



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 19, 2016 Agenda Item 2 - Revised

Voting Session

Resolution Providing Direction on Conversion to LED Street Lighting (Revised Resolution Attached)

Recommended Council Action

Adopt resolution providing direction to staff on LED streetlight conversion.

Context with Key Issues

Staff presented detailed information to the Council on September 21, 2016 regarding options on conversion of the City's streetlights on wooden poles to LED fixtures. As a result of the discussion, Council, by straw poll vote, indicated support for moving forward with the PEPCO conversion program.

In addition to the discussion of the various conversion programs, there was also some discussion about the appropriate brightness of the lighting, noting that overly bright lighting can cause light pollution and cause harm to animals.

To formalize the direction to staff of moving forward with the PEPCO conversion program and to document the elements to consider when choosing specific light fixtures, a Resolution has been drafted for Council consideration.

Council Priority

Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Impact of Action

Conversion of existing streetlight fixtures to ones that are more energy efficient (LED technology), would reduce the City's streetlight electricity use from 765,599 kwh to 382,800 kwh annually. The choice of appropriate lighting levels would minimize harmful effects on the night sky, animals and residents.

Fiscal Impact of Action

The City could save between \$746,000 and \$904,000 in current dollars over a 20 year period by converting streetlights to LED fixtures by working with PEPCO.

Attachments and Links

- [Agenda Packet from September 21, 2016 Council Work Session](#)
- Revised Resolution

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

Resolution No. 2016-

Providing Direction on Conversion to LED Street Lighting

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has pursued having more efficient, attractive and color balanced street lighting for many years to save money and provide for safer and more attractive neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, after extensive investigation into options and costs, and a presentation to the City Council on September 21, 2016, staff was directed to pursue converting the PEPCO streetlights on wooden poles in the city to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program; and

WHEREAS, the conversion will be phased in on a neighborhood by neighborhood basis, and will allow for adjustments to the program if needed; and

WHEREAS, the City has already begun LED conversion with the Flower Avenue Green Street project and five percent of the City's streetlights have already been converted; and

WHEREAS, PEPCO will continue to own and maintain the lights and the City will continue to pay for monthly maintenance charges per the rates set by the Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City will continue to procure our electricity through the Montgomery County purchasing group which enables the City to be part of a large buying group and thereby reduces the rate per kilowatt; and

WHEREAS, City staff will work with PEPCO staff to ensure that the replacement lighting is appropriate for City streets; and

WHEREAS, City staff will work to identify areas currently over lit or under lit and, as part of this process, will add or subtract streetlights as needed to maintain appropriate light levels on the ground; and

WHEREAS, LED fixtures will be night sky compliant, within the 3,000 Kelvin level, to minimize light pollution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Takoma Park City Council supports converting streetlights on wooden poles in Takoma Park to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program and directs staff to work to ensure that lighting specifications and placement minimize costs, energy use, and light pollution, while enhancing safety and attractiveness.

Adopted this _____ day of October, 2016.