



Florida Department of Transportation

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UTILITIES BULLETIN 8/21/2008

Date: August 21, 2008

To: Utility Accommodation Manual Users

From: Brian Blanchard Chief Engineer *Brian Blanchard*

Copies to: Thomas Bane P.E., State Utilities Engineer
Tim Lattner P.E., State Maintenance Engineer
David O'Hagan P.E., State Roadway Design Engineer

Subject: Maintaining and replacing existing services within permitted conduits.

The telecommunication utility industry requested a review of Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) requirement for permits when replacing copper wire with fiber optic lines within their permitted conduits. The current Utility Accommodation Manual (2007 UAM) is unclear when a utility needs to apply for a new permit when installing, replacing or inserting additional telecommunication service lines within previously permitted conduits. The 2007 UAM does allow routine maintenance except for betterment or service lines to be installed outside the permitted time frame. Consequently, the interpretation on when a new permit application is necessary has varied. The utilities request was reviewed and the following is the proper interpretation on the 2007 UAM's requirements.

When the following conditions are met, FDOT does not require new permit applications from telecommunication utilities to maintain or replace their service lines in permitted conduits. This includes replacing copper wire with fiber optic.

- The utility provides 48 hour prior notification to appropriate maintenance engineer of the limits, general scope, and timeframe of the work.
- The work does not involve any pavement or sidewalk cutting.
- Vehicular and pedestrian traffic can be maintained using Standard Indexes 600, 601, 602, 604, 611, 612, 613, 615, 616 and 660.
- No additional conduit, pull-boxes or other appurtenances are installed.
- The work does not conflict with any FDOT construction project, scheduled community events, or other scheduled permitted activities.
- The work complies with all Federal, State, laws and local County and City ordinances.

The above language will be slated for inclusion into the next UAM.