



Right-of-Way Vision Statement

In most neighborhoods, the edges of the public right-of-way (between the road edge and adjacent private property lines) are unpaved. The right-of-way is often left unplanted resulting in an informal character of volunteer plantings, packed earth and pine needles. The right-of-way is also often planted with indigenous species consistent with a forest appearance. Both approaches contribute to a linear green belt appearance that helps to create the “village in a forest” character that defines the City.

The City has adopted clear standards that guide the treatment of the right-of-way in the residential district. These standards can be found at www.ci.carmel.ca.gov or at the Department of Community Planning and Building located at City Hall. Some of these standards include:

- Drought-tolerant, native plants, informally arranged may be permitted.
- Formal plant arrangements with highly colorful flowering plants are prohibited.
- When possible, plantings should not extend to the street edge to allow for off-street parking.
- Paving, gravel, boulders, logs, timbers, planters or other above-ground encroachments are prohibited, except paving for driveways, unless an encroachment permit has been obtained from the City.
- A narrow crushed Decomposed Granite pathway from the street to the property entrance may be allowed without an encroachment permit.

The City is requesting your assistance to ensure that the right-of-way adjacent to your property complies with City standards. If you would like assistance in determining whether the right-of-way adjacent to your property is out of compliance, please contact the Department of Community Planning and Building at (831) 620-2010.