

SUMTER COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS

1289 North Main Street
Sumter, SC 29153

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Policy and Procedures for Sumter County Street Lights



SEPTEMBER 2008

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DEFINITIONS

Except where specifically defined herein, all words shall carry their customary meanings.

PRIVATE ROAD- A road that does not serve a public purpose, does not meet county specifications and has not been accepted into the County or State Road System.

PUBLIC ROAD – A road that has been accepted and maintained by the county or state.

PUBLIC STREET INTERSECTION – A county/state maintained road that intersects with another county/state maintained road.

POLICY

This policy sets out the evaluation procedure by which all requests for street lighting will be processed in Sumter County. The intent of the policy is to evaluate all requests as to the need for lighting of public street intersections within Sumter County to ensure the safety of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Although consideration is given to the crime rate of the area, it is not a major factor for determining the installation of a street light. Sumter County will not install street lights in subdivisions. (See "Street Lights in Subdivisions.") Security lighting is the responsibility of the effected property owner.

Roadway lighting varies throughout the County. Some areas have little or no street lighting and provide a rural country atmosphere. Street lights are not intended as security lighting, although homes which border closely to the street sometimes benefit from the illumination of that side of the house fronting on the street. If the homeowner requires additional security lighting, it would be necessary to install those privately. County and private road intersection lighting is the responsibility of the owners of the private road.

Sumter County's installation of new street lights is contingent on available funds.

Evaluation:

Each request will be logged into a street light ledger with the appropriate information and will be evaluated based on office and field research. (Please see "Worksheet for Street Light Evaluation.") The evaluation will be documented and calculated on the standard evaluation form by the Public Works Department. A copy of your evaluation will be available upon request. If your request is denied and you still wish to pursue a dusk to dawn light, you can contact your local utility provider for further assistance.

Approval and Installation Schedule:

The process for evaluating the numerous requests and installing approved lights will normally take several months with time allowances given as follows:

Evaluation:	2- 4 Weeks
Installation:	30 Days – 6 months (depending upon available funds)

Street Light Removal:

If the light is not required for vehicular and pedestrian safety and 100% of all affected property owners agree, then they must submit a petition for removal. Cost for removal will be the responsibility of the petitioners.

STREET LIGHTS IN SUBDIVISIONS

Existing Subdivisions:

Street lights in existing subdivisions are the responsibility of the individual property owners. The individual property owners will be financially responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of the streetlight(s).

New Subdivisions:

Developers will be required to install a streetlight at the intersection of any new road(s) that intersects with an existing public road. The developer and/or the homeowners will be financially responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of the streetlight(s).

PROCEDURES

Application:

Any person requesting a street light shall do so by completing the Sumter County Street Light Request Form (located on next page) or by writing to:

Sumter County Public Works
1289 North Main Street
Sumter, SC 29153
(Email: publicworks@sumtercountysc.org)

SUMTER COUNTY STREET LIGHT REQUEST FORM



Sumter County Public Works

1289 North Main Street, Sumter, SC 29153

Phone #: (803) 436-2242 Fax #: (803) 436-2245

The following is a request for a street light in Sumter County. The request will be processed according to the procedures detailed in the Street Light Requests and Procedures section of the Procedures and Policies for Sumter County Roads.

Street Light Study Information

Each request must provide the name of the public street intersection. Each request must provide a contact person. The contact person will receive all related correspondence to the request by mail.

Date: _____, 20__

Requested Intersection:

_____ which intersects at _____
(Road Name 1) (Road Name 2)

Contact Information:

Name: _____
First MI Last

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email address (optional): _____

Internal Use Only Below this Line

Date Received: _____, 20__ Evaluation Rating: _____

Date Presented to Sumter County Council Public Works Committee: _____, 20__

Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Reason Denied or Approved:

County Representative: _____ Date: _____, 20__

WORKSHEET FOR STREETLIGHT EVALUATION

(For Public Works Use Only)

Name of Intersection: _____ at _____
(Road 1) (Road 2)

	Points
1. Accidents: Night Time Accident Rates (in a year time frame) 1 accident / 5 points 2 accidents / 10 points 3 accidents / 15 points ≥ 4 accidents / 20 points	_____
2. Speed Limit < 35 mph / 5 points 35 - 45 mph / 10 points > 45 mph / 20 points	_____
3. Intersection of road within a curve or sharp corner: Yes / 25 points	_____
4. Grade on Approach Street (valley or hill) 1- 5 % / 5 points 5-10 % / 10 points > 10 % / 20 points	_____
5. School Bus Stop Yes / 5 points	_____
6. Street Light Requested by School District Yes / 10 points	_____
Total Points	_____

Results of Evaluation:

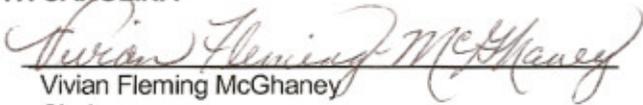
- A. If your request scores 45 points or greater on the evaluation form, Sumter County will forward your request to the appropriate utility company for installation once funds are allocated. Sumter County Council determines the yearly allocation of funds for street light installation.

- B. If your request scores between 30 and 44 points, you may request Sumter County Council Public Works Committee to review your application for a street light. The request must be made in writing and you can mail your request to the Clerk to County Council for scheduling.

- C. If your request scores below 30 points, the street light will not be installed by Sumter County.

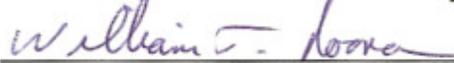
Passed, approved, and adopted on September 9th, 2008, during County Council's regular meeting held on aforementioned date.

**THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR SUMTER COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA**

BY: 
Vivian Fleming McGhaney

ITS: Chairwoman

Under The Governance Of the County Administrator


William T. Noonan or His Designee

ATTEST:


BY: Mary W. Blanding
ITS: Clerk to County Council