



Community Notice: Utility Slot Trenching on Townsend Street between 3rd to 7th streets and along Clementina & 2nd street and at the intersection of 2nd & Howard street

This important work is part of the TJPA's Downtown Rail Extension/The Portal Project

What?

The Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA), delivering the Downtown Rail Extension (DTX), also known as The Portal, through its subcontractor, Bess Testlab, Inc. (Bess), will be excavating five - one foot wide, slot trenches across Townsend between 3rd and 5th Streets and on 2nd Street at the Howard Street intersection and at Clementina Street. The purpose of this work is to expose and map underground utilities (i.e. domestic water, sewer, power, telecom/data, etc). Bess will excavate one slot trench at a time, careful to sequence work to keep pedestrian, bike and vehicle traffic flowing during the work. When Bess is not working trench areas will be covered with steel plates. The road surface will be ground down, so plates are flush with pavement to make a smooth even surface. After the utilities are mapped, work crews will backfill and repave the trench area.

What is Slot Trenching?
Slot trenching is an excavation method used to locate underground utilities. A 12" wide cut is made across the street then soil is "excavated" using a powerful vacuum truck exposing buried utilities without damaging them. The utility locations are documented then, the trench is backfilled, and the pavement repaired.

When, Where and What Time?

The work will occur from Monday, July 15th to Sunday, September 8th, 2024, with expected hours of operations from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., on weekends.

(Note: Due to unforeseen circumstances, this schedule may be subject to change without notice.)



Figure 1. Townsend Street slot trench locations as shown by the boxed numbers.



Figure 3. Second Street slot trench locations as shown by the boxed numbers.



Figure 3. Vacuum truck used in excavating slot trench



Transbay Program

What Does This Mean to You?

- Parking spaces and bike lanes may be temporarily unusable while slot trenching is happening.
- Traffic control will be provided where the work encroaches traffic lanes.
- As a safety practice, trenches will be covered with steel plates when work is not occurring.
- On completion of work, all trenches will be backfilled and street and sidewalks will be fully restored.

What Can You Expect?

A construction crew of up to eight individuals may be present with the following equipment:

- Vacuum truck
- Dump truck with Class II aggregate base (engineered soil fill)
- Traffic control vehicle with arrow board
- Equipment Trailer (core machine)
- Support vehicle (Pickup Truck / Passenger Vehicle)
- Hot patch restoration equipment and trail.
- Skid Steer & Trench Plates
- Concrete Delivery trucks for backfill.

Contact Us Regarding this Work

Phone: (415) 597-4620 (weekday and weekend hours)

Email: info@tjpa.org

Learn more about the TJPA's DTX project:

<https://www.tjpa.org/portaldtx>.

About the Transbay Joint Powers Authority

The Transbay Joint Powers Authority is the owner and operator of the world-class multimodal Salesforce Transit Center; and is working to extend Caltrain and ultimately, California High-Speed Rail service from 4th and King streets to the Salesforce Transit Center in downtown San Francisco through the DTX project.

TJPA The Portal

425 Mission Street, Suite 250
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To:

Read Inside for Important Community Notice Information on The Portal Project.