works reported to the Commission that the Construction Guidelines were prepared jointly in advance of issuance of the Cable Television RFP and that this particular provision was designed to reduce the exposure of the public to accidents which might be caused by the trenches or the related construction activities. However, Public Works' staff reported that it was a matter of judgment to allow trenches to be exposed for more than 24 hours. Their decision in preparing the construction specifications was based on a prudent approach to minimize the public's exposure.

It was then pointed out by Mr. Woods that his company carries \$10 million of blanket liability insurance, and his partners had concluded an accident-free build in Davis, California. In that city, bicycles are a primary means of transportation, and yet the cable trenches were allowed to be open for three days. In addition, the Ordinance requires Cablevision to carry liability insurance of at least \$5 million.

APPROVED
 BY THE CITY COUNCIL

DEC 4 1984

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 CITY CLERK

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CLASSICAL MECHANICS

LECTURE 1

REVIEW OF MECHANICS

1.1. Kinematics

1.2. Dynamics

1.3. Energy

1.4. Angular momentum

1.5. Oscillations

1.6. Relativity

1.7. Quantum mechanics

1.8. Statistical mechanics

1.9. Thermodynamics

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The Cable Commission, in considering this change in construction specifications, weighed the advantages of maximizing cable construction against the possible liabilities. Based on the insurance carried by Cablevision and its contractor and the accident-free build in Davis, the Commission decided that recommending this change was a reasonable alternative.

The Cable Television Ordinance clearly states that only the permit-issuing authority of each participating governmental entity has jurisdiction over construction practices. Thus, independent action is required by each jurisdiction.

For your information, on November 20th the Board of Supervisors approved the Cable Commission's recommendation for use of the new construction specifications within the County.

Therefore, it is respectfully recommended that your Council adopt a change in the cable television construction specifications permitting the trenches to be open and unpaved over the weekends.



BOB SMITH, Executive Director
Sacramento Metropolitan Cable
Television Commission

RES:ab

cc: Walt Slipe
Jim Jackson
Les Frink
Marion Woods
Cablevision

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