

The City of Mesa Overhead Utilities Guidelines

All existing Overhead Utilities (twelve (12kv) kilovolt and less), in the rights-of-way of arterial, section, mid-section and/or collector streets, adjacent to developing properties, shall be relocated underground. This requirement shall apply to all utilities including electric distribution lines, electric service lines, telephone cables and lines and lines for other communication systems such as cable-transmitted television. The underground installation shall comply with all utility company's requirements.

Mesa recognizes that the cost of relocating overhead utility underground may be prohibitive for certain projects and has established criteria staff will use to cause an exception to the requirement. A developer may request a project be exempted from the undergrounding requirement if it meets either of the conditions outlined below:

- 1) The cost of undergrounding the overhead power lines is at least thirty (30) per cent of the valuation of the project based on the valuation methodology used in the adopted building code for assessing building permit fees, or
- 2) If less than fifty (50) per cent of the frontage of properties within the property's reach (reach being a one mile section from arterial street to arterial street) has been previously undergrounded, or
- 3) If the site is to be developed for residential use with the maximum number of dwelling units being three.

A written request for consideration, with documentation of compliance, shall be provided at the time of construction document submittal to the City of Mesa Building Safety Division. All developers are required to have their architect or engineer certify that a specific site is exempted from the standard requirement to underground overhead power lines. Said certification must clearly identify which specific exemption criteria(s) apply and must be provided on the architect's or engineer's letterhead (with their professional seal affixed).