Shallow Utility Construction Safety Concern – Concrete Swales

Background

With closer coordination required between surface improvements and 4-party shallow utility installation, a safety concern working around concrete swales have been identified.

The following safety concerns have been noted:

1. Workers may use swales as walkways to cross trenches.
2. The strength and integrity of swales may be compromised if trenches are dug underneath the swales.
3. Workers may be asked to crawl underneath swales to install utilities, placing them under higher risk.

Developer and Consultant Call to Action

Developers and their consultants are urged to:

1. Prevent concrete contractor from installing swales across shallow utilities alignments, prior to shallows being installed.
2. Remove installed swales prior to any shallow utility installation.
3. Approve additional cost for the shallow utility contractors if they are asked to remove installed swales themselves.

Please reach out to me for any additional information or context around this request.

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