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Jeff Chedester
Council Members
Ray Madrigal
Eddie Neal
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**Maintenance &
Fleet Divisions**

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Staff Report

ITEM SS-3

To: Lemoore City Council

From: Joe Simonson, Parks and Recreation Director

Date: February 24, 2015 **Meeting Date:** March 3, 2015

Subject: Proposed New Street Light Pole Standards

Discussion:

At the February 17th Council Meeting, Council Member Madrigal requested a review of the process the City currently uses in replacing damaged and missing street light poles.

The City currently does not have a firm policy and procedure as it pertains to streetlight replacement. Historically if a pole was knocked down due to an auto accident a police report was taken, if the insurance collected was sufficient to replace the pole, it was replaced. If the pole was metal and simply rotted out over time, there was no funding source made available to replace those poles. Current staff agrees with Council Member Madrigal that waiting potentially two or more years to have a streetlight replaced is not only unacceptable but possibly dangerous.

The City while dealing with the budget shortfalls of 2010, the Parks, Streets and Buildings Departments were merged together and renamed the Maintenance Division. At that time, there were three full time and two part time employees in Streets. Within three months, most street employees had transferred to other departments and the remaining part-time left employment within eight months. With the hiring freeze at that time, those positions were never filled. All of the street responsibilities which include crack filling, tree trimming, ballast and bulb replacement, street banners, downtown Christmas decorations, weed abatement along city streets, street sign maintenance, cross walk and other street striping, pothole filling, traffic signal maintenance, traffic counts, as well as working on bids, reports and different cleanups as necessary as now the responsibility of the employees that historically took care of Parks and Buildings and currently the golf course. The Superintendent of this department, Ray Greenlee is currently working in the field eighty percent of the time rather than the needed administrative work due to the department being understaffed. Unfortunately, citizens cannot enjoy an acceptable level of service without the proper funding.

Prior to the merger of the Street Department with Buildings and Parks, one or two poles were budgeted each year for uninsured damage. After the “no funding” period of 2010-2013, minimal funding was restored for a portion of the necessary poles (see Attachment C) but not for the employees. Some poles on this list may not need to be replaced as lighting in areas have changed over the years (for example #3 and #9 on the list).

There are nearly two thousand street lights in Lemoore with some being completely owned by the City but the majority are jointly owned and operated by PG&E and the City. Additionally, the City may own the pole but not the wire or head or PG&E may own the pole and the City owns the wire and so on. This adds a layer of confusion to not only the citizens, but also to City employees, who must do arduous research on which entity’s responsibility it is for each pole or light that is out. With the reduction in resources dedicated to the Street department, this has been a very low priority. In my discussions with Public Works Director David Wlaschin concerning the history of the streetlights, it is apparent that there is no rhyme or reason how we arrived at this convoluted mess. Public Works Director David Wlaschin will be available to answer any historical questions you may have.

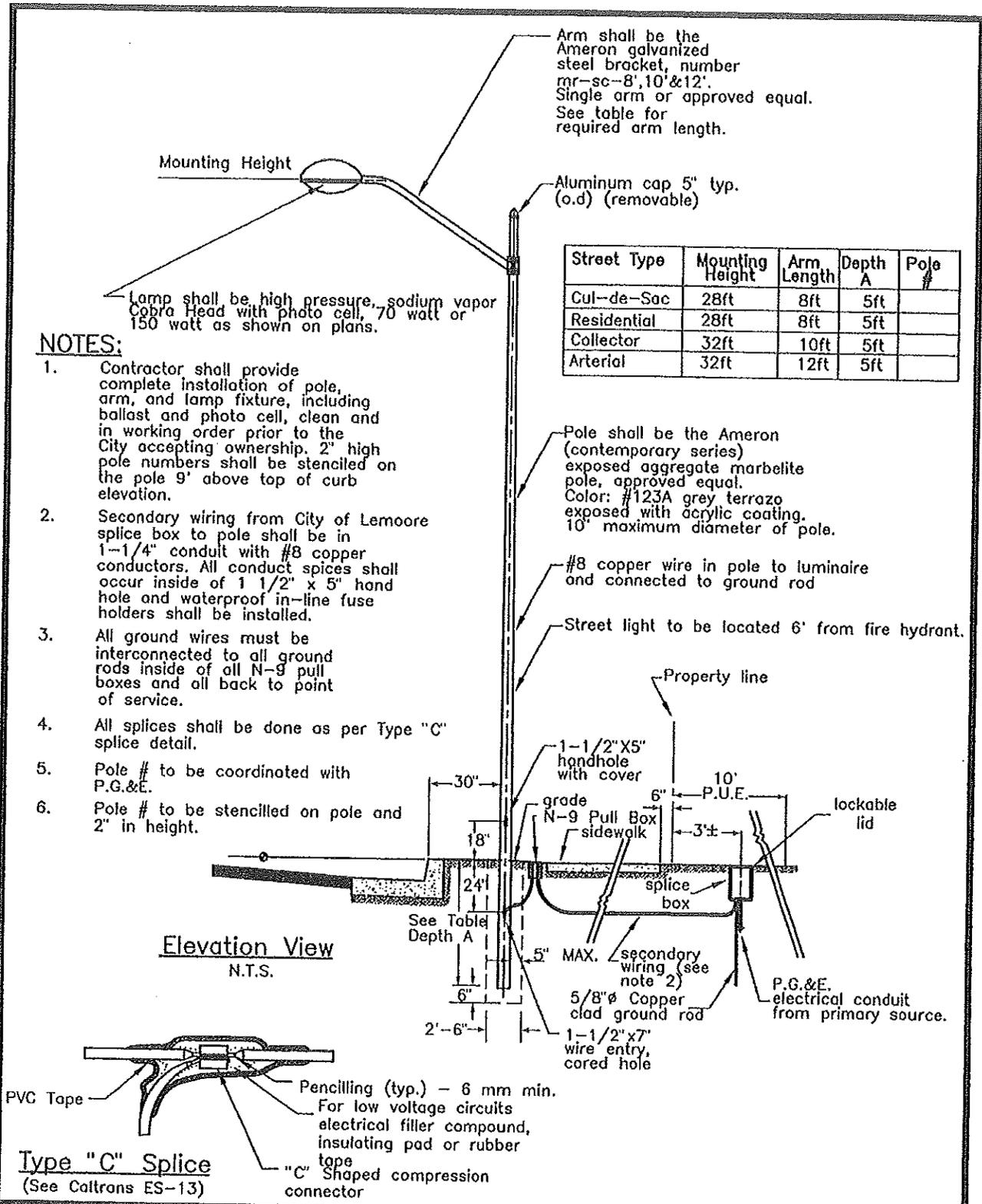
How do we fix this moving forward? Staff agrees with Council Member Madrigal that it would be optimal to have one pole of each type on the shelf ready to go. Unfortunately, that is not practical due to the cost and lack of storage space. Of the thirteen poles that are currently down, five of them are of different sizes and configurations. Most of our current poles are direct burial (see Attachment A) which vary in height and the size of the arms and style. This is an installation method that is nearly obsolete and requires more labor to replace when necessary. A more practical solution is to standardize the replacement of all future poles (including the current damaged poles) minimizing the need for such a large variety of inventory. The four bolt system (Attachment B) is far easier to replace and does less damage to the surrounding area when replacement is required. If the City Council accepts staff’s recommendations to adopt this as the new City standard, the City could then inventory just two types of poles and heads, which moving forward will handle nearly all of the poles. Through attrition, the poles will be standardized and citizen’s frustration should be minimized.

Budget Impact:

There are currently thirteen poles that need to be replaced. Including new footings and energy efficient LED lights, the estimated cost is \$80,550. An additional \$7,500 per pole would be needed for requested inventory and installation which would require an additional \$30,000. There is a budgeted amount of \$40,000 currently to handle the needed \$110,550. Gas Tax was the funding source in the past for the Street Department. The current maintenance employees track their time when working on Street duties. The transfer in this budget cycle was \$230,026 into the General Fund. After encumbering current street projects, there will be an approximate balance of \$527,583 that could be utilized to provide additional staffing. There is currently \$900,000 available in Asset Replacement to fund street light replacement.

Recommendation:

For Council discussion and direction. Should the City Council approve of the new City standard for the M-2 poles which is included in the Public Works Standards, currently under review by Quad Knopf, the Maintenance staff would apply the current \$40,000 of funding for replacing some of the poles using the new M-2 standard. City Council could then address the \$70,550 needed to replace the remaining poles and have an inventory on hand during the upcoming budget and evaluate replacing two of the formerly unfilled positions in the 2015-16 Budget.



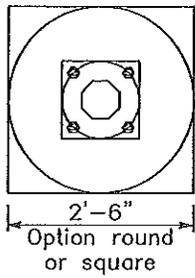
STREET LIGHT

Rev.

Date: 10/1/03

Harry A. Row
City Engineer

**STD.
NO.
M-2**



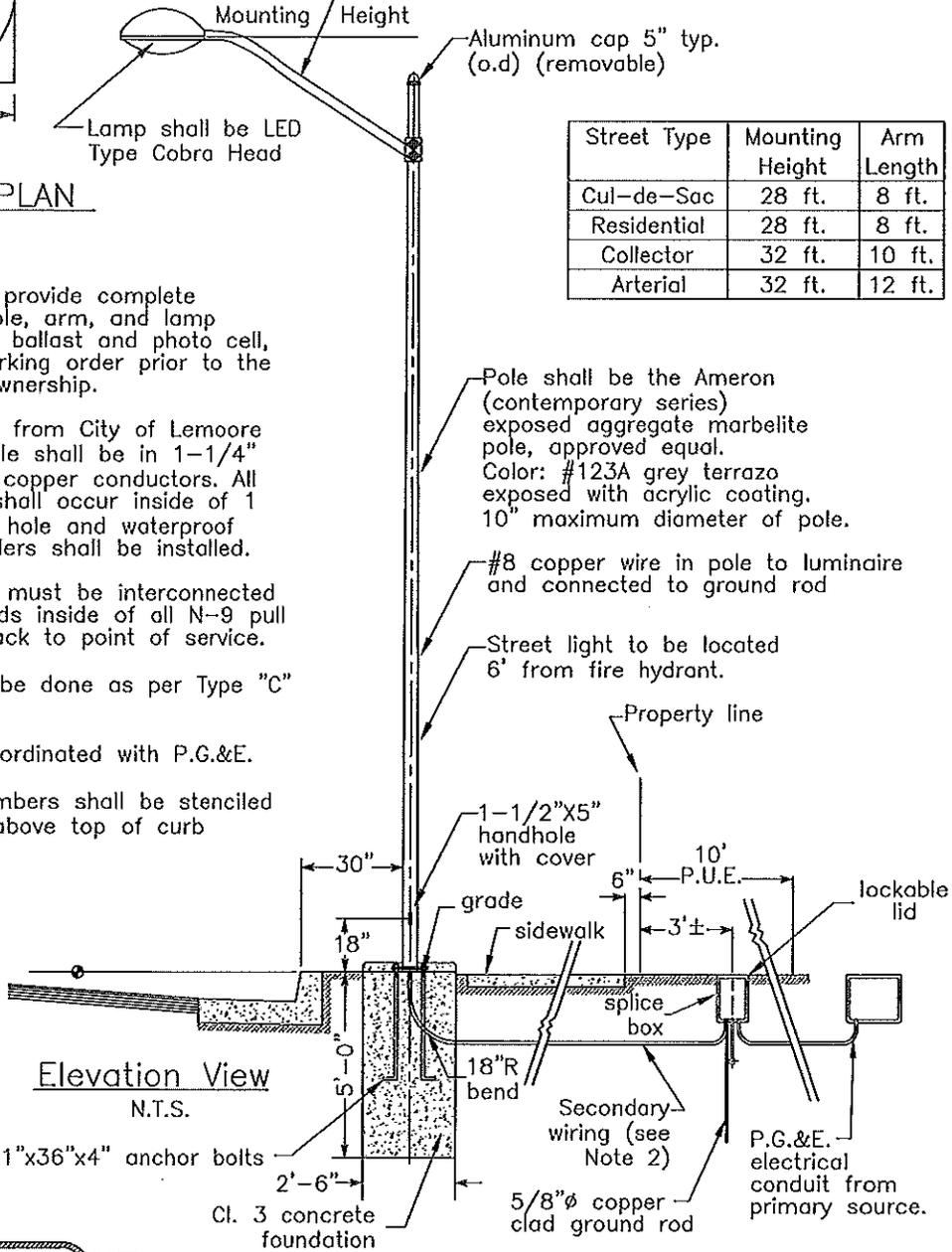
FOUNDATION PLAN

NOTES:

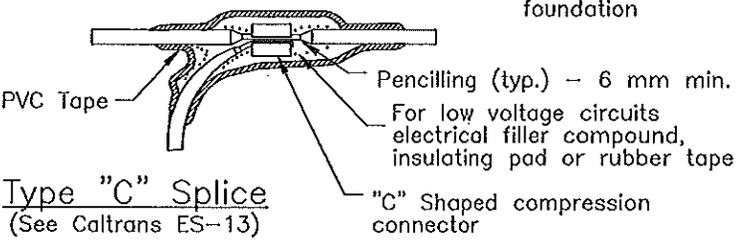
1. Contractor shall provide complete installation of pole, arm, and lamp fixture, including ballast and photo cell, clean and in working order prior to the City accepting ownership.
2. Secondary wiring from City of Lemoore splice box to pole shall be in 1-1/4" conduit with #8 copper conductors. All conduct splices shall occur inside of 1 1/2" x 5" hand hole and waterproof in-line fuse holders shall be installed.
3. All ground wires must be interconnected to all ground rods inside of all N-9 pull boxes and all back to point of service.
4. All splices shall be done as per Type "C" splice detail.
5. Pole # to be coordinated with P.G.&E.
6. 2" high pole numbers shall be stenciled on the pole 9' above top of curb elevation.

Arm shall be the Ameron galvanized steel bracket, number mr-sc-8', 10' & 12'. Single arm or approved equal. See table for required arm length.

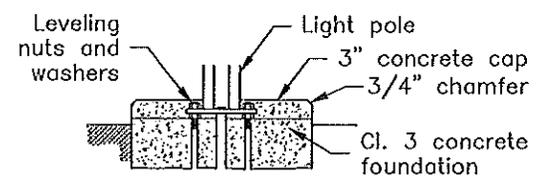
Street Type	Mounting Height	Arm Length
Cul-de-Sac	28 ft.	8 ft.
Residential	28 ft.	8 ft.
Collector	32 ft.	10 ft.
Arterial	32 ft.	12 ft.



Elevation View
N.T.S.



Type "C" Splice
(See Caltrans ES-13)



CONCRETE CAP DETAIL

STREET LIGHT

Date: _____

Rev.

City Engineer

**STD.
NO.
M-2**

Street Light Poles Replacement List 2014

1. Cinnamon Dr @ Pepper
2. Fox Street @ Fallenleaf SWC
3. Fox Street @ W. Hfd. Arm Rd. Center Divider
4. West Hfd.-Arm Rd near Hwy 41 (across from field road)
5. West Hfd-Arm Rd. near Bennington (Trailer Park)
6. 54 W. Deodar Lane (in curve near cemetery off Spruce)
7. East Cinnamon Drive @ Olympics
8. Lemoore Avenue @ Alley Between "D" and "E" Streets
9. Lemoore Avenue near Washington Street
10. 669 Cabrillo (off Iona @ Vine St)
11. Lemoore Avenue @ Golf Links Drive
12. 61 Acacia Drive (north of Bush Street)
13. Newbridge and Hemlock