

Asheville LED Street Lights

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What does LED stand for?

A. Light Emitting Diode. LED's are a newer type of light source with many benefits including: less energy usage, longer lifetime, and less maintenance required.

Q. Are LED's better than compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs?

A. That depends on what you will use the light for. LED's are great for uses like exit signs, streetlights and parking decks, while CFL's are typically used more in residential settings.

Q. What changes will I notice once the new fixtures are installed?

A. The most noticeable change will be the color of the light. The new LED's will have a crisp white/clear color instead of the orange/yellow color from the older fixtures. The photo below illustrates the difference. The actual amount of light output will stay the same and will continue to meet all local, state and federal lighting requirements. The only thing different about the infrastructure will be the actual fixture head. The pole, the fixture arm, the placement of the light on the pole will all stay the same.

Q. I do not live or work in the Phase 1 areas. When will my streetlights be upgraded?

A. The City expects to have all 9,000 streetlights upgraded in the next 3 years.

Q. What are the expected cost savings when switching to LED streetlights?

A. The City anticipates an average of \$65.12 annual savings for each streetlight changed out to LED. When all 9000 streetlights are replaced savings are expected to be approximately \$650,000 each year.



LED

Q. I currently pay for a light on my private property; can I have that light upgraded to LED?

A. Yes. Progress Energy Carolina's (PEC) customer service division can coordinate this for you. Please call 1.800.452.2777 directly.

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Q. Who will be installing the new lights?

A. Haynes Electric is the vendor PEC hired for this installation. The City of Asheville is responsible for purchasing the fixtures and PEC is responsible for installation.

Q. When to I contact the City of Asheville regarding streetlights?

A. When the inquiry is in reference to streetlights on public property for example the pole is in the sidewalk and the lighting is over a street. Please contact Maggie Ullman or Richard Grant (infor below).

Q. When do I contact Progress Energy Carolinas?

A. When the inquiry is in reference to lights on private property. In addition, please contact Progress if you would like your lighting product to be considered for eligibility in municipal streetlight programs across the state. Progress Energy Lighting solutions at 919.481.6139.

Q. How Long will it take to complete the project?

A. The Phase 1 in the River Arts District and the Kenilworth neighborhood will be completed by the end of June 2011. A detailed timeline for upgrading all City streetlights will be available this summer.

Q. What time of day will installation occur?

A. Fixture upgrades will take place Monday –Friday 8am through 6pm.

Q. Will installation disrupt traffic flow?

A. No. The contractors are very familiar with right of way laws and will be courteous and caution in the public right of way.

Q. Who should I contact if I have more questions?

A. Maggie Ullman at mullman@ashevillenc.gov; 828.271.6141: general program questions

B. Richard Grant at rgrant@ashevillenc.gov; 828.259.5937 : specific streetlight needs

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