



CITY OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: Notice of Geotechnical Review Fees

Date: June 25, 2021

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), Division of Infrastructure Management, (DIM) Office of Underground Coordination (OUC) reviews and approves the design of all new installations in the public way. OUC’s goal is to ensure that projects are planned in a manner that minimizes the risk of utility damage and impacts to public right of way users. OUC requires all projects penetrating deeper than 12 feet below the ground (both on the public way and private property) to undergo an additional “geotechnical” review. All geotechnical projects must be reviewed by DIM and its professional consultants; some geotechnical projects require a field inspection.

In July 2021, DIM will implement new geotechnical review and inspection fees as described in the table below.¹ Regarding reviews, DIM will charge a review fee for all geotechnical projects. The review fee will ensure DIM recovers the labor and technology costs associated with the professional consultants who scrutinize technical drawings. Geotechnical projects that require an inspection will also incur an inspection fee (in addition to the review fee). The inspection fee will ensure DIM recovers the direct and indirect costs associated with professional consultants visiting work sites.

Fee Type	Fee Applicable To	Fee
Geotechnical Review Fee	All Geotechnical Projects	\$1,500.00
Geotechnical Inspection Fee	Geotechnical Projects Requiring an Inspection	\$1,500.00

Project owners, or the companies submitting the project on behalf of the owner, will be able to pay the fee electronically as part of their submission. Please be advised that geotechnical fees may change year-to-year. It is incumbent upon applicants to review the geotechnical fee prior to submitting a project for review. By applying for a geotechnical review, applicants acknowledge and accept the current fees. Please visit the OUC’s [website](#) for additional information about the fees and geotechnical review process.

¹ Per Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC) § 2-102-030(k), the CDOT Commissioner has the authority to “establish fees for the service of [OUC].” City of Chicago, Municipal Code of Chicago, 2-102-030, accessed May 27, 2021, https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/chicago/latest/chicago_il/0-0-0-2446001. Government agencies, including City of Chicago departments and sister agencies, will not be subject to geotechnical review fees.