

Utility Cabinet Wraps

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

PART	ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT
SECTION	
SUB-SECTION	

General

Wrapping utility cabinets with artwork is a method commonly used in urban areas to add character and increase the visual appeal of roadways. It also has a secondary benefit of protecting the utility cabinet from graffiti and other damage.

Utility cabinet wraps are made of a durable material (usually vinyl) that is measured and cut to fit the dimensions of the cabinet. The artwork is printed on the wrap prior to installation on the cabinet.

Painting of utility cabinets on provincial highways is not permitted.

Guidelines for Use

Wrapping of utility cabinets within provincial highway rights-of-way can be considered if the utility cabinet is located within an urban area and is owned by the department.

If the utility cabinet is not owned by the department, wrapping can be considered as long as the municipality receives written consent from the cabinet owner. The municipality must include the written consent in their application to the department.

The proposed artwork must be appropriate for the public space. It should not contain any of the following:

- Sensitive imagery or text (for ex. violence or smoking)
- Advertisements for businesses or campaigns
- Imagery that resembles a traffic control device

Text may be permitted on the wrap as long as the wording would not distract motorists due its placement or size.

Application Process

Any municipality can apply to wrap utility cabinets that are located within their boundaries. The municipality should send a letter of application to the relevant Alberta Transportation district office. The letter should include the proposed artwork, utility cabinet location and the material specifications of the wrap.

A map of the districts as well as the office contact information can be found at the following link:

http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/4450.ht m

After review of the application, Alberta Transportation will issue a Letter of Approval that allows the utility cabinet to be wrapped.

Maintenance and Installation

The municipality shall fabricate, install and maintain utility wraps. This includes the replacement of utility cabinet wraps due to vandalism or age-related wear like the fading of images. The cost of these tasks will be the responsibility of the municipality.

References to Standards

N/A