




CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
TRANSPORTATION & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
Interdepartmental Correspondence

TO: TCI Staff
FROM: Mike Frisbie, P.E., Director / City Engineer 
COPIES TO: Razi Hosseini, P.E., Luis Maltos, P.E., John Cantu, File
SUBJECT: **Capital Project Soil Relocation Policy and Communication Plan – Revised**
DATE: April 3, 2017

As you know, TCI has implemented the Capital Project Soil Relocation Policy and Communication Plan for the past two years. Under this policy, which was implemented in March 2015, a total of 73 projects have been subject to this policy. This policy has been very successful for capital improvement projects under the 2012 Bond Program.

As we prepare for the upcoming 2017-2022 Bond Program, this policy will remain in effect for this bond program and any capital improvement projects within the department. The Capital Project Relocation Policy Committee has evaluated the policy for improvements to be more effective and efficient. Based on their recommendations, I have approved the following revisions / clarifications:

1. Policy is applicable for excess soils greater or equal to 1,000 yards
2. Policy is applicable to reuse locations outside City, but within Bexar County
3. Replace “Non-Residential / Commercial Grade Soil” to “Non-Residential / Non-Commercial Grade Soil” for clarification purposes.

This policy has been revised and will become effective April 3, 2017. A copy of the revised policy is attached.



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Capital Project Soil Relocation Policy and Communication Plan

Transportation & Capital Improvements (TCI) routinely moves soil as part of the many street, drainage, park and building projects it manages annually. Prior to any excavation, the soil is tested by private, licensed professionals and is compared to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) standards for appropriate reuse or disposition.

This policy is applicable for excess soils greater than or equal to 1,000 cubic yards for capital improvement projects. It also applies to reuse locations outside City limits, but within Bexar County.

Residential/Commercial Grade Soil

When soil excavated from a City of San Antonio capital improvements project is tested and confirmed to be within TCEQ standards for residential/commercial use and is greater than 15,000 cubic yards, regardless of its originating source, the soil may be reused on another suitable site after the following communication steps are taken.

TCI will notify the City Manager, Mayor and respective City Council Member(s) in whose district the soil originated and in whose district the soil will be reused. The communication will be through email and will include information about the originating and destination sites.

Property owners within a 200 foot radius of the reuse site will receive a letter from TCI outlining where the soil originated from, where it will be reused, and the testing measures taken before deciding to move the soil.

Additional key stakeholders also will be notified by letter from TCI outlining where the soil was excavated from, where it will be reused, and the testing measures taken before deciding to move the soil.

Members of the public at large will be notified using the City's website and other public communication tools, as the situation requires.

When soil excavated from a City of San Antonio capital improvements project is tested and confirmed to be within TCEQ standards for residential/commercial use and is less than 15,000 cubic yards volume, the soil may be reused on another suitable site. Since the soil is of high quality and low volume, information about this soil will be provided as requested.

When a low volume of residential/commercial grade soil (less than 15,000 cubic yards) is from the Central Business District or from a location that may be perceived of having soil issues, the soil may be reused on another suitable site after the following appropriate communication steps are taken. TCI will notify the City Manager and respective City Council Member(s) in whose district the soil originated and in whose district the soil will be reused. The communication will be through email and will include information about the originating and destination sites.

Non-Residential/Non-Commercial Grade Soil

When soil excavated from a City of San Antonio capital improvements project is tested and confirmed to exceed TCEQ standards for residential/commercial use, regardless of the volume, the soil will be taken to a certified landfill.

If the amount of non-residential/non-commercial soil excavated exceeds 15,000 cubic yards, TCI will provide the City Manager, Mayor and City Council details of the project through email and with personal conversations as necessary. Additional details regarding the excavated soil will be available as requested. In addition TCI will provide property owners within a 200 foot radius of the originating site written notification of the soil. The notification letter will include details to include where the soil originated, the certified landfill where the soil will be taken, and the volume of soil to be moved.

When excavated soil is less than 15,000 cubic yards, TCI will provide the City Manager, Mayor and City Council details of the project through email and with personal conversations as necessary. The details will include where the soil originated, the certified landfill where the soil will be taken, and the volume of soil to be moved. Additional details regarding the excavated soil will be available as requested.

Soil Relocation and Communication Plan Policy Review and Revision

This policy will go into effect immediately as of March 16, 2015.

In its first year, this policy will be reviewed biannually to make any necessary adjustments as feedback is received. TCI will engage with the City Manager, Mayor, City Council, and stakeholders to determine if the policy is being appropriately applied and if it can be improved.