**STREET LIGHTING**

**Guidelines**

**General**

- All new streets should provide pedestrian scaled streetlights.
- All new developments should provide pedestrian scaled streetlights where feasible.
- All new alleys should have lights mounted on outbuildings or garages. These lights should be connected to a separate circuit other than the main building.
- Outdoor lighting should create and encourage a pedestrian friendly environment, which is especially beneficial to residential neighborhoods and neighborhood business districts. Pedestrian-scale lights should improve walkway illumination for pedestrian traffic and enhance community safety and business exposure.
- Street lighting should be designed to be appropriate to its location within the urban transect. Such things as height of lamp post, lamp head and lighting source and spacing can all be calibrated accordingly.
- All street lighting should be “full-cutoff” or “fully shielded” to minimize light pollution and save energy. (Refer to Images 5 and 10)
- Where existing light poles provide street lighting, new light fixtures may be mounted on existing poles to maximize resources and minimize installation time. A more expensive option is to install the new light fixtures on top of free-standing poles which receive power via underground conduit. (Refer to Images 2 and 10)
- When new sidewalks and or curbs are installed along an existing street and no adequate conduit exists for street lighting, the City of Ventura Traffic Engineer may require the applicant to install these facilities.

**Size**

- The height of lamp posts should be designed to be proportional to the width of the street. The general regulated height of street lamps should be 12 to 15 feet for pedestrian-oriented neighborhoods. Typically the 12 foot lampposts should be used in residential neighborhoods and the 15 foot lampposts on the retail streets. This is not required for parking areas. (Refer to Image 1)
- For those intersections that require more light, the 20 foot lamppost can be instituted for safety, but should be used only if necessary.

**Location**

- The minimum clearance from a street light pole to the face of curb should be 2 feet.
- The minimum clearance from a street light pole to the edge of a sidewalk should be 1 foot.
- The minimum clearance from a street light pole to the centerline of a tree should be 20 feet.
- Lighting illuminating pedestrian walkways should be typically located 12 feet-15 feet above the sidewalk. This lighting will not normally be considered in the calculations for maintained foot candles and uniformity of roadway lighting. However, there are exceptions when considering the newer more efficient luminaries and their lighting output.
- A consistent on-center distance for lampposts should be established appropriate to the location. Typically this dimension is 90 feet on center.
- On residential streets, light posts should be placed within the parkway (tree planting strip) where one exists or within 2 feet from the curb when such a location does not reduce the sidewalk dimension to less than 5 feet.
- In existing residential neighborhoods, when street lighting will be added and neither of the above conditions can be met, lamp posts should be placed within 1 foot of the sidewalk in the front yard (front setback), provided an utility easement is already in place in that location.
- Lighting poles may be alternating sequence from one side of the street to the other, to ensure continuous light pockets.

**Character**

- All lamp posts should have a base, a middle and a top.
- Where applicable, the style of the street fixtures should be consistent with the dominant style of the buildings on the street.
- Metal halide lights are encouraged.
- High pressure sodium lights are discouraged since they visually render all colors the same.
- Cobra-heads should not be used in residential streets or pedestrian-oriented commercial streets. Cobra-heads should only be used on high-volume traffic streets and should be decorative and have a supplemental non cobra-head light mounted at 12 to 14 feet to light the sidewalk.
- Shoe box style lighting should not be used, except in large parking areas.
- Where taller lights are required, for example a major thoroughfare, consideration should be given to a design appropriate to the larger scale. Reproductions of historic lamps such as the “bishops crook” poles are a more aesthetic solution than the cobra head. (Refer to Image 6)
- Column streetlights should be used on residential streets. (Refer to Image 9)
- Multi-head column streetlights should be used on retail streets. (Refer to Image 8)
Image 1 - Typical mounting types (Not indicative of any prescribed ornamental style)

Intersections (if required)

Avenues

Retail and Residential Neighborhood Streets

Image 2 - Alternative to Cobra head lighting

Image 3 - Top of Lamp post

Image 4 - Residential Street with lamp post in parkway

Image 5 - Residential Street with fully shielded lamp post in parkway utilizing post for signage

Image 6 - Bishop’s Crook Lamp is an example of historic specialty lamps that may be appropriate for select areas.

Image 7 - Lamp that uses one fixture for pedestrians at 12 feet tall and another fixture at 20 feet tall for vehicular traffic.

Image 8 - Multi-fixture lamp is appropriate for higher density retail areas (T5 to T6)

Image 9 - Classic Acorn Lamp is appropriate in residential areas T4 and T6 and in small scale neighborhood retail areas.

Image 10 - Contemporary fully shielded light fixture bracket mounted at 14’ height on a 20’ pole - a good method for integrating pedestrian scale lighting with required roadway lighting.

Image 11 - Post decoration options - banners

Image 12 - Base of Lamp post

Image 13 - Post decoration options - hanging plants