Public Works Order No. 178,940 defines a moratorium street and section 2.11 of Public Works Order No. 178,940 sets regulations for requests to perform work in moratorium streets, the allowance of waivers, and the additional paving restoration requirements.

San Francisco Public Works
Street-Use and Mapping
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (628) 271-2000

San Francisco Public Works
Permit Center
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 200
Processing Hours: Please visit https://sf.gov/location/permit-center for operating hours of the Permit Center.
- Closed on official holidays

Contact 311 for service requests

www.sfpublicworks.org

REVISION DATE: 08.05.2020
The San Francisco Excavation Code establishes a 5-year moratorium on excavating in streets that have been reconstructed, repaved and/or resurfaced in the preceding five years to protect the public infrastructure and maintain the integrity of the pavement and right of way.

1. WHAT IS A MORATORIUM STREET?
The San Francisco Excavation Code establishes a 5-year moratorium on excavating in streets that have been reconstructed, repaved and/or resurfaced in the preceding five years to protect the public infrastructure and maintain the integrity of the pavement and right of way.

2. CAN EXCAVATION OCCUR ON A MORATORIUM STREET?
A. Excavation should not occur on moratorium streets. However, waivers to the moratorium may be granted by the Public Works director for “good cause,” such as:
   - to repair leaks
   - to respond to emergencies
   - to provide services to buildings where no other reasonable means of providing service exists
   - for deployment of new technology as directed pursuant to official City policy
   - other situations deemed by the director to be in the best interest of the general public

B. To request a waiver, the applicant shall submit a written request to Public Works describing the scope of work and explaining the reason for the excavation and its necessity at this time and why it cannot be deferred to a later date.
   - A decision concerning a request to excavate in a moratorium street will be provided in writing. The director’s decision is final.

3. WHAT ARE THE RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS?
If a waiver is granted, additional requirements will apply and may include:
   - special coordination with other excavations
   - special paving requirements
     - Typically, all affected lanes for entire width of affected property frontages must be resurfaced
   - additional soil compaction test reports
   - additional fees

VIOLATIONS
Violations of Article 2.4 Sec. 2.4.55(a) of the Public Works Code and/or Permit Conditions can result in enforcement and corrective action which may incur fines from $1,000 per day up to $10,000 per day.

For more information on how to obtain a permit and additional excavation requirements, please refer to the Excavation Requirements brochure or www.sfpublicworks.org