

Electric Utility DPW

May 2023



DPW Electric Utility Electric Distribution & Streetlighting

Ordinance 2022-375

Introduced December 12, 2022

This ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 97-105-173 (the “1997 Ordinance”) adopted May 27, 1997 which adopted a (now out of date) streetlight policy as “the official streetlight policy of the City of Richmond.” The 97 ordinance also included “loose guidelines” on policy implementation. The 97 ordinance is being replaced by a Technical Standards Document which more specifically details implementation, policy and procedures

Points of Clarity

- **It is not necessary to introduce another paper as the technical standards will serve as the Standards for Street Light**
- **The City's regulatory process City Code Section 28-26 requires a public hearing be held in order to adopt new policies within the electric utility**
- **A public hearing was held to adopt the new standards on April 4, 2023**
- **The old standards document was six pages and the new standards are over 100 pages of detailed drawings, more specific information, and requirements.**
- **The Primary intent of the 97 ordinance was to outline a plan to creating special service districts for the purpose of funding ornamental lighting**
- **Moving from an ordinance to a regulatory document allows the Director to make changes administratively as the industry evolves**

Comparison

1997 Street Light Policy and Proposed DPU Streetlight Regulations Comparison Table

1997 Policy Document	New DPU Streetlight Regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of types of projects and requirements to include major roadway, developer and citizen requests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed discussion of same projects in Section II General Design Standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sparse discussion regarding design specifications in “Style of Fixture” section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed description and specification drawings of standard equipment in Section IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited explanation of streetlight standard fixtures and lighting levels under “City of Richmond Street Lighting Standards” section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive explanation of general construction and lighting requirements in Section II
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures section including Citizen Requests, Site Inspection and Implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed instructions in Section II Design Standards and Section III Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requirements for documentation to be provided throughout the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive outline of all requirements for project documentation in Section III
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic requirements for administrative procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough information for all administrative requirements within Sections II and III
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No glossary of terms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains glossary of terms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion for special tax districts of unique lighting areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the original policy language is under Section II, which discuss the Design Standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specification drawings for fixtures, poles, foundations or miscellaneous equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section V Standard Drawings and Forms now provides detailed drawings and specifications for fixtures, poles, foundations and miscellaneous equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No project forms discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section V Standard Drawings and Forms has various project forms

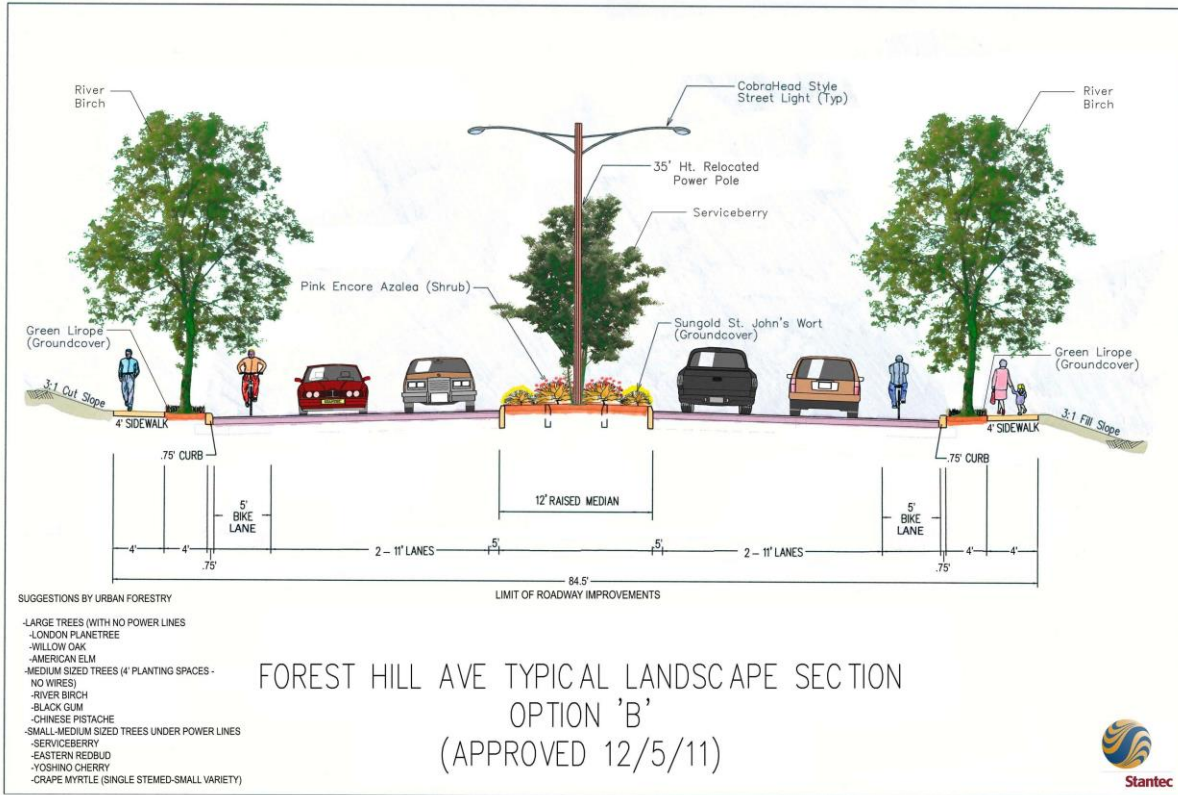
Comparison cont.

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION Street lighting shall be included as a part of all major highway projects involving construction or reconstruction. In most instances, lighting shall be high pressure sodium (HPS), which provides greater illumination at lower wattage with resulting in energy and cost savings.

DEVELOPER PROJECTS Developers are required, at their cost, to install street lighting with all new construction, where new subdivision streets intersect adjacent existing roadways, adequate street lighting shall be provided, at the developers cost, to properly illuminate the intersection. In the case of an intersection with a major roadway, the lighting shall be sufficient to illuminate the approaches and associated transitions.

CITIZEN REQUEST Citizen requests are evaluated on a daily basis. All lighting requests are studied to determine if the need is justified, based on the City of Richmond Street Lighting Standard. Approved requests will be installed as funds are available through the Annual Budget. Requests for upgrading a light shall be handled in the same manner. Should funds be available, priorities on installation shall be (1) date of request and (2) by order of the Department of Public Safety.

The City's Complete Street Policy adopted by Resolution No. 2014-R172-170 requires that all of the various types of lighting be considered during design



Need for New Standards

Changes in technology toward more efficient LEDs, pole materials, and varying design types



Q&A

