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Broken water main causes minor detour on Canyon Road

By Vera Kochan



EBMUD patched intersection's ruptured water main caused by Verizon contractor Photo Vera Kochan

Just when Moraga residents thought that the town's underground woes were a thing of the past, on Monday, June 24, the Moraga Police Department initiated a detour off of Canyon Road near Sanders Drive.

For several hours, between approximately noon and 7 p.m., a major water main had been broken at the intersection, creating minor flooding onto the town's street and necessitating a temporary road closure until repairs could be made.

According to Public Works Assistant Engineer Sharon Chan, "Verizon is in the process of installing fiber optic lines under an encroachment permit with the town." An encroachment permit is necessary when using any part of the road right-of-way. Chan added, Verizon's contractor, ITC Service Group, "is responsible for coordinating and notifying utilities to mark the location of underground facilities through the Underground Service Alert (USA) service. The contractor damaged an

underground East Bay Municipal Utility District water main resulting in the temporary closure."

ITC Service Group's website states that they provide "design, broadband, wireless and technical staffing services to telecom and information communication technology sectors within the communications industry."

When asked who is responsible for any damages the town may have incurred, Chan said, "It has not been determined yet who is responsible for the EBMUD damage, but since ITC Service Group has an encroachment permit with the Town, they will be responsible for the cost accrued by the Town."

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