

# Onondaga County Department of Transportation

## Policy for New & Relocated Utilities

**The criteria used to determine the acceptability of a new or relocated above ground utility location are as follows:**

1. A minimum of 10' (3.0m) from the edge of pavement or 4' (1.2m) from the edge of the shoulder, to the roadside face of the appurtenance, whichever is greater.
2. If in an open ditch section, the entire appurtenance shall be located in the back slope of the ditch.
3. If in a fill section, the appurtenance may be located in the fill slope, but must meet any other applicable offset required.
4. If in an area having guide rail, the appurtenance shall be located a minimum of 8' (2.4m) behind corrugated beam guide rail or 6' (1.8m) behind box beam guide rail.
5. If in a curbed area, the roadside face of the appurtenance shall be a minimum of 2' (0.6m) behind the curbing.
6. If in an area with a sidewalk, the roadside face of the appurtenance shall be a minimum of 1' (0.3m) behind the sidewalk.

**The following apply to new or relocated underground utilities:**

1. Utility lines running along the road shall be relocated beyond the shoulder, or curbing, if applicable. In closed drainage system areas, the utility shall be relocated beyond the pipes and structures. In open ditch sections, the utility shall be relocated in the backslope of the ditch, or beyond.
2. Utility lines crossing the road shall be driven in such a manner as to not disturb the pavement and shall be enclosed in sleeves whenever possible.
3. It is a requirement of Onondaga County DOT that all utilities installed within the Right of Way are to be located 5' (60") minimum below the surface of the road and 3' (36") minimum below all drainage structures, storm pipes, and ditches.

These policies are subject to change on a project-by-project, or case by case, basis.

### **Definitions:**

- Edge of Pavement = edge of travel lane, fog line, white pavement stripe
- Edge of Shoulder = outside edge of the asphalt pavement
- Existing utility or facility = any new wire, conduit, cable, utility pole, guy wire, pullbox or appurtenances, etc. currently installed.
- New utility or facility = any new wire, conduit, cable, utility pole, guy wire, pullbox or appurtenances, etc. placed/installed, even if it is replacing an existing utility of facility.
- Maintenance = any repair to an existing utility or facility that does not require a new installation.