



Outdoor Lighting Standards Update

P18-0290(AMD)

Community & Economic
Development Department

Planning Commission
Agenda Item: 2
May 31, 2018

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PROPOSAL

Amendment to Chapter 19.556 – Outdoor Lighting:

- To comply with State law and advancements in technology
- Update definitions
- Implement new development standards
- Create new procedures for reviewing lighting plans
- Establish prohibited lighting types



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BACKGROUND

Proposed amendments were initiated to address:

- Compliance with CA Building Energy Efficiency Standards
- Settlement agreement with the Friends of the Hills
- Included in contract for Riverside Public Utilities' Street Lighting Conversion project



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BACKGROUND

Energy Efficiency Standards

- Creates Lighting Zones with “power allowances”
 - Power allowance creates consistent ambient conditions
 - Prevents excessive lighting and wasted energy
- Lighting Zones range from 0 through 4
 - Based on boundaries of U.S. Census “urban” and “rural”, and boundaries of public parks and wilderness areas
 - The City is completely within an U.S. Census “urban” boundary
 - Jurisdictions may deviate from default zones to address local conditions/aesthetics



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BACKGROUND

Preserving the Dark Sky

- 2008 settlement agreement with Friends of the Hills
 - Amend Zoning Code to add “night time sky” regulations
 - Include restrictions recommended by the Mount Palomar

RPU Street Lighting Conversion Project

- Covert streetlights from high-pressure sodium to LED
 - Includes Zoning Code amendments in Scope of Work
 - Energy efficiency and cost savings



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DISCUSSION

Proposed changes to 19.556 – Outdoor Lighting:

- Reorganization and expansion of regulations requires redaction of existing Chapter 19.556
- Updated definitions to reflect changes in technology (i.e. LED)
- Lighting Plan Review submittals to include certification documentation to ensure compliance
- Prohibits lighting types that are a danger or nuisance to the public
- Establishes development standards that are tailored to individual lighting zones (i.e. max. lumens, mounting heights, allowable light trespass)



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DISCUSSION

Proposed changes to 19.556 – Outdoor Lighting:

- Zone 0 : Undeveloped areas of parks, recreation areas, & wildlife preserves
 - Little or no exterior light at night
- Zone 1 : Developed portions of parks, recreation areas, wildlife preserves, and areas within the Mt. Palomar Observatory
 - Low levels of exterior lighting at night
- Zone 2 : Areas zoned RA-5, RC and RR.
 - Modest levels of exterior lighting at night
- Zone 3 : Areas not within Lighting Zones 0, 1 or 2.
 - Medium to high levels of exterior lighting at night



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Planning Commission:

1. **Recommend that the City Council ADOPT** the Negative Declaration prepared for the project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
2. **Recommend that the City Council DETERMINE** that, based on the Negative Declaration, the project will not have a significant negative effect on the environment.
3. **Recommend APPROVAL** Planning Case P18-0290 (Zoning Code Amendment), as shown in Exhibit 3 of the Planning Commission staff report.



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