

# ELECTRICAL SERVICE FOR YOUR LANEWAY OR COACH HOUSE

CONTACT BC HYDRO **BEFORE** YOU START DESIGNING YOUR LANEWAY OR COACH HOUSE.  
IT COULD SAVE YOU TIME AND MONEY!

**BC hydro** 

FOR GENERATIONS

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Cost of your electrical service could depend on the height, design and location of your Laneway or Coach House or its location on your property. Make sure you consider the following before you begin designing your Laneway or Coach House.

### 1. Be Safe!

Clearance requirements from BC Hydro's electrical infrastructure are there to keep workers and the public safe. Property owners and those parties acting on behalf of a property owner who make an application for electrical service for a Laneway House are responsible for ensuring that any structure, such as a Laneway or Coach House, located close to the property line meets the minimum clearance requirements. Clearances are set out by Worksafe BC, the Canadian Electrical Code, and the Canadian Standards Association.

If you are building in the City of Vancouver, please refer to Issues to Consider for Construction Around BC Hydro Overhead Plant in the City of Vancouver found at [bchydro.com](http://bchydro.com)

### 2. Costs

In most cases BC Hydro will need to add new equipment or upgrade the existing electrical system in order to provide an electrical service to your Laneway House. The associated costs will vary depending on the scope of the work needed. The cost of electrical service for the property owner can range from \$600 and up to as much as \$20,000 or more depending on the specific circumstances.

In some situations, BC Hydro will be required to go underground to provide electrical service, for which costs are much higher. However, the location on the site and the design of a Laneway or Coach House could eliminate the need for underground service – for this reason, BC Hydro should be contacted before you start designing your Laneway or Coach House.

### 3. What Your Electrical Service Will Include

BC Hydro provides one electrical service to a residential lot. Electrical services come in various sizes depending on your electricity load requirements. BC Hydro will provide overhead electrical service unless the only technical option is to provide you an underground service or if the applicant requests it.

An electrical service size of less than 100 amps should be discussed with your insurance company in advance to ensure insurance coverage is possible.

BC Hydro will require a multi-meter base and supply a separate meter for your new Laneway or Coach House. The location of the multi-meter base must be designed to be located on the building closest to the BC Hydro electrical supply. Due to physical constraints and safety considerations, we will do our best to accommodate the location you would like for your meter(s), however, we will make the final determination.

To apply for electrical service specifically for your Laneway House in Vancouver fill out an application form.

To apply for electrical service for your Coach House in all other municipalities, click on this link [bchydro.com/youraccount/content/electrical\\_connections.jsp](http://bchydro.com/youraccount/content/electrical_connections.jsp).

Or call BC Hydro's Electric Service Coordination Centre:

1 877 520 1355 during normal business hours, 8:00AM—4:00PM, Monday to Friday.