

1.10 Standards vs. Guidelines

The design standards presented throughout this Manual are mandatory requirements for utility corridors design in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

- **Standard:**

Look for the words 'shall' or 'shall not', and 'must' or 'must not'. Also look for the words 'is required' or 'are required'.

- **Guideline:**

Look for the words 'should' or 'should not'. The words 'preferred', 'encouraged' or 'recommended' may also be used.

Prescribed options or optional treatments use the words 'may' or 'may not'.

1.11 Design Flexibility

The RoWs of the various streets illustrated in the UCDM (Chapter 5) represent the preferred typical arrangements for utility corridors allocation, in line with the typical street element widths defined in the USDm.

In addition, minimum cross sections are also provided for each Street Type indicating absolute minimum required RoW to facilitate utility corridors allocation. The total RoW, as developed using the USDm, shall not be less than these minimum sections.

Within these arrangements, utility corridors may be adjusted (e.g. making use of spare corridors or switching corridor location) in accordance with the limitations presented in the Manual.

Except for those conditions identified in the UCDM, the RoW of the streets shall not be increased based on increasing the utility corridor widths.

1.12 Manual Update

Updates from version 1.0 to 1.1 includes:

- Graphical enhancements to align with the USDm
- Refinement of the step-by-step utility corridor selection process
- Description of retrofitting expanded
- Provision of worked samples

The UCDM is considered a living document and will be updated as new data, experience with its application in Abu Dhabi and best practices from around the world become available.

Suggestions or comments may be sent to upc.ucdm@upc.gov.ae.



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