CHAPTER 11
PUBLIC FEATURES/STREETSCAPE DESIGN GUIDELINES

These design guidelines recognize the public streetscape area as any area between the front property line and the edge of pavement or face of curb. Design, construction, and maintenance of streetlights, paving, and street trees within this area are the responsibility of the City of Riverside. Groundcovers and irrigation systems are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Be sure to check with the Public Works Department before making alterations within the public streetscape area.

Riverside has many areas of unique curb and gutter, including granite curbs, cobblestone gutters, and curbs built by the Works Progress Administration. These are important parts of the City’s history and their preservation is of paramount importance. Likewise, sidewalk scoring is important to the historic character of a Historic District. Normally, scoring in 30” squares is common, however, historic patterns should be the determining factor when replacing or repairing sidewalks. Streetlights vary greatly from neighborhood to neighborhood. Each Historic District should identify the style or styles of streetlights appropriate to the District and establish policies regarding the preservation, repair, or replacement of these lights.

Guidelines

1) Property owners should choose parkway groundcovers to be consistent on a block-by-block basis. Typically parkways in urban historic areas are turfed.

2) Historic streetlights should retained and repaired by the City whenever possible.

3) The City should choose replacement streetlights to be similar to those existing historically or as approved for the Historic District.

4) When repairing/replacing sidewalks, the City should use materials, texture, color, and scoring to match historic sidewalks in the District.

5) Granite curbs and cobblestone gutters should never be removed. Unique curb designs and WPA curbs should be preserved whenever possible.