



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING DIVISION

100 Civic Center Drive | P.O. Box 1768 | Newport Beach, CA 92658-8915
www.newportbeachca.gov | (949) 644-3200

Requirements for Underground Electric Service Laterals

Please be advised of the following requirements that have been established for undergrounding existing overhead electrical service lines:

1. Contact the Building Inspector in your area by calling (949) 644-3200 and ask to speak to the Building Inspector in your area. He will arrange to come out and fill out the underground checklist (sample attached).
2. With the checklist in hand, come to the building counter and obtain an electrical permit for each residence involved in the undergrounding project. (Fee for basic conversion is approximately \$70.00).
3. The electrical permit must be obtained by either a state licensed electrical contractor (C-10), or the homeowner who assumes the responsibility of hiring a licensed person or firm or does the work personally.
4. State law requires that proper workman's compensation is provided in case of injury to anyone working on the job site and that the contractor or homeowner carries liability insurance.
5. Depending upon the exact location of the utility trench on the property, a compaction test and field report by a soils engineer will be required if the trench impacts the footings of the house, garage, block walls or other structures and improvements. Backfilling with a lean concrete sand mix (1 sack per cubic yard) will waive this requirement. Compaction testing requirements will be determined by the Building Inspector. Proper compaction and testing of excavation backfill will avoid settlement or structural damage.
6. Inspection of all electrical services will be performed to verify:
 - a) Type and depth of conduit leading to the meter and panel location
 - b) Proper grounding of the service
 - c) Proper bonding to the cold water pipes
 - d) Safe wiring inside of the service panel (existing and new)
 - e) Existing working space clearance to front of the meter panel (National Electrical Code requires 36 inches)

It is the Building Division's objective to minimize costs for home owners while still providing a safe installation. Please call (949) 644-3200 for more information.