



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

TITLE:

UNDERGROUND UTILITY DIG RESTORATION STATUS - END OF 2025 SEASON

PRESENTER:

Todd Burton

DEPARTMENT:

Public Works

ATTACHMENTS:**DATE:**

12/8/2025

CLEARANCE / APPROVALS:

Troy Tripp

Todd Burton General Manager

Dave Wardrop City Manager

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the update on underground utility dig restorations be received and administration continue with the expanded restoration work for 2026.

BACKGROUND:

In 2024, Council provided additional funds for 2025 to focus on the dig restoration backlog. Plans were established to have additional crews focused on Asphalt and Concrete jobs. The following update is on our progress in completing dig restorations at the end of the 2025 season.

ANALYSIS:

At the end of the 2025 season, we have completed:

- 117 asphalt restoration jobs
- 114 cement restoration jobs
- 103 landscaping restoration jobs with 2550 pieces of sod (25,500 sq ft)

All 2024 and prior restoration work has been completed with the exception of one approach on Braecrest. This cement task will be addressed in the spring of 2026. We had to leave this as well as the frost boil on Fotheringham in order to complete priority work on arterial routes which included 4 patches on Rosser Avenue, 2 on Victoria Avenue East, and one at 10th and College. These were 2025 restoration jobs.

In 2025, up to December 1st, Underground Utility had done 124 digs, which has resulted in 56 jobs requiring cement restoration, 62 requiring asphalt restoration, and 59 requiring landscaping restoration.

We will start the 2026 restoration season working on 2025 jobs. Depending on how many jobs will require restoration, we are targeting to be caught up on restoration jobs at the end of 2026. Caught up would mean within 1-3 months from time of dig with the understanding that a backlog will build over the winter months.

Based on the success of our 2025 restoration progress our plans are to continue with the same enhanced teams for 2026. In addition to the 3 permanent staff members (2 split between Underground Utility and Street, and 1 for landscaping) that were added in 2025, we will continue with 6 seasonal staff members for 6 months and the additional equipment. Expected cost for the 6 seasonal staff members and equipment for the 2026 season are:

- \$130,000 seasonal staff
- \$35,000 equipment

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Aligned with council's mandate to improve timelines for Underground Utility dig restorations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Continue with 6 seasonal workers and additional equipment for the 2026 season at a projected cost of \$165,000.

CONCLUSION:

The enhanced restoration job focus and resources for 2025 were successful. All work prior to 2025 was essentially completed with a start on some 2025 restoration work.

Administration plans to continue with the same enhanced restoration job focus for 2026. At the end of the 2026 season we will reassess future needs.