

City Of Rice Lake Policy On Outdoor Street Lighting

I. Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this Outdoor Street Lighting Policy is as follows:

- A. To insure proper upgrading and development of these facilities within the municipal corporate limits of Rice Lake; and
- B. To derive certain benefits from having an adequate street lighting system such as:
 - 1. Traffic safety
 - 2. Crime prevention
 - 3. Increase in traffic capacity
 - 4. Feeling of security by pedestrians and residents
 - 5. Enhancement of commercial business activities
 - 6. Extension of outdoor social and recreational activities

II. Goals and Objectives

The following are perceived goals for the City of Rice Lake to strive towards achieving in future years to come:

- A. To provide adequate and efficient lighting to satisfy various social, recreational, residential, commercial and industrial needs for the municipality;
- B. Achieve a reduction in costs by providing adequate and efficient lighting; and
- C. Conservation of energy resources for the benefit of future generations who will reside in the community.

The various aforementioned goals will be achieved by means of the following objectives:

- A. Creation of uniform a plan to guide future development of additions to the already existing street lighting system, and
- B. Development of standards governing the necessary and needed replacement of existing street lighting facilities with more modern technology.

III. Standard Procedures for the Installation and Replacement of Outdoor Street Lights

The City of Rice Lake shall have the following procedures that will insure a uniform policy for street lights:

- A. Lights will be installed at all intersections, horizontal street curves, at significant vertical changes in grade and at distances not to exceed 300 feet.
- B. Lights will only be installed at mid-block if the distance between intersections is greater than 300 feet or a request complies with the provisions of Section V.
- C. A light will exist at the end of a cul de sac or dead end street, that measures more than 100 feet in length or more than 100 feet from an existing pole, which are located in residential areas.
- D. Street lights should be installed, with regard to new development, at the time the street is opened and should be coordinated with the installation of electric service whenever possible.
- E. When a light is requested for private use, it shall be construed as a security light, and all expenses for installation and maintenance shall be borne by the party making the request in accordance with PSC rates.
- F. Alleys that have commercial traffic will be allowed one (1) light at each end of the block and one (1) at midblock.
- G. All existing mercury vapor fixtures will be replaced with high pressure sodium fixtures over a ten (10) year period or at the time of failure.
- H. All replacements and new installations will be high pressure sodium fixtures as follows:
 - 1. 100 watt high pressure sodium fixtures on streets that are either low volume traffic oriented or located in residential areas.
 - 2. 150 watt high pressure sodium fixtures on streets that are either high volume collector or arterial oriented.
- I. Requests for street lighting shall be made in writing to the Electric Utility. The Electric Utility will do the following:
 - 1. Conduct a site inspection at the proposed location as so documented within the written request.
 - 2. The Electric Utility will make a recommendation regarding the written request to the City Planner. The City Planner will gather information from any other involved City departments and convey the information to the Common Council for a decision. Any new outdoor lighting will be installed based upon criteria found in Section V of this document.
 - 3. A record shall be maintained by the City Planner regarding the disposition of written requests submitted to it by a petitioner.

IV. Nonconforming Outdoor Street Lighting

- A. Any outdoor lighting fixtures and facilities that exists at the time of adoption of this policy, but made nonconforming by it, may continue with exception for the following provisions:
 - 1. All existing mercury vapor fixtures will be replaced with high pressure sodium fixtures over a ten (10) year period or at the time of failure.

2. Should the "light" fixture be the wrong wattage and in need of maintenance, it shall be replaced in accordance with this policy.
3. All other nonconforming lights and facilities in need of maintenance shall be removed.

V. Criteria for New Outdoor Lighting Requests

The criteria listed in this section shall be taken into consideration upon receipt of requests for new outdoor lighting locations in the City of Rice Lake. A composite rating of at least 50 points shall be required in order for the City Planner, upon receipt of technical information from the Electric Utility, Police, Street, or any other City department to recommend installation of outdoor lighting to the Common Council. However, even if the total composite rating meets or exceeds the total needed to allow for installation of any outdoor lighting, there may exist factors that would negate their placement as requested by a petitioner. Such factors may include, but are not limited to: sufficient ambient light already in existence and radiating from nearby street lights, cost efficiency, opposition by other property owners, etc. Consideration must also be given that, if the request for new outdoor lighting does not meet the total composite score based upon criteria listed in this section, there exists other significant criteria not documented herein that may necessitate installation of outdoor lighting and facilities.

VI. Criteria Allocated Points

Criteria		Allocated Points
1.	An existing or new street of sufficient length that is classified as arterial (unlimited access), collector or local access with two (2) or more connections with other streets.	10
2.	An existing or new street that has several buildings located on it, zoned either industrial, commercial or residential, and are within 300 feet of the requested outdoor lighting installation.	10
3.	An area within the community that can be classified as a "pedestrian attractor" - public, religious, social, institutional or recreational buildings or others such as beach fronts and boat landings.	10
4.	Sidewalks, located on the same side of the street of the requested luminaire, used by pedestrians for purposes such as bicycling, walking, or jogging.	10
5.	An existing or new street intersections that has or is anticipated to have frequent pedestrian or bicycle crossing traffic.	10
6.	An existing or new street that will encounter frequent pedestrian or bicycle traffic during night-time use.	10
7.	An existing or new street location prone to multiple accidents involving either vehicle-pedestrian/bicyclist or vehicle-vehicle, even though all practical and prudent street signage, striping, traffic controls and geometric improvements have been already	20
8.	The nearest street light or other public outdoor light is more than 300 feet away.	10
9.	The proposed location involves on/off street or alley parking and is needed for traffic safety and crime prevention.	10
10.	Documented traffic capacity is of a sufficient amount that it dictates the need for the requested luminaire.	10

Vi. Commercial and Residential Outdoor Street Lighting

The City of Rice Lake shall have the following procedures that will insure a uniform policy for ornamental outdoor street lighting:

- A. Commercial and Residential Ornamental Outdoor Street Lights are street, park or boulevard lighting whereby the lamp is mounted upon a standard or post to which energy is supplied from an underground electric distribution system or from fixtures of special ornamental design, but shall not include decorative "Holiday" lighting. This type of ornamental outdoor street light shall be no more than a one bulb, one fixture unit.
- B. The Common Council may consider a petition for ornamental outdoor street lights so long as the petitioner or property owners present a petition favoring such placement by 51% or more of the property owners of the taxable frontage of any city street.
- C. Commercial and Residential Ornamental Outdoor Street Lighting shall conform to the following standard procedures documented within Section III., they are: (1) (2) . , (3). (4) . , (6). , (8). , and (9). The only exception is that Commercial Ornamental Outdoor Street Lighting may be placed at distances closer than 300 feet apart provided that at the time of the request the developer or petitioner presents to the Common Council and its administrative staff a site plan for their review and consideration detailing the placement of such lights.
- D. Should a developer request Residential¹ Ornamental Outdoor Street Lighting, for his/her subdivision, that person shall pay the cost difference between the standard light fixture and the "ornamental" light fixture. Should a petition be received by the City by property owners requesting installation of either residential or commercial ornamental outdoor street lights, the cost difference between the standard light fixture and the "ornamental" light fixture shall be assessed against the abutting property owners for the geographic area so described within the petition on a front footage basis.
- E. Should the Public Service Commission rate for operation and maintenance of a "ornamental" outdoor street light fixture exceed that of a standard light fixture, the developer or property owners within the geographic area having said lights shall be liable for the cost difference over the "estimated Manufacturer's life expectancy" of the pole and fixture. The cost difference shall be paid by the developer prior to installation of the pole and fixture or assessed against the property owners. If the costs are to be assessed, a waiver of assessments shall be signed by the affected property owners. The City shall petition the PSC for a rate for a single ornamental light fixture which is the same as or comparable to a standard light fixture. At the end of the "estimated Manufacturer's life expectancy" another petition may be brought before the governing body, for their consideration and action, to either allow the continuance of the ornamental light fixture or revert back to a standard light fixture.

- F. (1). A 18' pole with 150 watt HPS Traditionaire Fixture, for residential areas, shall be considered at the time that a developer or petitioner present their site plan to the administrative staff and Common Council for review and consideration.
- (2). Various commercial ornamental outdoor street light elements shall be considered at the time that a developer or petitioner present their site plan to the administrative staff and Common Council for review and consideration.
- G. The developer or petitioners shall present all information and site plans to the administrative staff, for review and recommendations, prior to any Common Council action.

VII. Implementation

Implementation of this outdoor street lighting policy is deemed in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Rice Lake. This policy's intent is to serve planning needs for future years to come, especially taking into consideration time, manpower and fiscal constraints. Its overall purpose is to be both reasonable and fair to all requested interests in need of adequate outdoor street lighting. This policy may be amended as need be, so long as amendments satisfy the overall intent or "spirit" of the document, by a vote of the Common Council of the City of Rice Lake.

Adoption: July 14, 1992

Amended: June 22, 1993

Amended: May 28, 1996

Amended: October 25, 2005 (Common Council Agenda Item 5C)