



San Miguel Community Services District

Street Light Design Standards

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Street Light Design Standards

1. Purpose. The purpose of the standards and specifications contained herein is to establish uniform standards for street lights on roads in the San Miguel Community Services District jurisdictional boundaries and service areas. This document is not intended or designed as, nor does it establish, a legal standard for lighting.

2. Rural Roads. Lighting shall only be required on rural roads at intersections and only when warranted under the Caltrans Traffic Manual standards. Street lighting on rural roads shall be designed to the illumination levels specified by the Caltrans Traffic Manual, unless otherwise specified herein.

3. Urban (Village) Roads. Lighting on urban roads shall be required and shall be designed to the illumination levels specified by the Illuminating Engineers Society of North America (IESNA).

Development projects that install street lighting shall be responsible for establishing a financing program for ongoing maintenance and operation of the lighting system.

Overhead lighting which conforms to the requirements of the electric utility service shall be provided at each end of a segment of raised median. Lighting shall be designed to provide a minimum illumination on the street or road surface of:

- i. 1.0 foot-candles at the centerline intersection of the street/road with the median and the intersecting street/road or driveway, and
- ii. 0.6 foot-candles within the entire area which comprises the intersection.

The Board of Directors may grant an exception or require maintenance and financing at the discretion of the Board of Directors with a recommendation by District General Manager.

4. Standards.

General: (*AMENDED PER BOARD DIRECTION AT 4-30-15 MEETING*)

Improvement plans for installation or modification of any lighting systems shall be reviewed and approved by:

- 1) the District Engineer and/or Utility Supervisor,
- 2) the District Board of Directors prior a review by County of San Luis Obispo, (*ADDED*)
- 3) in addition to any standard review by the County of San Luis Obispo Development Services Division or Public Works Division.

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Additionally, the following requirements shall apply:

4.A) *Lighting plans* shall include the following note:

“Special Inspection shall be required by a Certified Traffic Signal Inspector for all phases of the signal and lighting installation. A Schedule of Inspections shall be provided to the District Utility Supervisor, if required, prior to commencing work. An Inspector’s report shall be provided to the District prior to acceptance of the work and scheduling a turn-on of the new lighting facility.”

4.B) *Wiring and Pull Boxes.* Wiring and pull boxes shall be constructed according to County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Public Improvement Standards.

4.C) *Light Standards.* Light standards on County roads with underground electrical system. shall be galvanized steel Type 15 per Caltrans Standard Plans. Light standards on County roads with overhead electrical system shall be galvanized steel cobra-head luminaires mounted on wood power poles as approved or specified by PG&E.

Light standards on private roads may be of a custom design, subject to the approval of the Utility Supervisor and District Engineer during review of the improvement plans, if said light standards are owned by the District.

Notwithstanding other provisions, lights on poles may be placed within an established setback, upon the following conditions:

- a.** Lights shall be used for illumination only, and not for or used as an advertising display.
- b.** Lights shall be at least seventeen (17) feet from the travel way and at least thirteen and a half (13 ½) above the ground.
- c.** Light fixtures shall be so designed and adjusted as to not reflect light away from any road or street, and to reflect light away from any adjoining premises on which a dwelling is located or that is zoned for a use other than commercial, retail business or industrial uses. The base of the light pole shall have a break-away bolt.
- d.** Lights shall be on a single pole that does not exceed fourteen (14) inches in diameter.
- e.** Such poles shall be at least fifty (50) feet apart; however, two (2) poles may be located on each building site.
- f.** Poles and lights shall be removed at the owner’s expense when property on which they are located is taken for street widening.

4.D) *Location.* Light standards shall be located to minimize glare into residences. In general, light standards shall be located at the property line between residences, at 4-way intersections, and near school and park locations.

5) *Solar Power.* Photoelectric cells should be considered for lighting standards, particularly in rural areas. Photoelectric cells shall be mounted at the top of the light standard.

6) *Night Sky.* Limit lighting beyond the surface area on the ground, which is intended for illumination. All glare shall be directed away and adjusted away from residential dwellings within 20 feet of a light pole. Exceptions to this standard can be approved by the District Engineer and/or Utility Supervisor.

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