



**Policy Title: Streetlight Standards and Sign Poles -Colour of Paint Policy**

**Policy Number: TP008**

**Report Number: LPT2005-20, LPT 2006-30, NM2004-43**

**Approved by: City Council**

**Effective Date: 2006 May 8**

**Business Unit: Roads**

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## **BACKGROUND**

This policy arises from the request from the Mount Royal Community Association for the replacement of streetlight and traffic sign poles with consistent green coloured poles.

At the 2004 December 13 meeting of Council, Alderman King's revised [Notice of Motion NM2004-43](#) was adopted and the following direction was given to Administration:

The Administration was directed to develop a policy that any community new or old may obtain consistent colour lamp standards and sign poles, paying costs where appropriate, and the Administration bring the proposed policy to Council through the standing Policy Committee on Land Use Planning and Transportation by 2005 March 31.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the policy is to have a uniform approach whereby existing communities can obtain and maintain a consistent colour of pole and pay for the incremental cost with no impact to the taxpayers living outside of the community.

The policy will ensure a consistent approach for requests to change the colour of streetlight and sign poles. Such an approach is necessary as the costs for upgrading to coloured poles must be recovered directly from the interested community. There are many different scenarios that may occur and depending on the situation, the actual implementation of the policy may vary.



**POLICY**

**Existing Communities:**

1. If any existing community wants to upgrade existing streetlight and traffic sign poles in a community, the initial installation costs of upgrading can be accomplished through:

- a) Cash payment; or
- b) Local improvement Bylaw

At the 2006 May 28 meeting of Council, the following policy guideline was adopted for replacing light standards in existing residential communities.

“In situations where the City is replacing light standards which exist in residential communities that were originally constructed to City standards that have since been superseded – The City will match the colour of replacement poles to that of the existing to maintain the original intended aesthetics of the residential area.”

Typically, local improvements are done on a block by block basis however; they can also be done on a community-wide basis or on a single property basis. For coloured upgrades of streetlight poles, it would only be practical to consider this on a community-wide basis (excepting, of course, Business Revitalization Zones (BRZ's) and commercial areas where it may be looked at on a block by block basis). The City would only consider doing this as a local improvement if a valid petition is received.

2. Where a coloured pole needs to be replaced as part of regular maintenance and repair, if a community wants to maintain a particular colour of streetlight and/or traffic sign poles, then the Community Association shall pay for the incremental cost of the upgrade at the time of replacement. For example, when a pole is in need of replacement due to deterioration, damage or a new pole is to be added a new colour matched pole will be installed; however, the incremental upgrade cost shall be paid for directly by the community. The incremental cost of the coloured poles can be paid for by one of the following methods:

- a) The Community Association shall repay or deposit a certain sum of money with The City and as colour matched poles are replaced, The City will draw on this deposit. When the deposit is depleted, the community must top off the deposit before colour matched poles can continue to be installed. This payment option would be set up as a convenience to the community. Regular reporting on



the status of the deposit and what transactions that have occurred can be provided upon request; or

**b)** Upon installation of the coloured pole, The City will invoice the community for the incremental cost of the pole. This payment option is available for streetlight poles, not sign poles and name blades. Only Option 2a and 2c are available for sign poles and name blades; or

**c)** A Community Association may enter into a Maintenance Agreement to pay for the incremental cost of maintenance and repair of coloured streetlight poles. Such Maintenance Agreements shall be established similar to the mechanisms and terms (min. five year term), as provided for in Parks' Enhanced Landscaping Maintenance and Infrastructure Agreements. For coloured decorative sign posts and name blades, a Special Tax or Endowment Fund is the more suitable option. These will be set up upon petition by the Community Association in accordance with Section 382 Division 5 Special Tax in the Municipal Government Act.

The above options would be available only where upgraded maintenance is planned ahead of time. Where repairs or replacement are required immediately, the incremental enhancement must be paid for by prepayment or invoice as per 2a) or 2b) above.

**3.** Upon expiry of a Pole Maintenance Agreement under any of Options 2a), 2b) and 2c) above, and where it is determined that the local residents, Residents Association and/or Community Association are not willing to continue paying for the incremental cost of maintenance or repair of the upgraded poles, The City will only replace the coloured streetlight and/sign poles with City standard poles.

**4.** Coloured streetlight and traffic sign poles are restricted to standard colours. This will reduce the storage and administrative costs associated with increased inventory. No other colour will be considered.

**5.** Coloured streetlight poles that only require repainting will be painted by the Roads Business Unit at no cost to the community or property owners.

### **For New Subdivisions**

**6.** Beginning in 2006, Developers who choose to use decorative streetlight poles in their developments will be required to deposit with The City, an amount equal to the incremental maintenance and energy costs for an initial 15 year



period. This requirement is contained in the Subdivision Development Agreement.

## **7. Maintenance Agreement**

Beyond the fifteen year initial period, for all new subdivisions developed since 2006, and at the discretion of The City, The Community Association or benefiting property owners, shall enter into an Enhanced Maintenance and Infrastructure Agreement such as Optional Amenity Agreement, Special Tax Levies, etc., to pay for incremental costs of maintenance and energy. Refer to Section 382 of Division 5 Special Tax in the Municipal Government Act.

## **PROCEDURE**

This policy shall be administered by the Roads Business Unit as follows:

- The choices for coloured streetlight and traffic sign poles are restricted to standard colours.
- Poles replaced under a Local Improvement as described in #1 above, will be administered by Roads-Local Improvement Section. These types of local improvements must be petitioned for by the community and will not be initiated by The City.
- Poles provided in new subdivisions as described in #6 above will be administered by Roads-Subdivision and Development Section.
- Poles that are replaced as part of maintenance and repair as described in #2 and #6 above would be administered by:
  - Construction & Materials Division-Streetlight Section
  - Traffic Engineering Division-Sign Poles

## **AMENDMENTS**

None

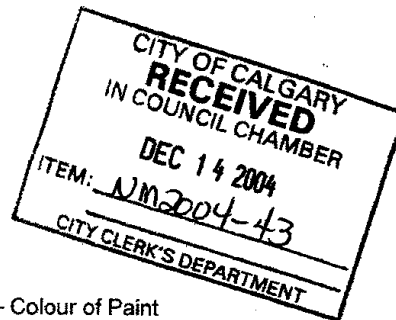
LPT2006-xx  
ATTACHMENT 1

**REVISED**

2004 December 13

ALDERMAN MADELEINE KING

Lamp Standards and Sign Poles – Colour of Paint



WHEREAS black powder coating is used for sign poles in areas of new development where requested and paid for by the area developer.

AND WHEREAS the majority of Mount Royal community has green lamp standards in place and has requested that new sign poles to be installed are consistent with current colour of green.

AND WHEREAS the community association has offered to cover the costs of accommodating this request.

AND WHEREAS the city is offering only aluminium poles at no cost or inconsistent black posts at a cost to the community association.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, at no cost to the city taxpayers the city provide light standards and sign poles consistent with the rest of Mount Royal community.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the City Administration be directed to develop a policy that any community new or old may obtain consistent colour lamp standards and sign poles, paying costs were appropriate, and that the Administration bring the proposed policy to council through the S.P.C. on Land Use, Planning and Transportation by March 31, 2005.