



# Local Governments, Institutional Controls, and One-Call Systems

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# About ICMA



- International City/County Management Association
- Founded in 1914, an association of more than 8,000 city and county managers and their staff
- Mission: To enhance the profession of local government management
- [www.LUCs.org](http://www.LUCs.org)


# ICs and One-Calls

- One-call utility notification
  - Portland, OR Pilot Programs
  - Denver, CO (Denver Radium Streets)
- National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL)
  - Study on ICs and One-Calls

# Why are Locals Interested?

- Hundreds of thousands of brownfield sites
- Millions of sq. ft. of right of way excavation annually
- Many workers exposed are city or utility employees
- Liability for violating site controls
- Added costs of dealing with contaminants
- Project delay costs due to unforeseen site conditions

# Need a notification system which:

- Informs excavators of LUCs and provides guidance
  - Notifies regulatory agency of activity which may impact the LUCs
  - Informs PRP of activity affecting any agreements in place
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# Portland, Oregon

- Use the Oregon One Call Utility Notification Center to provide IC information to excavators, PRPs, and regulators
- Project model: Map 8 sites identified by DEQ
  - “One call” responded to callers with scripted message
  - “One call” notifies DEQ of proposed excavation
  - DEQ responds to notification by sending data sheet to excavator
  - DEQ paid “one call” charges as site owner

# Sample DEQ Notification Sheet

**Site:** SW Moody Ave. - Right of Way

**Location:** S.W. Moody Ave. (South Waterfront), Portland

**DEQ File Type and Number:** ECSI #1401

**Contaminants of Concern:** Residual soil contaminated includes low levels of heavy metals, organic chemicals, PCBs, and petroleum related constituents. For more detailed information, please see DEQ site file.

**Excavation Restrictions:** Roadway and sidewalks form impervious cap with a PVC liner in specific locations on site. Cement plugs were placed at selected intervals in the utility trenches to prevent potentially contaminated groundwater from migrating along utility trenches. Consult and follow procedures in Operations and Maintenance Manual for Area A, South Waterfront Redevelopment Area (July, 1995).

# Results of Oregon Pilot

- 8 month test
- 200 requests for information in controlled sites
- Excavator response was overall positive
- “One Call” vendor reported no problems
- DEQ reported minimal ongoing cost and ease of response



# Unresolved Issues - Portland

- Are data sheets really useful?
- Who pays for the notification call?
- How does the regulator cover administrative costs?
- Could others than regulator be a responder?
- What education do we need to provide for users?

# Denver Radium Streets Program

- Contaminated waste used as fill in street construction
- Part of EPA Superfund site – “Operable Unit 7”, is comprised of nine street segments
- City of Denver - Annual training for utility workers and oversight of contractors working in the designated streets
  - Minimum training for City staff of 40 hours plus contractors must have qualified staff and a Health and Safety Officer with extensive training.

# Denver Radium Streets Program

- City is notified as part of one-call and provides maps and supervision as needed
- As funding allows, the City will reconstruct the streets and remove contaminated materials
- City has been managing project for 9 years
- Project activity posted for public to see on Web site - [www.denvergov.org/radium](http://www.denvergov.org/radium)

# NCCUSL – Model Law Study

- What is NCCUSL?
- NCCUSL Committee on Scope and Program approved the topic of “Integrating Underground Environmental Information into State One-Call Systems” for study
- Model legislation that permits the inclusion of more detailed environmental information as part of One Call Systems
- Study during 2005 and 2006

# For More Information

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