

	DECORATIVE FEATURES ON STREET LIGHT AND SIGNAL POLES		<i>Issued: JUN 2007</i>
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RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT	
	SECTION		
	SUB-SECTION		

General

In an effort to enhance/promote character, spirit and community visual appeal, urban municipalities may seek to utilize signal and street lighting poles for decorative features.

Common decorative features include silhouettes (cut-outs), hanging flower baskets, and Christmas decorations.

The department generally discourages the installation of decorative features on signal and street lighting poles along provincial highways to maintain a roadway landscape with a minimum of unnecessary signage and other features competing for driver attention. Roadside clutter can result in safety issues when drivers are overwhelmed / distracted.

Guidelines for Use

Decorative features may only be allowed on poles within the highway right-of-way if all of the following criteria are met:

- The department owns the street lighting or signal poles on which the decorative feature is proposed;
- The poles are specifically designed to handle the additional load, or the decorative feature is incorporated into the design of the pole;
- Each silhouette is less than 1.5 m²
- Decorative features are spaced a minimum of 150 metres apart on each side of the highway; and

- The decorative features do not, in the opinion of the department, create a distraction to motorists or create perceived visual clutter.

In the event that the department does not own the lighting/signal poles affected by the proposed decorative features, but all other criteria are met, decorative features may be allowed if the municipality receives the written consent of the pole owner(s).

Live hanging flower baskets are strongly discouraged because the necessary maintenance could repeatedly interfere with roadway operation and affect safety. Hanging flower baskets shall not be approved at locations where vehicles for watering and other maintenance cannot safely park on the shoulder completely clear of the adjacent travel lanes.

Municipalities wishing to install decorative features along a provincial highway through their jurisdiction must submit an application to one of the Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices in order to have them approved.

A listing of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices and an example of the required application is provided at the following website:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType329/Production/distaddress.pdf>

After reviewing an application, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation will issue a Letter of Approval allowing for the placement of decorative features within the highway right-of-way.

Installation and Maintenance

The requirements for fabricating, installing and maintaining decorative features on street light or signal poles are the same as for private signs, and are outlined in the Recommended Practices guideline entitled General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way.

All costs associated with fabricating, installing and maintaining decorative features will be the responsibility of the applicant.

References to Standards

<p>Recommended Practices, Section: General</p>	<p>General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way</p>
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