

CITY OF DEFIANCE STREET LIGHT POLICY & PROCEDURE

1. GENERAL

(a) Street lights should provide a general illumination along the street. Street lights are not normally intended to illuminate the driving route (headlights are preferred), but to reveal signs and hazards, including pedestrians, outside of the headlights' beam. The primary purpose of streetlights is to provide drivers with quick, accurate, and comfortable visibility at night. A major cause of accidents at night is poor visibility. Street lights aid in reducing these accidents and facilitating the traffic flow.

(b) Citizens should realize that streetlights are provided for traffic safety, not property security. It is true that streetlights do provide some amount of security in residential areas. This, however, is not their primary intent and they are never installed for security reasons alone. Misuse of street lights can cause accidents, and crime lighting is an entirely different type of lighting than used for automobile navigation.

(c) All locations for street light installations shall be reviewed and approved by the Engineering Department.

2. STREET LIGHTING ON RESIDENTIAL AND COLLECTOR STREETS

(a) Street lighting will generally be installed:

(1) At intersections.

(2) At the end of all cul-de-sac and dead-end streets longer than 200 feet.

(3) At significant changes in direction of the roadway; generally defined as those where, when standing in the center of the roadway at one street light you cannot see the next street light due to horizontal or vertical changes in the roadway.

(4) Mid-block street lights will be allowed or required provided the spacing between the lights is 300 feet or greater. Street lights spacing along a City park shall be reduced to 200 feet or less.

(b) The standard design shall consist of a 100 watt high pressure sodium vapor luminaire or current power company standard, mounted on a wood pole, using underground wiring. Overhead wiring will be allowed in areas where the existing electric service is overhead.

(c) Existing utility poles may be used when available at the proper locations.

3. STREET LIGHTING ON ARTERIAL STREETS

(a) The standard design for arterial streets shall consist of a 250 watt high pressure sodium vapor luminaire or current power company standard, mounted on a wood pole, using underground wiring. Overhead wiring will be allowed in areas where the existing electric service is overhead.

(b) Street lights should be installed at intersections and at a spacing of about 300 feet along the street.

(c) Existing utility poles may be used when at the proper locations.

(d) Street lights are usually not installed on arterial streets in an undeveloped or rural area.

4. EXISTING DEVELOPMENTS WITHOUT STREET LIGHTS

(a) In existing developments where lighting has not been installed, the City will arrange to have standard light poles and fixtures installed, subject to:

(1) A majority of the adjacent property owners petition the Department of Engineering for street lights;

(2) The property owners provide the necessary utility easements for electrical service to the lights at no cost to the City;

(3) Property owners pay the costs of the standard street light pole and fixture.

(b) In-fill project. Where an existing neighborhood or developed area already has street lighting, but is below the current design standard, the City will arrange to have standard light poles and fixtures installed subject to:

(1) A majority of the adjacent property owners petition the Department of Engineering for a street light;

(2) The property owners provide the necessary utility easements for electrical service to the light at no cost to the City;

(3) Property owners pay the costs of the standard street light pole and fixture.

5. GENERAL CRITERIA

(a)

(b) Existing utility poles, where available at specific locations, and overhead wiring may be used under certain circumstances, subject to approval by the City Engineer and utility companies.

(c) The developer shall furnish, at his sole expense, on a plat at a standard engineering scale, the street light design for the development. For developments scheduled to be done in phases, the developer shall submit a plat showing the total development with the master plan for street lights.

(d) The developer shall provide all necessary utility easements required for the street lighting system.

(e) The developer shall pay all costs associated with the installation of light pole and fixture.

(f) Street lights between intersections should generally be located at lot lines.

(g) Street lighting will not be installed in alleys.

6. REQUEST FOR STREET LIGHTS OTHER THAN TRAFFIC SAFETY

Under specific circumstances, on a case by case basis, certain lights may be installed where the public benefit or warrant for the light is not certain, or is shared with a significant private benefit subject to:

(1) A majority of the adjacent property owners petition the Department of Engineering for street lights;

(2) The property owners provide the necessary utility easements for electrical service to the lights at no cost to the City;

(3) Property owners pay all the expenses associated with the cost of installing the street light, _____

(4) The City of Defiance agrees to pay for the electrical cost of the street light,

(5) Individual making the street light request to complete the attached Street Light Request Form and to ensure that the request contains the following information:

- Requestor's **name, address, telephone number,** and **reason** for requesting the street light installation;
- **Exact location** (street address) of the requested street light (e.g., pole between 628 & 632 Elm Street);
- **Pole number** if an existing pole or from the adjacent existing street lights;

- **Drawing** (on a separate sheet) showing the location of the requested street light, street width, and distance of the existing street light(s) to the requested street light;
- **Petition** with the names, addresses, phone numbers, and signatures of residents on both sides of the street within 200 feet of the proposed street light, and each individual indicating whether in support or opposed to the installation of the street light; **Important: The petition must indicate at least a 75% majority of residents support the requested installation of the street light.**

For more information about street lighting, contact the City of Defiance, Engineering Division at 419-784-2249.

To report a street light outage, contact City of Defiance, Street Division at 419-784-2745.



**City of Defiance
Street Light Request Form**

Date: _____/_____/_____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Location Request: _____

Pole No. (if known): _____

Comments: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

City Engineer's Recommendation: _____

Date Presented to Public Utilities, Gas, Lights Comm.: _____/_____/_____

Action of the Public Utilities, Gas, Lights Comm.: _____

Please return form to:
City of Defiance
Attn: City Engineer
631 Perry St.
Defiance, OH 43512

Update 3-30-12