

Neighbors can band together to...



**Neighborhoods 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.

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



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#### CITY OF SACRAMENTO

Department of Transportation

915 I Street, Room 2000

Sacramento, CA 95814

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Don't stay  
**IN THE DARK**  
about getting streetlights





## 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

