

Introduced by: Councilmember Smith

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-50

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONVERSION TO LED STREET LIGHTING

- WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is committed to more efficient, attractive and consistent street lighting to reduce energy use, provide adequate lighting for safer and more attractive neighborhoods, and save money; and
- WHEREAS, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a report on October 8, stating climate change is occurring at a faster rate than previously expected and requires urgent, ambitious actions to cut emissions in half by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by 2050; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has long been concerned about climate change and has been committed to undertaking significant environmental sustainability and energy efficiency efforts; and
- WHEREAS, streetlights represent the single largest use of electricity by the City; 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 streetlights on wooden poles in the city to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program; and
- WHEREAS, Resolution 2016-41 "Providing Direction on Conversion to LED Street Lighting" was passed October 19, 2016; and
- WHEREAS, since that time, Pepco and city staff have worked diligently to implement the terms of the Resolution, completing a citywide streetlight inventory, procuring fixtures to meet the Resolution requirements of color temperature and International Dark Sky Certification (IDA), and identifying areas that are currently over lit and under lit; and
- WHEREAS, test fixtures were installed on May 30, 2018 that were 3000 Kelvin, IDA Certified and 35 Watt on three streets: Oswego Avenue, Erie Avenue and Hickory Avenue; and
- WHEREAS, On September 5, 2018, Pepco presented an update to the Council regarding the test fixtures and, based on feedback received, investigated options for testing a 2700 Kelvin fixture and lower wattage fixtures; and
- WHEREAS, On October 1, Pepco replaced the test fixtures on Hickory Avenue with lower wattage options of 24 and 19 watts and included two 2700 Kelvin fixtures for

comparison, and

WHEREAS, the selected streetlight fixtures will reduce the City's annual electricity use from 850,000 kWh to 340,000 kWh and will reduce annual expenditures by up to approximately \$100,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Takoma Park City Council supports replacing streetlights on wooden poles in Takoma Park with LED fixtures through the PEPCO conversion program and directs staff to work with Pepco to finalize the project using the fixtures selected by Pepco, displayed in the testing phase, and consistent with the specifications of Resolution 2016-41; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the selected street lighting will be 3000 Kelvin and at wattage levels that provide for adequate lighting based on the type of street, taking into consideration the Illumination Engineering Society of North American (IES) guidelines for illumination levels, and providing a comparable light level with the current fixtures on the streets in areas that are adequately lit and, for the majority of residential streets, replicating the light level provided by the 24 Watt LED test fixture; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City staff will work with Pepco to select the wattage level for streetlight fixtures located within or adjacent to commercial areas or along State Highway routes that will be the lowest wattage level that will provide adequate lighting based on the same parameters listed above; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Pepco will provide for a field installable shield in the event that the light from the streetlight fixture is found to shine directly into the windows of adjacent properties; the City will facilitate identifying such cases and will gather residents' requests for additional shielding and will engage with residents as needed to ensure that those less familiar with municipal government engagement will be appropriately considered; City staff will visit streets with multifamily buildings to assess possible locations that may have light trespass from the street lights, and will work with Pepco to install shields where needed; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in areas where individual existing streetlight fixtures have a higher wattage than necessary to provide adequate lighting levels, they will be replaced with fixtures that provide the appropriate lower level of illumination, consistent with similar type streets in other parts of the city; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once the project is completed, City staff will identify areas that do not have sufficient street lighting after the conversion due to fewer numbers of streetlight fixtures on the street and, once identified, will notify the affected property owners, residents and Council of the locations and the recommended additions and will request funding to enable the installation of additional fixtures in those locations.

Adopted this 24th day of October, 2018.

Attest: _____
Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk