2026
CODE AMENDMENTS

Official Code of Cobb County
Part I. – Chapter 106

Package I
Version I - distributed on September 4, 2026
Version II – distributed on October 21, 2026
Adopted –October 27, 2026

Board of Commissioners Public Hearing Dates
October 13, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
October 27, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

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Chapter 106 – STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

ARTICLE II. – STREET LIGHTING

Section 106-50 of the Official Code of Cobb County, Georgia, is amended, to read as follows:

Section 106-50. – Responsibility for Costs.

(a) For purposes of subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the term "lot" is hereby defined as a lot or parcel of land which is developed and served by a utility provider which will bill and collect for the street light service on behalf of the county.

(b) The cost of providing and maintaining street light service in existing street light districts and in street light districts hereafter created shall be borne by the lot residents or owners within the street light districts who are billed for utility services provided to the lots by utility providers who, by agreement with the county, will bill for street light service. The charge therefore shall be determined by the department, approved by the board, reviewed in accordance with the schedule set forth in adopted policies and procedures, and made available upon request. In the event the county is billed by the power company for repairs, the county may prorate those repair bills and add a pro rata share of those bills to the charge.

(c) In those districts in existence as of the date of adoption of the original ordinance from which this article is derived (February 27, 1979), or which may hereafter be created, in which there are costs related to initial construction and installation of poles, fixtures, wiring, etc., and such costs are paid by the county to the power or utility company or other entity, shall be reimbursed by the lot residents or owners within the street light district. Reimbursement shall be made through the assessment of a monthly installation surcharge determined by the department, approved by the board, reviewed in accordance with any schedule set forth in adopted policies and procedures, and made available to anyone upon request.

(d) Additionally, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, when a street light district is created within a CID, the cost of providing and maintaining the street light service in the street light district shall be determined by agreement between the CID and the county. The charge(s) associated with the lighting shall be determined by the department and approved by the board and shall be made available upon request. In the event the county is billed by the power company for repairs, the county may recoup those costs by adding those costs to the charge(s).

(e) A single lot can be part of multiple street light districts that serve different lighting purposes such as interstate, arterial, CID, or legacy street light districts. A lot can be charged for multiple district types but not more than once per month for the same type. Also, a lot cannot be charged both a CID lighting fee and a legacy street light district fee simultaneously.

ARTICLE V. – PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING DISTRICTS

Section 106-168 of the Official Code of Cobb County, Georgia, is amended, to read as follows:

Section 106-168. – Installation and operation standards adopted; exceptions.

In order to ensure adequate illumination of public rights-of-way and to promote safety and security, the American National Standard Practice for Roadway Lighting of the Illuminating Engineering Society, as approved by the American National Standards Institute (1983), as from time to time amended, is hereby adopted as the standard for the installation and operation of lighting in the unincorporated areas of the county, with the following exceptions:

(1) The minimum average horizontal illumination level in Lux shall be ten for lighting fixtures installed
within the public rights-of-way to be operated for the purpose of sidewalk, trail and pathway illumination. The uniformity of illumination shall be such that the point of lowest illumination shall have at least one-third of the average horizontal Lux required illumination level.

(2) All fixtures used for the illumination of sidewalks, trails, and pathways shall have a minimum mounting height of 15 feet, with the exception of shorter fixtures by design, such as bollards. Fixtures shall meet utility grade standards.

(3) Any party requesting permission to install or operate lighting fixtures within public rights-of-way shall furnish plans and specifications to the director for approval showing how the proposed lighting meets the standards, and no lighting shall be installed or operated without this approval. Should the director disapprove the request to install or operate lighting fixtures within any public right-of-way, he shall communicate the disapproval in writing to the party requesting approval. The written communication shall include the specific reasons for disapproval. Any disapproval of a light or lighting system by the director may be appealed to the board. If any party desires to appeal an adverse decision by the director, a notice of appeal shall be filed with the director within 30 days from the date following the written notice of disapproval. It shall be the responsibility of the Director to transmit forthwith to the board all papers and associated documents constituting the record upon which the action appealed from was taken, and to ensure that the appeal is promptly placed upon the agenda of the board for its determination. The board may reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify, the order, requirement, decision or determination appealed from.