

Sec. 192. - Grant.

The council may by ordinance grant permission to any individual, company or corporation to construct and operate a public utility in the streets and public grounds of the city; subject, however, to the provisions of the general law requiring consents of abutting owners. It shall prescribe in the ordinance the kind and quality of service or product to be furnished, and shall provide for fixing the rate or rates to be charged therefor, and prescribe the manner in which the streets and public grounds shall be used and occupied, and any other terms and conditions conducive to the public interest; provided, however, that except for mass transportation utilities, no original grant of any public utility franchise, or renewal thereof, or extension of the time of such original grant, or change in rates, shall become operative until it shall have been submitted to the vote of the electors of the city and approved by a majority of those voting thereon. Provided further, however, that the provision hereinabove contained concerning the change in rate or rates shall not apply to the rate or rates fixed by a formula contained in any such original grant.

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