

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

In 2010, the Abu Dhabi Department of Transport (the Owner) commenced with the Unifying and Standardizing of Road Engineering Practices Project (the Project) with the objective to enhance the management, planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of all roads and related infrastructures in the Emirate and to ensure a safe and uniform operational and structural capacity throughout the road network.

To achieve this objective, the Owner developed a set of standards, specifications, guidelines, and manuals in consultation with all relevant authorities within the Abu Dhabi Emirate, including the Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA) and Urban Planning Council (UPC). In the future, all authorities, agencies, clients, and the Owner responsible for the development and/or implementation of roads and road infrastructures within the Emirate shall exercise their functions and responsibilities in accordance with these documents. Each document clearly indicates the purpose, scope, and applicability of these functions and responsibilities.

It is recognised that there are already published documents with similar objectives and contents prepared by other authorities. Each new document mentions these related documents; however, their publication supersedes the existing publication, except in cases where previously published documents are recognised and referenced in the new document..

1.2 Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this manual is to:

- collate and compile the best practices and design standards for utilities corridors, and
- guidelines to obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC).

The compiled information is to be adopted while developing certain design details related to the distribution and placement of utilities. Whereas, the NOC related guidelines provide details regarding NOC procedures and requirements within the government authorities including Abu Dhabi Department of Transport (DoT).

The manual is developed in the interests of safety, protection, utilization, and future development of roads with due consideration given to adequate and economical utility installations. Furthermore, the prescribed design standards do not impair the road or its aesthetic quality, and also do not conflict with the provisions detailed in the UAE Laws or Regulations.

The scope of this manual is confined to the design details of the utilities that are located within Right of Way (ROW) corridors reserved along the Main roads that fall under the domain of DoT. However, in certain instances, components of public transport infrastructure such as bus stops, metro lines and/or railway lines can also become part of the Main roads and share the same ROW.