

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 17, 2002

TELECOMMUNICATION STREET FURNITURE PROPOSED USE OF SKY-CAST TRAFALGAR POLE

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, recommends:

1. That the use of the Sky-Cast Trafalgar pole for street lighting and telecommunications facilities be approved as pilot projects in new developments in Blocks 10 and 39.
2. That staff report on the pilot projects following completion and provide recommendations regarding further use of the Sky-Cast Trafalgar pole and on a policy regarding the use of telecommunications pedestals in new subdivisions.
3. A by-law be enacted to authorize the execution of an agreement between the City and various parties to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and the Director of Legal Services, dealing with any legal and financial matters.

Purpose

To seek Council's approval of the request by Metrus Developments to use the Trafalgar pole manufactured by Sky-Cast Inc., which is a street light pole, designed to incorporate telecommunications and telephone service providers in the base of each pole.

Background - Analysis and Options

In most residential subdivisions, above ground pedestals are required in the boulevards for telephone and cable television infrastructure. These pedestals are required in addition to other above ground fixtures such as transformers, switchgear, street light poles, fire hydrants, community mail boxes, signs, etc. With new forms of development, lots have become smaller, boulevards narrower and the streetscape becomes very cluttered with the required above ground fixtures. Conflict occurs between driveways and these fixtures and residents often object to the presence of above ground utilities in front of their homes.

Advances have been made in improving the streetscape in new subdivisions by attempting to locate large utility vaults adjacent to flankage lots, schools etc. Attempts have also been made to reduce the number of pedestals to service developments and in some subdivisions, underground pedestals have been used where feasible.

Metrus Development Inc. has submitted a request to install the Sky-Cast Trafalgar pole, which has an enlarged base enabling telecommunications carriers to install their hardware in a cabinet in the pole. With these utilities in the pole, most if not all of the telephone and cable television pedestals will be eliminated.

The benefits of the proposal are:

- improved streetscape by reducing above ground street furniture thereby reducing complaints about unsightly fixtures.
- reduced conflicts in locating street furniture on narrower boulevards in front of smaller frontage lots.
- damage to pedestals both during construction and afterwards is eliminated and hardware is not as susceptible to vandalism.
- locating and accessing panels is easier compared to buried pedestals.

Attachment No 1 provides details of the Sky-Cast product.

The Town of Markham and the City of Brampton have both approved the use of this product for pilot projects in new developments.

Vaughan Engineering Department staff have reviewed the proposal and circulated other City Departments and Hydro Vaughan for comments. Staff also visited the pilot project in Brampton for a first hand look at the product in place.

The pole has been inspected and approved by the Electrical Safety Authority for use in Ontario. Comments from other City Departments on the proposal have been positive. Hydro Vaughan has noted that the pole is equipped with a separate compartment for Hydro and is being developed with input from Bell and Cable T.V. suppliers. Bell, Cable T.V. and the street light circuit are routinely co-located in standard installations and the use of the Sky-Cast pole should have no impact in this area. Hydro Vaughan noted that the use of the Sky-Cast pole will not impact their current operations. They noted that beginning in 2003, the ESA will require a disconnect for street light supply circuits for all street light applications. Hydro Vaughan is currently investigating ways to meet this requirement. An Agreement between the City and Metrus and Bell/ Rogers/ Futureway/ any other telecommunications provider, would have to be developed to deal with any legal and financial matters.

Resolution of these issues is underway and would be finalized before installation of the poles, in the Block 10 and 39 developments. The exact limits of the areas subject to the pilot projects will be developed through discussions between the City Engineering Department and the Block developers.

Conclusion

Use of the Sky-Cast Trafalgar pole will substantially improve the streetscape in new residential developments. Subject to resolution of any outstanding technical, financial and legal issues, it is recommended that the Sky-Cast Trafalgar pole be approved for use in subdivisions in Blocks 10 and 39 as pilot projects. Staff will report further on the experience, following installation.

Attachments

1. Sky-Cast product details.

Report prepared by:

Bill Robinson, Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng.
Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

TELECOMMUNICATION STREET FURNITURE

Metrus Development Inc.
In association with
Futureway Communications Inc
and Sky Cast Inc..
is setting a new standard for
telecommunication street furniture
in the neighbourhoods of the new millenium.

CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE FOREVER



OCTOBER 2001



The current practice is to install Telephone and Cable T.V. service in pedestals cluttering the front lawn / streetscape appearance.

These are placed with only ease of service in mind, and are visually uncoordinated.

This creates an eyesore and potential maintenance issues.



TYPICAL SERVICE PEDISTAL STYLE STREETScape - *SHOWING CLUTTER OF SITE SERVICES*





Our New Technology used in the streetscapes shown will eliminate freestanding aboveground pedestals and provide fiber optic cable directly to new homes.

It has been designed to meet the needs of Futureway Communications, and associated cable companies, while providing an ordered and pleasing appearance. Creating a positive streetscape experience in the community.



NEW TECHNOLOGY STREETScape - *SHOWING IMPROVED FRONT YARD*





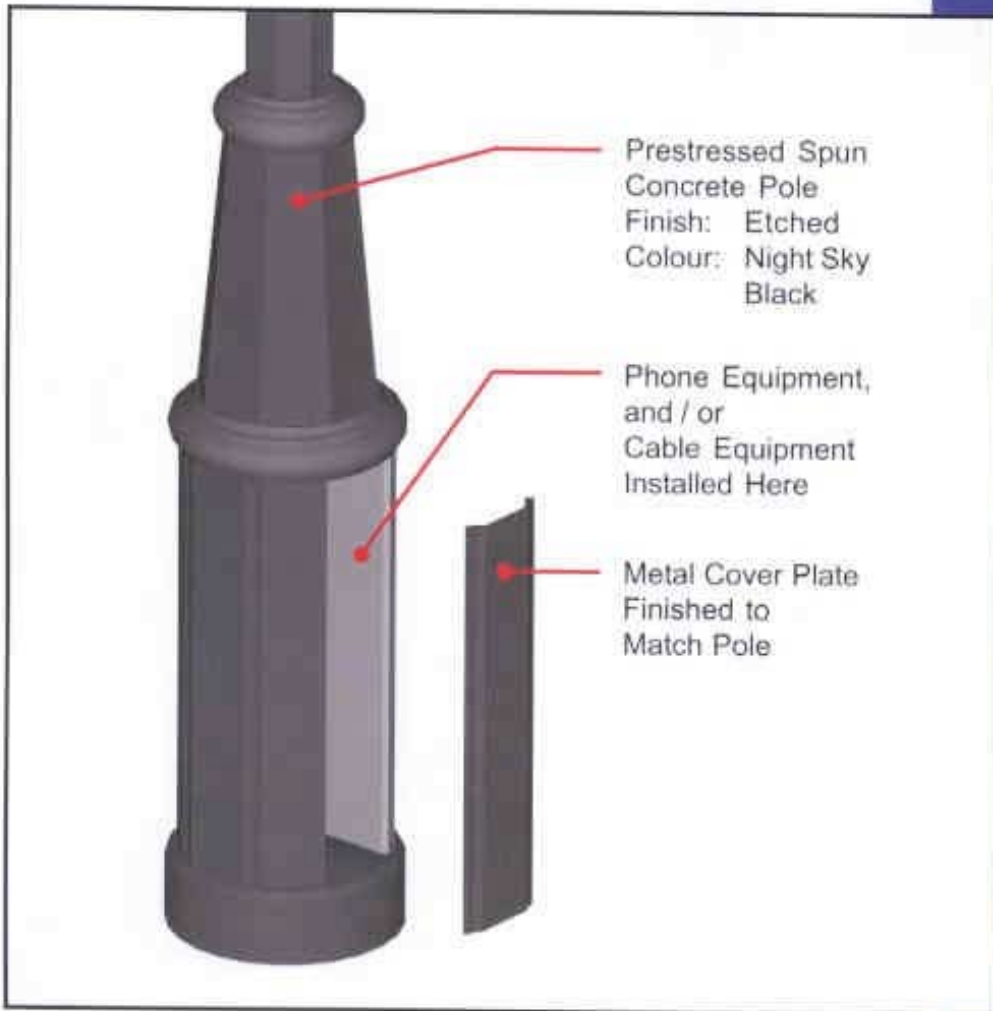
NEW TECHNOLOGY STREETScape - *with the New Trafalger Pole*





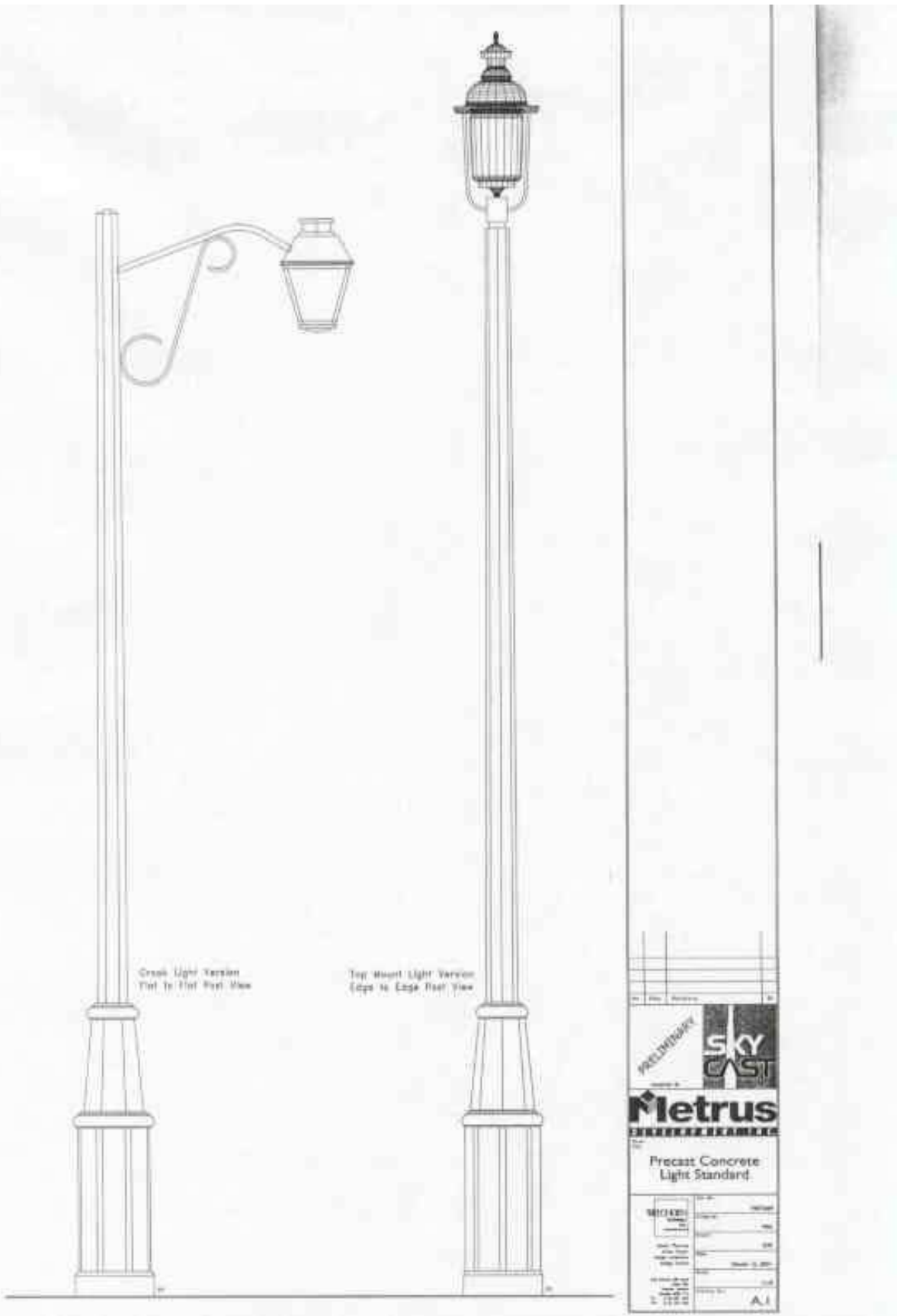
TYPICAL SERVICE PEDISTAL STYLE STREETScape - *SHOWING CLUTTER OF SITE SERVICES*





NEW TECHNOLOGY LIGHT STANDARD - *SHOWING INTERIOR EQUIPMENT CAVITY*





Cross Arm Light Version
Flat Top Flat Feet View

Top Mount Light Version
Edge to Edge Flat View

METRUS	
Precast Concrete Light Standard	
Model	
Quantity	
Order Date	
Order No.	
Project No.	
Site No.	
Drawn By	
Checked By	
Scale	
Notes	
A.I.	