



Massachusetts Municipal Association

## **MMA BEST PRACTICES SERIES**

*Recommendations for Effective Local Government Administration and Management from MMA Policy Committees*

January 2016 • Volume 1 • Number 9

### **MMA Policy Committee on Public Works, Transportation and Public Utilities Best Practice Recommendation: Participation in the National Joint Utilities Notification System (NJUNS)**

**BEST PRACTICE:** Register with the National Joint Utilities Notification System (NJUNS) and designate employees to participate in order to coordinate the movement of municipal attachments when necessary and facilitate the removal of "double poles."

There are an estimated 30,000 doubled-up utility poles in Massachusetts. The National Joint Utilities Notification System (NJUNS) was designed to improve the coordination between electric utilities, communications companies and municipalities for the transfer of wires and other pole attachments, and to facilitate the removal of double poles.

If a municipal fire department has alarm lines on the utility poles, it is recommended that communities designate a coordinator for these lines and have this person register in the NJUNS database.

If a municipality maintains its own streetlights, it is recommended that communities designate a coordinator and have this person (if different from fire alarms) register in the NJUNS database.

If a municipality wishes to designate another point of contact (different from fire alarms or street lights) for double pole coordination, it is recommended that this person register in the NJUNS database.

#### **Resources**

National Joint Utilities Notification System (NJUNS)

NJUNS Database Registration

<http://web.njuns.com>