



## LINDON CITY STREET LIGHTS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Many residents have presented questions to the City Council regarding installation of streets lights in various areas of the City. Below, you will find answers to commonly asked questions regarding street lighting in Lindon.

**Why do some areas of the City have street lights, while other areas do not?** During early development of the City, street lighting was not a priority as compared to other essential services, such as water, sewer, and streets. As development has progressed, and traffic and population in the City have increased, street lighting has become more of a priority. The City now requires installation of street lighting by developers for any new development projects in the City. Many lighting projects which have been paid for by developers are pending installation by Rocky Mountain Power. There can be a significant delay between the time lighting projects are ordered from Rocky Mountain Power and the time the installation is completed.

**How does the City determine where street lights are located?** Installation of street lighting is based on specific criteria found in the City Street Lighting Policy. Areas approved for lights include; knuckles (half cul-de-sacs) on public streets, minor public street intersections, major public street intersections, the end of cul-de-sacs and permanent dead end streets, right or left turn when changing direction which does not meet centerline standards, and streets longer than 650 feet at mid block. Lighting is required in all specified locations as part of any new development, and is paid for by developers.

**What style of lighting is installed?** Specific lighting styles are currently under review by the City Council. Use of different lighting styles in different areas of the City is intended to differentiate between residential and commercial areas, and provide adequate lighting to address safety concerns without contributing to excessive light pollution. Lighting styles used by the City adhere to the “dark sky” concept. Shields at the top of the structure direct light toward the ground and minimize reflection into the sky.

**Orem City recently installed street lighting in all areas of the City. Is city-wide installation of street lighting possible in Lindon?** Orem City installed city-wide street lighting using revenue from a Special Improvement District (SID) Bond approved by residents after a vote. SID Bonds require approval by a majority, 51%, of affected residents. If approved, all residents in the City would be required to repay the bond debt through annual payments included in property tax or other fee assessments. Lindon City officials are not currently considering the possibility of placing an SID Bond question on the ballot. While the anticipated monthly cost of an SID Bond may seem insignificant to the majority of residents, any increase in expenses can be problematic for some, such as elderly or disabled residents living on a fixed income.

**Is there any method other than a Special Improvement District Bond available to the City Council to allow installation of street lighting throughout the City?** The City Council is considering an amendment to the City Street Lighting Policy which will allow installation of street lighting in various areas of the City over a period of years using General Fund revenue. This installation method would not create a tax increase for residents, but would take considerably longer than installation using an SID bond. Areas of the City would be prioritized for street lighting based on identified need and requests from area residents.

**Is there a method in place under current policy for residents to request street lighting in areas where there are no existing lights?** Yes. Residents may request installation of street lights based on the current Street Lighting Policy of the City. Applications are available on the City web site, or at the City Center. The application requires signatures from residents within 500 feet of the proposed location of the light indicating their support for installation of the light.

**Is all street lighting installed by Rocky Mountain Power?** Historically, Rocky Mountain Power has been responsible for installation and maintenance of the majority of street lights in the City. Rocky Mountain Power is currently making a policy change, and will discontinue installation and maintenance of new street lights. The City is currently taking bids from several private lighting contractors. Following award of the bid to a qualified contractor, installation and maintenance of future projects will be completed by the company chosen through the bid process. This method is expected to allow for more timely installation of street lights.

**What is the cost associated with installation of street lighting?** The cost of purchasing lighting varies from style to style. In addition to the purchase price, each light requires \$2,000 to \$4,000 in installation costs. The final cost of each street light is between approximately \$5,000 and \$8,000 depending on the particular style. As stated earlier, the cost for street lighting in areas of new development is paid by the developer, and passed on to new home owners or business owners in the purchase price of their property.

Mayor Dain and the City Council welcome your comments regarding installation of street lights in the City. While some residents feel that street lighting is extremely important and should be a priority, other residents appreciate the rural feel created by the absence of street lights. It is somewhat complicated for the City Council to balance these two perspectives. Residents should understand that their safety is the highest priority of the City Council in considering street lighting policies. Feel free to contact Mayor Dain at [jdain@lindoncity.org](mailto:jdain@lindoncity.org) Contact information for Councilmembers is available on our City web site, [www.lindoncity.org](http://www.lindoncity.org)