


DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BULLETIN NO. 23

**Subject: GUIDE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF UTILITY POLES**

Issue Date: April 27, 1999 (Rev.)

APPROVED:



James J. Kay, P.E., Director

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide general guidelines for the placement of utility poles in the City of Miami.

1. On fully dedicated primary and residential streets, the field side of the pole shall be installed at the base building line and as close to the adjoining property line of the abutting lots as existing conditions will permit.
2. On streets where there is a side parkway (or where such parkway is planned), the pole shall be located either;
  - a) with the field side of the pole at the base building line, or
  - b) in the side parkway area with the center of the pole one (1) foot from the street face of the sidewalk.

Considerations for placement of street lights on the poles should be a major determining factor in deciding which of the above choices would better suit the situation.

3. At street intersections, utility poles shall be located at least 25 feet back of the intersection of the base building lines extended

An exception would be at business or residential intersections where traffic volumes are low. Then, the following priorities should be observed.

- (i) the corner pole should be eliminated entirely, if it is practical to do so.

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- (ii) If the elimination of the corner pole requires the installation of two poles, only one of these poles should be placed in front of one property.
- (iii) If the most practical solution seems to be the placing of a single pole at the intersection, City approval should be obtained for such pole to be located as far as practicable from the driving area of the intersection.

The above general guidelines shall also apply to the first block of streets intersecting a primary (heavily traveled) street where the occupancy is partially business and partially residential.

4. Special consideration and individual evaluation will be given to the location of utility poles in each of the following cases:
  - (a) Streets that are only partially dedicated
  - (b) Streets where there are high rise buildings close to the right-of-way or where such buildings are planned.
  - (c) Streets where large transmission poles are to be installed.
  - (d) Where normal locations of poles that will also be used for street lighting facilities would adversely affect the street lighting.
5. Center parkways will not be used for utility poles unless prior written approval from the Director of Public Works is obtained in each instance.
6. Poles in alleys shall be placed abutting the property line.