

Tollway Permit Fee Policy

There are two types of permits approved by the Tollway's Board.

- The most common permit grants permission for a utility company, municipality or other governmental agency to **cross** the Tollway,
- The other type is a permit for **site-specific use**. This type of permit grants permission to install drainage facilities and utility equipment on the Tollway.

The crossing permit:

- Serves or involves the interest of the general public,
- Represents a continuation of a service across the Tollway,
- Assumes no alternative to installing the crossing exists,
- Does not result in any convenience, value, profit or benefit to the permittee.

The site-specific use permit:

- Has value and results in a benefit to the permittee resulting from the use of Tollway property,
- Can be installed in another location off Tollway property;
- May present a liability to the Tollway (increased maintenance).

Both types of permits require that the facility be relocated, if required, at no cost to the Tollway.

Crossing Permits

Installations granted by a crossing permit include:

- utility company pipelines, electric lines and telephone lines,
- cable TV lines, fiber optic cables,
- municipal and other governmental agency sewer and water lines.
- private lines

The fee to cross a continuous right-of-way is influenced by:

- lack of any benefit or value to the permittee,
- the substantial cost of installation and maintenance to permittee,
- consideration of permittee's responsibility for the cost of relocation,
- the actual cost of accommodating the crossing.

The fee for a crossing permit is generally not considered to be a source of revenue.

Use Permits

Installations considered to be a site-specific use of Tollway property are:

- new drainage structures,
- transformers, valves, convenience manholes, communication cabinets,
- gas regulators, test stations, sensors and
- other equipment that does not have to be located on Tollway property,
- parallel installations (facilities installed along the Tollway),
- offsite driveway access

The fee to use Tollway property is influenced by:

- the permittee realizing a benefit due to the installation,
- the availability of other alternatives to using Tollway property,
- any increased liability to the Tollway, such as increased maintenance in the case of drainage permits.

Permits that use Tollway property are usually assessed a substantial fee.

Present Permit Fee Policy

A formal policy for permit fees was established in 1994.

The key ideas shaping the policy were:

- The distinction between a crossing and a use was established,
- One-time fees were established,
- Crossings were related to administration fees,
- Site-specific use was related to a revenue producing fee.
- The policy was changed to be consistent in assessing the same fee for the same permittee group and same type of permit.
- The policy allowed for the permit fee to be waived in certain situations.

The following actions were taken creating the present policy:

- Annual fees were eliminated.
- Administrative fees were waived for crossings requested by governmental agencies (municipalities). Governmental agencies operate in the public sector, are non-profit and serve the general public. It is the intention of the Tollway to cooperate with governmental agencies and municipalities located along its route when requesting to install, maintain and operate utility facilities crossing the property.
- Administrative fees were waived for utility companies based on reciprocal operating arrangements, the additional requirements and resulting cost to utility customers to extend service under the roadway and the requirement to relocate the facilities at no cost for Tollway construction projects.

- Since the majority of crossing permits are issued to utility companies and municipalities, the Tollway's Board elected to waive all fees for crossings to be consistent. The Tollway's Board later decided to assess a fee for fiber optic cable crossings. The fee is \$1000.00.
- The fee assessed for a drainage permit was significantly increased to \$7,500.00.
- The fee assessed for a site-specific use was waived for governmental agencies (municipalities) but applied to utility companies and all others. Installations are similar for utility companies and the fee is usually \$5,000.00.

The amount of the fee charged for site-specific use is based on overall cost of the installation to the Tollway, maintenance requirements, value of land, the market rate and a history of similar permits of the same type.

A spreadsheet of the permit fee policy is attached.

Fees charged for Permits

Permit	Type	Approval	Existing Fee	Waiver ?
utility {1}	crossing	Board	\$1,000.00	yes {3}
unregulated {2}	crossing	Board	\$1,000.00	no
municipal	crossing	Board	\$1,000.00	yes {4}
equipment	use	Board	\$5,000.00	no {5}
drainage	use	Board	\$7,500.00	no
Construction Permit	work	Chief Engineer	\$0.00 - \$1,000.00	n/a

{1} ComEd, SBC, Nicor, MWRDGC

{2} Cable TV, fiber optic cables

{3} Waiver granted for reciprocal operating arrangements and improvement project agreements

{4} Waiver granted for public relation purposes

{5} Waiver granted to municipalities on a case by case basis