



Improvements to the Utility Cut Management Process

Presentation to the
Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
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Transportation Services Division
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Utility Cut Management Process

Toronto's Streets

- 5,600 kilometres.
- Required for the transportation of goods and the movement of people.
 - Cars and trucks
 - Transit
 - Cyclists
 - Pedestrians
 - Emergency Vehicles
- Critical to the economic health of our City.

Condition of our streets



What do we often see?



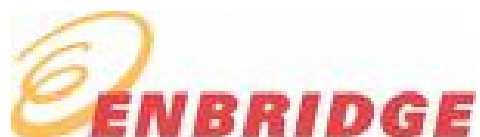
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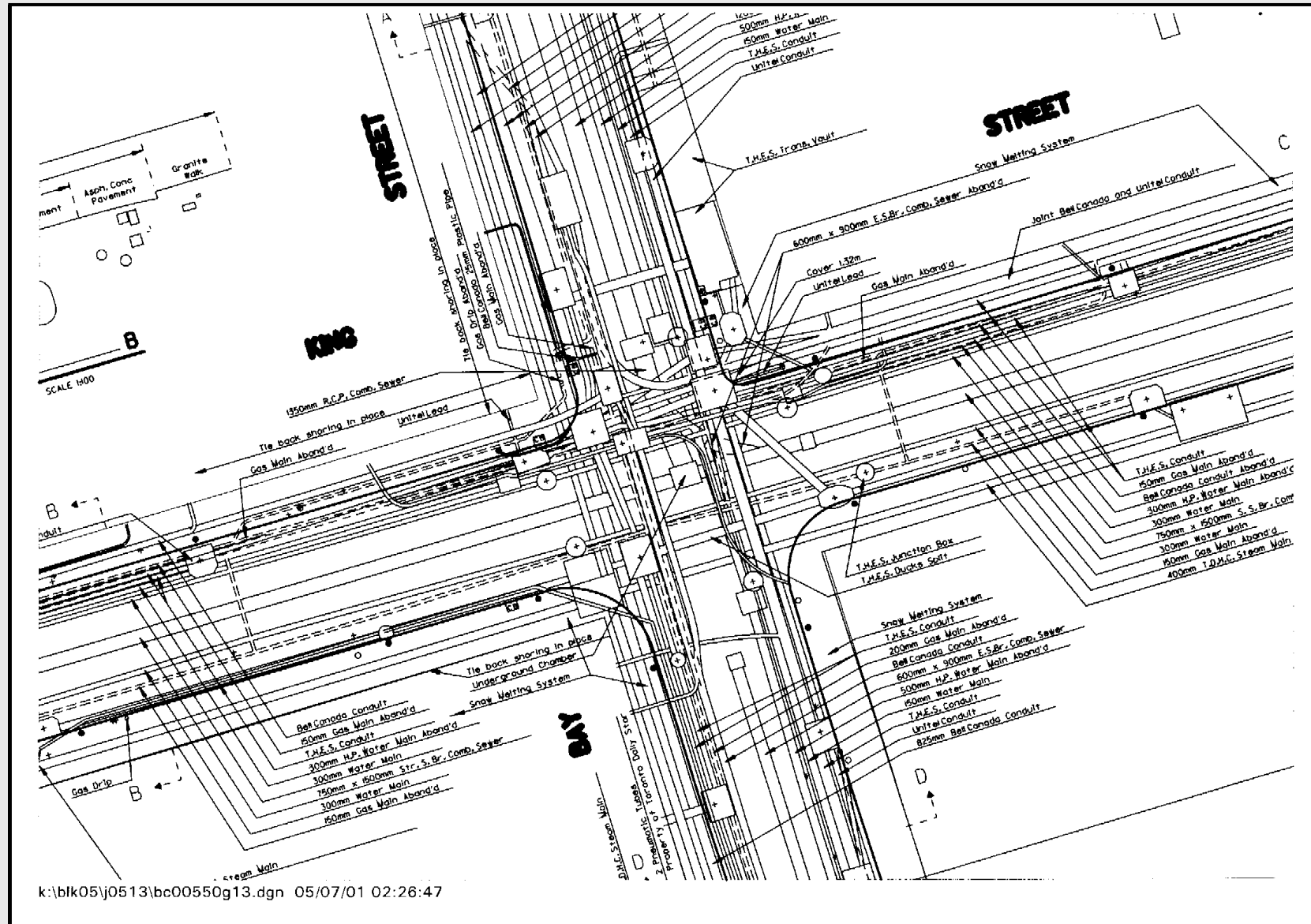
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Utility Companies



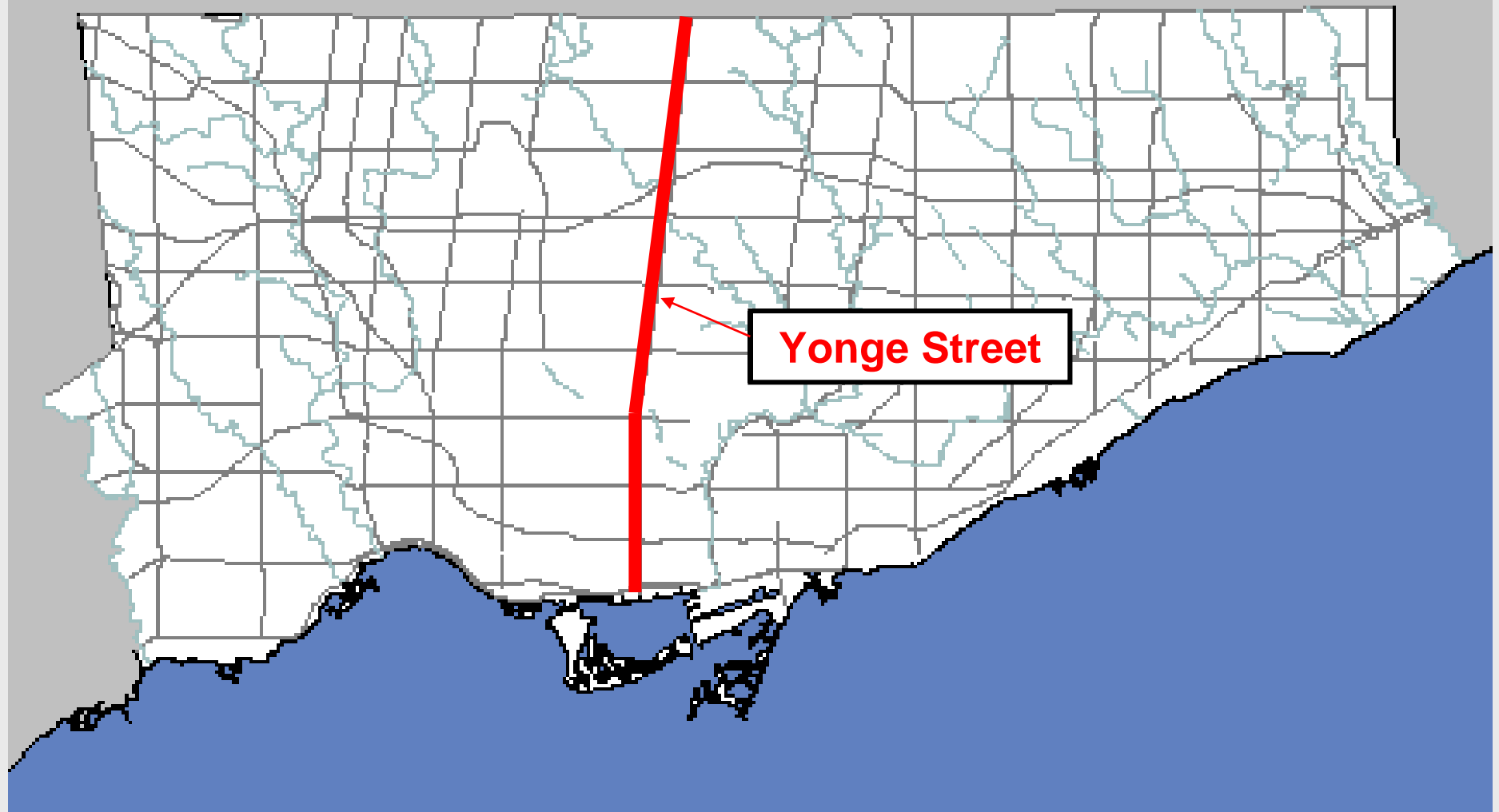
Location of Utility Infrastructure



We Need Utilities

- Utilities provide valuable and essential services to the residents and businesses.
- Need to cut into our roadway to install, expand and maintain their infrastructure.
- On average, there are 38,000 utility cuts every year.
- This totals approximately 250,000 square metres.

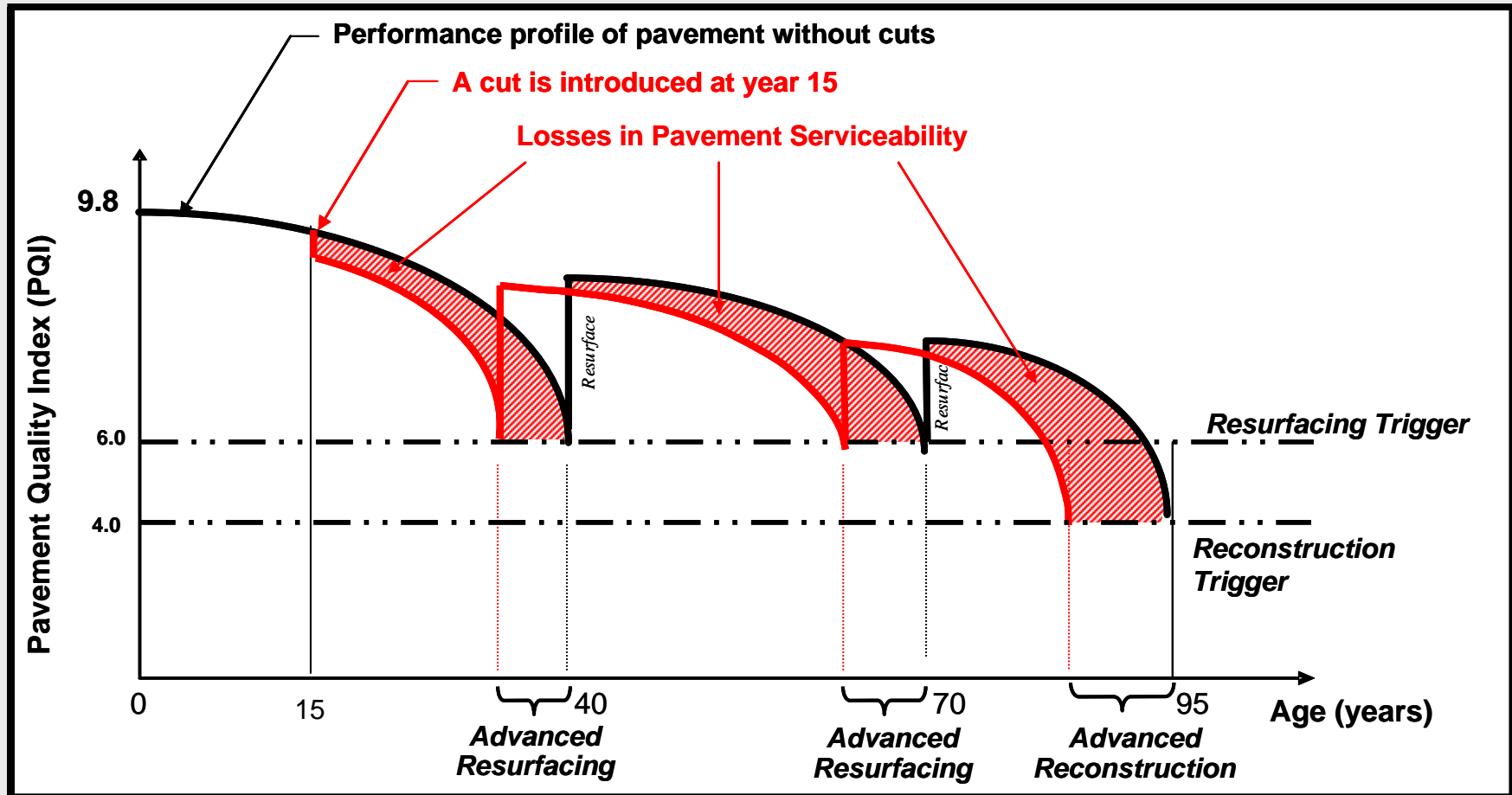
How much is 250,000 sq.m.?



Study Scope

- Directed by City Council to undertake a study of the impact of utility cuts on the performance of pavements.
- Requested to report back on a fee structure for “pavement degradation” to offset these costs and a strategy for implementation.
- 2-year study, with the assistance of an outside consultant, involving extensive data collection and analysis.
- Both a technical and financial assessment.

What are the impacts – for engineers



What are the impacts – for regular people

- They often cause potholes which require us to fix the roads more often.
- They shorten the life of the pavement.
- They make riding on the road more uncomfortable and sometimes hazardous.
- They make the roads look terrible.
- They result in complaints from our residents and businesses about the condition of our roads.

What do we propose?

- Introduction of a “Pavement Degradation Fee”.
- Based on the area of the utility cut and will be a function of the age of the road, type of road and classification of the road.
- Average fee would be \$20/sq.m.
- Annual fees collected would average \$4 million (based on total of 200,000 sq.m. of utility cuts).
- Fees will be used specifically for construction, resurfacing and maintenance of the City’s roads.

What other changes are proposed?

- New standards of repair.
- Increased inspection and enforcement.
- Improved communications with the public.
 - Identification of utility company.
 - Notification to residents.
 - Information available through 3-1-1 and online.

What can we expect?

- Better quality of utility cut repairs.
- Quicker response to fix deficiencies.
- Enhanced coordination of capital programs and less disruption.
- Improving and modernizing the way residents get notice of utility cuts and access to information about when the repairs will be completed.
- Better overall visual condition of the roads and safer and more comfortable to use.

Utility Cut Management Process

Thank you!