

1 Introduced February 27, 2024, by Councilman
2 Tamborella, seconded by Councilwoman
3 Haggerty, (by request of Administration)

4 **Item No. 24-02-3513**

5
6 **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 4160**

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8 An emergency ordinance prohibiting underground boring for fiber optic
9 installations and other telecommunications purposes in public rights-of-way within the City
10 of Slidell, Louisiana for a period of ninety (90) days.

11 WHEREAS within the last twelve (12) months, the City of Slidell has had a
12 significant influx of entities installing fiber optic lines and related telecommunications
13 installations within public rights-of-way around the City; and
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17 WHEREAS some of these entities are operating under direct franchise
18 agreements with the City while others are operating under state-issued franchise
19 agreements; and
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23 WHEREAS there have been numerous and ongoing instances of
24 telecommunications contractors boring through existing underground City infrastructure
25 during their operations; and
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29 WHEREAS these cross-bore incidents often result in considerable adverse
30 impacts on traffic flow, the necessity for boil water orders in some instances, the need for
31 substantial repairs, public inconvenience, and a significant strain on City resources; and
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34 WHEREAS it is necessary that all such underground boring operations be
35 immediately paused for a time to allow the City the opportunity to coordinate more closely
36 with fiber and other telecommunications contractors on implementation of a plan to reduce,
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4 and hopefully eliminate, instances of underground cross boring when working in public
5 rights-of-way in the City.
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8 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Slidell City Council, in legal
9 session convened, as follows:
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12 No person or entity shall conduct underground boring operations within the
13 public rights-of-way of the City of Slidell, Louisiana for fiber optic installations or other
14 telecommunications purposes for a period of ninety (90) days from the adoption of this
15 emergency ordinance. Any violation of this prohibition shall be punishable in accordance
16 with Section 1-12 of the City's Code of Ordinances and a violation may be cited by the
17 Slidell Police Department and the City's Department of Building Safety. Additionally, entry
18 onto City rights-of-way for operations prohibited herein shall be considered a trespass.
19 Nothing herein shall prohibit the City from pursuing, solely or additionally, any civil
20 remedies that may be available for violation of this emergency ordinance, including
21 injunctive relief.
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29 BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Slidell City Council, that this emergency
30 ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.
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6 **ADOPTED** this 27th day of February, 2024.
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9 
10 Kenny Tamborella
11 President of the Council
12 Councilman, District E

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14 Greg Cromer
15 Mayor

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18 Thomas P. Reeves
19 Council Administrator

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DELIVERED	2/28/24
8:30 am	to the Mayor
RECEIVED	3/5/24
11:00 am	from the Mayor