Neighbors can band together to... FLIP THE SWITCH

Don’t stay IN THE DARK about getting streetlights

For more information, please call the Department of Transportation, Engineering Services, Funding and Project Development at (916) 808-8300

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
Mayor Heather Fargo
City Manager Ray Kerridge
District 1: Raymond L. Tretheway III
District 2: Sandy Sheedy
District 3: Steve Cohn
District 4: Robert King Fong
District 5: Lauren Hammond
District 6: Kevin McCarty
District 7: Robbie Waters
District 8: Bonnie Pannell

Neighbors can have streetlights, if the neighborhood is willing to pay for them. A neighborhood can have streetlights installed by the City through the creation of a Street Lighting Assessment District. In an assessment district, the property owners (not renters) whose properties benefit from streetlights, pay their fair share of the total cost of the project.
**STEP 1**  
Survey your neighbors

Before the City can begin the assessment district process, the City needs to confirm that the neighborhood supports the idea of paying for streetlights. City staff can assist with generating a map of the assessment district boundaries and a survey form for use by property owners.

- You need to gather signatures from at least 60 percent of property owners, affirming their willingness to pay for streetlights.
- Then the matter goes to City Council, which must approve funding the design phase. (The City later recovers the cost once the assessment district is formed.)
- If approved by the City Council, the design and construction documents will be prepared, the contractor bids reviewed and the engineering report prepared with estimated costs per property.

**STEP 2**  
Neighbors vote

Once the project is designed and bid, the property owners will vote on the formation of the assessment district.

- If a majority, more than 50 percent, of property owners vote in favor of the assessment district, the City will move forward with issuing bonds to pay for construction. (These bonds will be paid off later by the property owner assessments.)

**Cost to each neighbor varies**

The cost per parcel is dependent on the length of lot frontages, the cost of the streetlights and installation, the repayment interest rate and term of repayment.

If property owners want to avoid interest payments, they have the option of paying their assessment in one lump sum prior to the issuance of bonds. Otherwise, property owners are subject to paying interest over the term of the bond repayment. The assessment will be added to the annual property tax bill.

**CITY Streetlights**

There are two primary styles of City-approved streetlights. The City typically installs ornamental style streetlights, however, the characteristics of the neighborhood will dictate the best style choice.

1. **ORNAMENTAL STYLE**
   Streetlights – 12’ tall, decorative poles, more expensive than standard style

2. **STANDARD POST TOP STYLE**
   Streetlights – 20’ tall, galvanized steel poles