



PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION FAQ

- Q.** Do I need to turn in **submittals** for materials before I begin construction?
- A.** Submittals must be approved prior to any material being delivered to the site. Guidelines for the submittals process and requirements for materials can be found in the “City of Boerne Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction” (City Specifications).
- Q.** Can I **schedule an inspection** the same day I call in?
- A.** Inspections must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance and up to one week in advance. Certain inspections which interrupt utility service to customers may require up to 2 weeks notice for proper coordination.
- Q.** Can the City of Boerne inspector approve **design changes** to the approved plans in the field?
- A.** A City of Boerne inspector cannot override design changes in the field. The design engineer must submit 2 copies of the revised construction plan sheets to the City Engineer for review and approval.
- Q.** How much **initial backfill** is required for utilities.
- A.** 12 inches of backfill above the top of pipe is required for initial backfill. The depth must be checked by a City of Boerne inspector prior to secondary backfill.
- Q.** What type of **bedding material** is allowed for water, reclaimed water, sanitary sewer, and drainage lines?
- A.** Grade 5 gravel meeting the requirements of 02221-2.1.C in the City Specifications is required for potable water mains, sanitary sewer mains and services, and drainage lines. Poteet Red Sand meeting the requirements of ASTM C33 “Poteet Red Sand” is required for natural gas, electric primary and secondary, potable water services, and reclaimed water services.
- Q.** At what increment is **density testing** required for utilities?
- A.** One density test per lift is required every 500 feet for trenches up to 12 feet in depth and every 300 feet for trenches 12 feet and deeper.
- Q.** Can I **pothole or stair step** for **density testing**?
- A.** Density testing must be done lift by lift with a City of Boerne inspector present.
- Q.** What **thickness** is required for each **lift** over utilities?
- A.** Backfill must be placed in lifts not exceeding 8 inches of loose material.

Q. What strength **concrete mix** is required for reinforced concrete curb, rip rap, sidewalk, and structures?

A. All reinforced concrete must have a strength of 4,000 psi and meet the requirements of section 03002-2.3 in the City Specifications. All concrete materials used must be tested per the City Specifications. The City does not allow Sakrete for any application.

Q. When is **lime stabilization** required? What type of lime is required?

A. Lime stabilization is required when the plasticity index (PI) of the subgrade is greater than 20. Commercial lime slurry is required with a minimum lime content of 4% by weight, as determined by the geotechnical engineer.

Q. What are the **compaction** requirements for **flexible base** under roadways?

A. 100% compaction is required for flexible base under roadways.

Q. Is **utility staking** required prior to inspections?

A. Staking is required for utility inspections in order to verify location, finish grade, and depth.

Q. Does a City of Boerne inspector need to be present during **connections to existing utilities**?

A. A City of Boerne inspector must be present to ensure the tie-in is being completed appropriately and there is no interruption of service unless previously scheduled.

Q. Is the contractor allowed to operate existing City of Boerne **water valves**?

A. Only the City of Boerne is allowed to operate existing water valves. If the contractor needs to open or close existing water valve(s), the contractor must call the City of Boerne inspection team to schedule an inspection. The City of Boerne inspection team will coordinate to have the appropriate parties present at the inspection to operate the water valve(s).

Q. When can I schedule a **final inspection**?

A. Final inspections can be scheduled once construction is substantially complete. The contractor is required to complete the "Subdivision Infrastructure Substantial Completion Checklist" prior to scheduling the final inspection. Additionally, all permanent property pins must be in place per plat specifications.

Refer to the City of Boerne Standard Specifications for Public Works Projects for additional information.