

**Street Lighting and Overhead Wiring
Central Business District**

**City of Knoxville
Civil Engineering Division**

City planning groups have made long-range projections of where it would be desirable for future development to take place in the Central Business District. For the sake of this policy, the Central Business District is generally defined as World's Fair Park on the west, the Tennessee River on the south, the Coliseum area on the east, and the Norfolk Southern Railroad right-of-way on the north (plus Gay Street northward to Magnolia). The attached map (below) provides the specific boundaries which includes the entire right-of-way for each of the boundary streets. Planning between the City of Knoxville Engineering Department and the various utility companies should be developed to accommodate utility facilities. Utility drawings must include clear and concise instructions for underground installation.

Utility companies are required to use existing underground facilities or alleys in the Central Business District, thereby eliminating all overhead wiring to improve the aesthetics and safety of the area.

Street Lights

1. **ALL** street light additions or replacements shall be in accordance with the approved STREET LIGHT PLAN (e.g. do not add any new cobraheads). Even if only one cobrahead is proposed, that will mean one additional street light for the City of Knoxville to replace at a later time.
2. Cobraheads on wooden or other utilitarian poles may be installed as part of the Asentry@ program, but only on **private property**.

Overhead Wiring

1. All new or upgraded street lights should be fed through underground wiring **ONLY**.
2. **NO** new overhead wire should be added (or replaced in the event of non-emergency repair) in the Central Business District area, except with the express written consent of the Director of Engineering. The exception will be granted only in cases where underground connection presents an extreme hardship **AND** where a reasonable alternative is proposed that does not detract from the visual quality of the area (such as running overhead wire service along an alley).
3. Installation of conduit or other equipment required to provide underground service should be done in accordance with the policies related to the repair of utility cuts (such as the Construction Notes, Standard Detail for Trench Cut Repair, and Knoxville City Code Sections 23-71 through 23-83, etc).

Any exceptions or variances from this policy must be approved in writing by the Director of Engineering prior to the beginning of work. Failure to secure prior approval will result in costly corrections being required after the fact, at the expense of the responsible contractor and/or utility company.

