



COUNTY OF EL PASO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Residential Street Lighting Program

Policy Purpose

The El Paso County Commissioners Court adopts this Residential Street Lighting Program to establish criteria for the installation of residential street lights. This policy is intended to address road and neighborhood safety, security of property, ease of access, and less intrusion of residential lighting. This policy shall be effective July 18, 2016 and shall apply to all County roads and rights-of-way except as otherwise provided. This policy statement may be altered, modified, or rescinded by the County Commissioners Court. The Public Works Department is designated to administer and implement this policy, which shall be referred to as the County Residential Street Lighting Program or the "Lighting Program".

Funding Earmark

Within each fiscal year's operating budget, funding shall be appropriated to the Public Works Department to pay for the Lighting Program and shall include separate funding for: (1) the utility cost of energizing approved residential street lights, both previously existing and proposed for the fiscal year; and (2) the budget to pay for no less than one-hundred (100) new residential street lights, including the cost for materials and installation. The appropriated funding shall, on a cumulative balance, rollover from one fiscal year to another so that no funding is lost due to delays with multi-agency approvals, procurement of materials, installation scheduling, or any other reason.

Each fiscal year as part of the departmental budget submission, the Public Works Department shall document the costs for energizing both new and proposed residential street lights and for purchase and installation of each new residential street light. Commencing with Fiscal Year 2017, and unless subsequently modified, the costs per residential street light are as follows:

<i>Energizing Cost:</i>	<i>\$ 96.00</i>
<i>New Installation:</i>	<i>\$1,100.00</i>

Lighting Requirement

The Lighting Program shall be applicable to all areas of El Paso County, except for properties within other municipal jurisdictions or within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) areas of municipal jurisdictions where the residential street lighting standards are stricter. It shall be the responsibility of the Public Works Department to determine the applicability of the lighting requirements.

Lighting Allocations

In order to administer the Lighting Program, allocation of new residential street lights shall be made to serve areas outside of other municipal jurisdictions so as to not duplicate financial resources or conflict with other municipal jurisdictional requirements. The requirements of this Lighting Program shall apply to new subdivisions as well as existing developed areas within the applicable County areas. The qualified areas shall be calculated as follows. Within each of the 4 designated geographic El Paso Commissioners Court precincts, the land area of

incorporated municipal jurisdictions has been deducted and the percentages below represent the land area remaining to be served by this Lighting Program. As funding is allocated within a fiscal year period, the total number of street lights allowed within any fiscal year period for each individual Commissioners Court precinct shall be allotted based upon these percentages. Fractions of residential street lights shall not be rounded up to the next whole number or counted for purposes of determining an allocation.

Precinct	Allocation
1	1%
2	0%
3	95%
4	4%

As changes to any municipal jurisdiction boundary and its respective ETJ area are made, or alterations made to County designated precincts as part of any redistricting or other process, the allocation percentages as provided in this section shall be amended accordingly by the Public Works Department and an update provided to the County Commissioners Court.

In determining the number of approved residential street lights within each County precinct, the total budget allocation for the fiscal year for new installations shall be divided by the total cost of each street light (materials and installation). This number shall then be multiplied by the allocation percentages to determine the number allotted to each County precinct.

Example:

FY 2017 Budget Request, \$139,200.00

Installation Cost, \$1,100.00

$\$139,200 \div \$1,100 = 126$

$126 \times 1\% = 1$ for Precinct 1

$126 \times 0\% = 0$ for Precinct 2

$126 \times 95\% = 120$ for Precinct 3

$126 \times 4\% = 5$ for Precinct 4

New Residential Street Lights Proposed

Following adoption by the County Commissioners Court of any year's operating budget, the Public Works Department shall submit a listing of existing and proposed residential street lights within each County precinct based upon the lighting allocation of this policy. This will allow each Precinct office to fully review the recommendations made and authorize in writing the proposed locations. In all cases, the recommended and approved listing shall propose installations satisfying the criteria of this Policy. Once concurrence is received from all Precinct offices, which shall be within no more than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of submission of the listing, the Public Works Department shall initiate the process to obtain approval from the El Paso Electric Company for the new lighting location and installation. No formal action of the County Commissioners Court shall be required for lighting allocations within individual precincts, unless a modification to the policy is requested.

Urbanized Areas Map

The United States Census Bureau designates urban and rural classifications based on population densities as part of its census updates every ten (10) years. The United States Census Bureau identifies two types of urban areas:

- Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people; and
- Urban Clusters (UCs) of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.

Rural areas encompass all population, housing and territory not included within an urban area or cluster. Any Census Designated Place (CDP) that is partially located within an Urbanized Area or Cluster shall be subject to the standards set forth in this policy for an Urbanized Area/Cluster. A copy of the latest Urbanized Area/Cluster Map

shall be maintained in the Public Works Department for public review and informational purposes. As changes are made, the map shall be updated and maintained current.

Lighting Standards

The Public Works Department will perform an investigation to determine where residential street lights are warranted, and the following criteria shall be used to determine the location and installation of new residential street lighting.

1. Authorized solely within a legally platted residential subdivision or an area containing ten (10) or more adjacent lots of record as defined by Local Government Code Section 232.021.
2. Located within a legally dedicated and improved County road at the property line.
3. Installations shall have priority at residential street intersections.
4. All design fixtures shall be as serviced by the El Paso Electric Company.
5. Illumination levels as specified by the Illuminating Engineers Society of North America.
6. Locations having utility service and infrastructure readily available for installation and connection as determined by the Public Works Department.
7. Street lighting fixtures installed at a height of no less than fifteen (15) feet.
8. Spacing requirements as provided below:
 - a. Within Urbanized Areas or Clusters, residential street lights shall be placed no less than six-hundred (600) feet apart from any other County residential street light in all directions;
 - b. Within Rural Areas, residential street lights shall be placed no less than one-thousand three-hundred (1,300) feet apart from any other residential street light in all directions.
 - c. Within the Homestead Meadows North Census Designated Place, residential street lights shall be spaced at the requirement for rural areas.
 - d. No exceptions to the spacing requirements shall be authorized without Commissioners Court approval.
9. Traffic conditions or unusual terrain which may present a threat to public safety and well-being.

Removal of Residential Street Lighting

Once a residential street light has been installed by the County, whether prior to or after approval of this policy, residents requesting to have a residential street light removed for whatever reason shall be subject to the following requirements:

- a. At least fifty-one (51) percent written support from existing lot owners (whether occupied or not) within a one-thousand (1,000) foot radius of the installation shall be required; and
- b. The written support shall identify that the request is for removal of a residential street light, the specific location of the residential street light, and the reasons substantiating the request.

The Public Works Department shall present the request to the County Commissioners Court within thirty (30) days of receipt of the completed formal request, and a determination made on disposition of the request. As part of any approval on the removal of a residential street light, the County Commissioners Court may at their discretion require a total or partial reimbursement of the cost for the installation and removal. Once authorized, the Public Works Department shall coordinate with the El Paso Electric Company for its timely removal.

Lighting Program Documentation

The Public Works Department shall maintain budget and program documentation and maps necessary to implement, administer, and maintain current the Lighting Program for El Paso County. At least once each fiscal year, an update of the Lighting Program shall be presented to the County Commissioners Court for informational purposes. As part of this update, any concerns, issues, or proposed changes resulting from its administration shall be presented for policy direction.