



**STREET LIGHTING
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
FY 2020-2024**

**ADOPTED JULY 18, 2016
AMENDED MARCH 25, 2019**

STREET LIGHTING PROGRAM

The El Paso County Commissioners Court, "Court," adopts this Street Lighting Program, "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 This policy statement may be altered, modified, or rescinded by the Court. The Planning & Development Department, "Department," is designated to administer and implement this policy.

I. FUNDING EARMARK

A. Within each fiscal year's operating budget, funding shall be appropriated to the Department to pay for the Lighting Program and shall include separate funding for:

- i. The utility cost of energizing approved residential street lights, both previously existing and proposed for the fiscal year;
- ii. The budget to pay for new residential LED 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. Such funding levels allow the Department to implement the Program over five fiscal years. The annual appropriation shall be as follows (See Exhibit A: Program Schedule):

- a) FY20: 178
- b) FY21: 167
- c) FY22: 165
- d) FY23: 160
- e) FY24: 158

B. Each fiscal year as part of the departmental budget submission, the 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. Installation of LED fixtures shall be given priority over the installation of other types of lighting, however this may be limited at the discretion of the El Paso Electric Company. Commencing with Fiscal Year 2019, and until modified in writing, the not-to-exceed costs per residential street light are as follows:

- i. Energizing Cost (LED): \$8.16 per year
- ii. New LED Installation: \$1,400.00 per pole
- iii. Energizing Cost (High-Pressure Sodium): \$69.36 per year

II. LIGHTING REQUIREMENT

A. The Program shall be applicable to all areas of El Paso County, except for properties within other municipal jurisdictions. Properties or development within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) areas of a municipal jurisdiction shall be subject to the stricter requirement between the two jurisdictions as determined by the Department. . The Department shall determine the applicability of the lighting requirements. Where installation of LED fixtures is impractical or not permitted by El Paso Electric, the Department shall coordinate the installation of the equivalent high-pressure sodium fixtures with El Paso Electric.

III. LIGHTING ALLOCATIONS

- A. 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 Program shall apply to new subdivisions as well as existing developed areas within the applicable County areas.
- B. Within each of the four designated geographic Court precincts, the Department has calculated the light fixtures required to comply with the spacing standards described below in Section VI.A(viii) (*SEE EXHIBIT: A*). The total number of street lights for each individual Court precinct shall be allotted as described in Exhibit A. Fractions of residential street lights shall not be rounded up to the next whole number or counted for purposes of determining an allocation.
- C. The Court may identify one-time lighting improvements in a particular geographic area, property or project area not necessarily represented or described in the lighting allocation described above. If the Court determines that additional lighting is required, the Court shall increase the Department's annual appropriation in an amount sufficient to pay for the additional lighting.
- D. 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 Department and an update provided to the Court through a consent agenda item on a regularly scheduled Court meeting.
- ~~E. In determining the number of approved residential street lights within each Court 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 (Sec. III.B) to determine the number allotted to each County precinct.~~

IV. NEW RESIDENTIAL STREET LIGHTS PROPOSED

- A. Following adoption by the Court of any year's operating budget, the Department shall, by October 15, 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.
- B. 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 Department shall initiate the process to obtain approval from the El Paso Electric Company for the new lighting location and installation. If no response is received the listing is considered concurred by the Precinct. No formal action of the Court shall be required for lighting allocations within individual precincts, unless a modification to the policy or distribution is requested.

V. URBANIZED AREAS MAP

- A. 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:
 - i. Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people; and

- ii. Urban Clusters (UCs) of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.
- B. 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.
- C. A copy of the latest Urbanized Area or Urban Cluster Map shall be maintained by the Department for public review and informational purposes. As changes are made, the map shall be periodically updated and maintained current.

VI. LIGHTING STANDARDS

- A. The 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.
 - i. 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.
 - ii. Located within a legally dedicated and improved County road at the property line.
 - iii. Illumination levels as specified by the Illuminating Engineers Society of North America.
 - iv. Locations having utility service and infrastructure readily available for installation and connection as determined by the Department.
 - v. No exceptions to the spacing requirements shall be authorized without Court approval;
 - vi. Street lights shall be installed as follows:
 - a. At all intersections as close as possible to a corner selected by the Department;
 - b. At approximately equal intervals between intersections unless otherwise determined by the Department Director to provide better coverage;
 - c. Within Urbanized Areas or Clusters (Sec. V.A) residential street lights shall have no greater distance than three-hundred (300) linear feet apart from any other County residential street light;
 - d. 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;
 - e. Within the Homestead Meadows North Census Designated Place, residential street lights shall be spaced at the requirement for rural areas;
 - f. Street lighting fixtures installed at a height of no less than fifteen (15) feet.
 - g. To alleviate traffic conditions or unusual terrain which may present a threat to public safety and well-being.

VII. REMOVAL OF RESIDENTIAL STREET LIGHTING

- A. Once a residential street light has been installed by the County, residents requesting to have a residential street light removed for whatever reason shall provide to the Department Director written support:
 - i. Signed by owners of record of no less than 51 percent of the lots (whether occupied or not) within a one-thousand (1,000) foot radius of the installation; In cases where there are more than one owner of a lot, notwithstanding how many separate owners there are, the lot owners shall be collectively treated as one owner for determining the above percentage.
- 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 Department shall present the request to the Court within thirty (30) days of receipt of the completed formal request along with a recommendation through an agenda item on a regularly scheduled Court meeting. As part of any approval on the removal of a residential street light, the Court may, at their discretion, require a total or partial reimbursement of the cost for the installation and removal once authorized. The Department shall coordinate with the El Paso Electric Company for its timely removal.

VIII. LIGHTING PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

- A. The Department shall maintain budget and program documentation and maps necessary to implement, administer, and maintain current the Program for El Paso County. At least once each fiscal year, an update of the Program shall be submitted to the 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.

EXHIBIT A: PROGRAM SCHEDULE		TOTAL NEED	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
PCT 1	Square Dance	56	12	11	11	11	11
	<i>Precinct One Total</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>
PCT 2	Ascarate Park (One-Time)*	10	10	0	0	0	0
	<i>Precinct Two Total</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
PCT 3	Agua Dulce	47	10	10	9	9	9
	El Paso Hills	40	8	8	8	8	8
	Fabens	74	15	15	15	15	14
	Homestead Meadows North	20	4	4	4	4	4
	Homestead Meadows South	180	36	36	36	36	36
	Greater Horizon Area	88	18	18	18	17	17
	San Elizario (Unincorporated)	48	10	10	10	9	9
	Sparks	127	26	26	25	25	25
	Tornillo	53	11	11	11	10	10
	<i>Precinct Three Total</i>	<i>677</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>132</i>
PCT 4	Canutillo	23	5	5	5	4	4
	Mayfair	18	4	4	4	3	3
	Westway	44	9	9	9	9	8
	<i>Precinct Four Total</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>15</i>
Countywide Program Total		828	178	167	165	160	158

*Ascarate Park lighting improvements are a one-time installation program to enhance safety and use at the County park facility.