Chapter 136-40 WAC
STANDARDS OF GOOD PRACTICE—ACCOMMODATION OF UTILITIES ON COUNTY ROADS

WAC 136-40-010 Purpose and authority.  
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DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

136-40-050 Updates, amendments, and modifications.  [Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070. WSR 90-22-081 (Order 80), § 136-40-050, filed 11/6/90, effective 12/7/90.] Repealed by WSR 96-17-013, filed 8/12/96, effective 9/12/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070 and 36.79.060.  
136-40-060 Conflicts with state and federal requirements.  [Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070. WSR 90-22-081 (Order 80), § 136-40-060, filed 11/6/90, effective 12/7/90.] Repealed by WSR 96-17-013, filed 8/12/96, effective 9/12/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070 and 36.79.060.  

(12/7/98)
WAC 136-40-010 Purpose and authority. RCW 36.78.070(1) authorizes the county road administration board to establish standards of good practice for the administration of county roads and the efficient movement of people and goods over county roads. The purpose of this standard of good practice is to set forth the requirement that each county provide for the accommodation of utilities within its right of way. In order to effectively administer its authority to:

1. Grant utility franchises and permits on county roads as provided in chapter 36.55 RCW;

2. Exercise overall responsibility for county roads and bridges as provided in chapter 36.75 RCW; and

3. Exercise its police power; each county legislative authority shall adopt a generally applicable written policy ("utility policy") to provide administrative, procedural, and technical guidance for the installation, replacement, adjustment, relocation, maintenance of all above and below ground utilities and other transmission or transport facilities located within all county road rights of way.

WAC 136-40-020 Contents. Each utility policy shall, at a minimum:

1. Address all public and private utilities and other transmission or transport facilities which are installed, replaced, adjusted, relocated and/or maintained within the county road right of way pursuant to franchises, permits, and/or exemptions from the permit process including but not limited to electric power, telephone, television, telegraph, communication, water, gas, all petroleum products, steam, chemicals, sewage, drainage, and irrigation;

2. Include general standards and requirements for the location, design, and construction of each utility;

3. Incorporate a written permit process for all utility work not exempted by the provisions of the utility policy, and specify exemptions from such permit process, if any;

4. Include specific requirements for underground utilities which shall include location and alignment, depth of burial and cover, encasement, marking, appurtenances and related installation procedures;

5. Include specific requirements for above ground utilities which shall include location and alignment and vertical clearances;

6. Include specific requirements for all utilities which shall include aesthetic/scenic considerations, installations on roadway bridges and structures, site restoration and cleanup, traffic control and public safety, and both normal and emergency repairs.

The county road administration board shall, upon request, provide any county a copy of a model utility policy. The model utility policy will meet the minimum requirements of this chapter and may be amended as necessary to meet the specific needs of a county.

WAC 136-40-030 Adoption and submittal. Each county legislative authority shall formally adopt a utility policy regarding accommodation of utilities on county road rights of way that includes all the requirements enumerated in WAC 136-40-020. A copy of such utility policy, including all updates, amendments and modifications as they may from time to time become necessary, shall be forwarded to the
county road administration board within thirty days of adoption.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070 and 36.79.060. WSR 96-17-013, §
136-40-030, filed 8/12/96, effective 9/12/96. Statutory Authority: RCW
36.78.070, WSR 91-21-137 (Order 84), § 136-40-030, filed 10/23/91, effec-
tive 11/23/91; WSR 90-22-081 (Order 80), § 136-40-030, filed 11/6/90,
effective 12/7/90; Order 18, § 136-40-030, filed 7/22/71.]

WAC 136-40-040 Conflicts with state and federal requirements. Nothing in this section shall eliminate or modify any requirements, procedures, or authorities of the Washington state department of transportation, the Washington utilities and transportation commission, the Federal Highway Administration or any other state or federal agency.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.78.070 and 36.79.060. WSR 96-17-013, §
136-40-040, filed 8/12/96, effective 9/12/96. Statutory Authority: RCW
36.78.070, WSR 90-22-081 (Order 80), § 136-40-040, filed 11/6/90, effec-
tive 12/7/90; Order 18, § 136-40-040, filed 7/22/71.]