

Ann Arbor City Council Regular Session: July 15, 2024
Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386

Sent Time	TO	From	CC	Redactions	Reason for Redaction
8:18 PM	Erica Briggs	Jake Parcell		Personal Contact Information	Privacy
8:27 PM	Erica Briggs	Molly Luempert-Coy		Personal Contact Information	Privacy
8:41 PM	Erica Briggs	Rick Bunch		Personal Contact Information	Privacy
9:28 PM	Jenn Cornell	Robert Cross		Personal Contact Information	Privacy

From: [Beaudry, Jacqueline](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Dohoney Jr., Milton](#); [Kaur, Atleen](#); [Liu, Luke](#); [Naheedy, Cyrus](#)
Subject: FW: Amendment for CA-4
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:12:54 PM

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk (she/her/hers)

Immediate Past President, Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks

2019 Michigan City Clerk of the Year

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734.794.6140 (O) · 734.994.8296 (F) | Internal Extension 41401

jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



ANN ARBOR BICENTENNIAL
1824-2024

From: Akmon, Dharma <DAkmon@a2gov.org>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 6:29 PM
To: Gerhart, Stephen <SGerhart@a2gov.org>; Beaudry, Jacqueline <JBeaudry@a2gov.org>
Cc: Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <CTaylor@a2gov.org>; Dohoney Jr., Milton <MDohoney@a2gov.org>
Subject: Amendment for CA-4

Amendments I will bring forward for CA-4

RESOLVED, The replacement lighting installations shall have a correlated color temperature (CCT) of no greater than 3000 K;

RESOLVED, The replacement lighting installations shall use appropriate shielding and the light be directed downward to minimize glare.

From: [Jake Parcell](#)
To: [Briggs, Erica](#)
Subject: Re: Ann Arbor Streetlight Correspondence
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:18:59 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-g0cka0kd.png](#)
[Outlook-5ieuacpv.png](#)

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Thanks Erica!

Please keep me updated - I'll try to tune in. It looks like what you have done is very good work so far! However, I do sympathize with the position you and your staff are in for the trying to push for the best alternative - always a tough spot to be in!

Always happy to help however you need.



Jake Parcell, PhD
Executive Director
602 W. Ionia Street
Lansing, MI 48933
www.scenicmichigan.org
Cell - [REDACTED]

From: Briggs, Erica <EBriggs@a2gov.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 11:45 PM
To: Jake Parcell <jake@scenicmichigan.org>
Subject: Re: Ann Arbor Streetlight Correspondence

Thanks for writing Jake.

I suspect Sally reached out to you. I concur with her that 29w bulbs would be better in the neighborhood and I anticipate a Council may postpone a decision on this issue tomorrow night.

The challenge is that 5,000+ lights in the city are controlled by DTE and while staff has worked to ensure there will be shielding and a lower color temperature (2700k), DTE is making it quite challenging to have two different wattage bulbs. If we forgo the SEMCOG grant we received, DTE's plan is to putting brighter bulbs – 4000k and 65w+ bulbs. So what City staff has negotiated is actually a notably better alternative. That said, we're continuing to press. And I may reach out to you again post Council meeting to see about you writing a letter directly to DTE.

Thanks,

Eric

--

Erica Briggs, PhD

5th Ward Council Member

Cell: [REDACTED]

Visit www.ericafora2.com to sign-up for my Ward newsletter and/or find out about upcoming Ward meetings.

From: Jake Parcell <jake@scenicmichigan.org>

Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 9:39 PM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@a2gov.org>

Subject: Ann Arbor Streetlight Correspondence

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Please see the attached letter for public comment for your upcoming meeting.



Jake Parcell, PhD

Executive Director

602 W. Ionia Street

Lansing, MI 48933

www.scenicmichigan.org

Cell - [REDACTED]

From: [Molly A Luempert-Coy](#)
To: [Briggs, Erica](#)
Subject: Can you please give me a call tomorrow
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:27:53 PM

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

We did offer to do 29 and 58 watt lights. The city staff choose to go to one light. Note both styles are dark skies compliant.

We have worked very effectively with staff, we worked to bring new lighting wattage options to staff. We encouraged them to study this and gain input. We suggested pilots and voting on wattage as well.

My cell is [REDACTED]

From: [Beaudry, Jacqueline](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Dohoney Jr., Milton](#); [Kaur, Atleen](#); [Stewart, Skye](#); [Naheedy, Cyrus](#)
Subject: FW: amendment for CA5
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:30:55 PM

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk (she/her/hers)

Immediate Past President, Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks

2019 Michigan City Clerk of the Year

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ANN ARBOR BICENTENNIAL
1824-2024

From: Akmon, Dharma <DAkmon@a2gov.org>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 6:30 PM
To: Gerhart, Stephen <SGerhart@a2gov.org>; Beaudry, Jacqueline <JBeaudry@a2gov.org>
Cc: Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <CTaylor@a2gov.org>; Dohoney Jr., Milton <MDohoney@a2gov.org>
Subject: amendment for CA5

Hello,

I will be introducing the following amendment for CA5

RESOLVED, That City Council's approval is based on the understanding that DTE will, at the time of installation and at no additional cost to the City, utilize luminaires that meet shielding criteria as determined by the City to minimize light trespass or glare onto private property, to the extent practicable, and direct the City Administrator to request that the Purchase Agreement be amended to reflect this understanding;

Thank you,
Dharma

--

Dharma Akmon
Councilmember, Ward 4

View and sign up for my newsletter at <https://www.dharmafora2.com/news>

From: [Rick Bunch](#)
To: [Sally Oey](#)
Cc: [Briggs, Erica](#)
Subject: Re: * Summary of Streetlight Replacement plans
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:41:50 PM

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hi:

DTEs testimony in the current U-21534 rate case says they do not attempt to satisfy ANSI/IES standards for retrofit projects (e.g., HID to LED conversions. There say their objective is to match out of the box performance of the incumbent HID fixture.

Therefore the LED they install on arterials will depend on the wattage of the HID that's there now. If it's a 150w I believe they will use an 85 wLED. To replace a 100w they will use a 58w LED.

My testimony in the DTE rate case on behalf of A2 and other cities is due next week. I will be happy to send it then.

Rick
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 15, 2024, at 5:36 AM, Sally Oey [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Erica,

You're right, I don't support lighting arterials to higher than 58W. I was going by the assumption that DTE would replace them with 58W 4000K. However, I think there's pressure for them to not use higher wattage. They've stated in the rate cases multiple times that their goals with replacements are to either 1) replace existing "out of the box" light levels, or 2) match IES/ANSI standards. They've been shown in court to be lying about 2). If they go with 1), they really can't increase the brightness by more than 50%.

I'm cc'ing Rick Bunch, who's been working on the rate cases -- Rick, does this seem reasonable, or do you think DTE will try to blast arteries?

The reason I assumed DTE would replace with 58W/4000K lights is because they don't have a leg to stand on for not doing so. Those ARE the replacement brightnesses (even when considering "out of the box") and they stock them. Whereas with 29W lights they presumably don't even stock them.

Anyway, you hae more info than I do on DTE, so do what you think best. REALLY appreciate you moving to postpone!!!

As for the ANSI standards, these the IES standards, as you know. Unfortunatey the IES has made it more complicated and is moving to luminance instead of illuminance. They only illuminance-based values currently published are for intersections, but they state that these are 2x those for mid-block. So I've put together the implied values [HERE](#). As shown, they're consistent with the historical

published values.

Erica, THANK YOU!!!

Sally

On Mon, Jul 15, 2024 at 12:11 AM Briggs, Erica [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Sally:

Thanks for these thoughts. Can you point me to your data on ANSI standards?

Regarding your compromise scenario, I am surprised that you're comfortable with an alternative plan where DTE would just pick whatever bulb they want for the arterials. According to staff, DTE was planning for at least 1,000 street lights with a wattage greater than 58w + color temperature of 4,000. I don't think residents like you who live on Pauline or 7th or Liberty should be exposed to much higher lighting levels.

I am planning to support a postponement tomorrow night to continue to push DTE to actually partner with the City, so far I don't think we've landed on a viable alternative.

Erica

From: Sally Oey [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2024 6:37 PM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@a2gov.org>
Subject: * Summary of Streetlight Replacement plans

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

This summary may be helpful.

City Plan: 58W / 2700K in both neighborhoods and arteries, stock only 58W / 2700K

- Neighborhoods 3-4x brighter than ANSI standards, but color compliant
- Arteries largely dark-sky compliant (brightness and color; 58W is actually still 20-30% too bright)
- Only 1 type of special order lights to be used in both neighborhoods and arteries
- Wastes energy and money compared to alternatives below
- Undermines the lighting ordinance, promoting citizen/business non-compliance and energy waste
- Negative impacts on nighttime ecosystem, human / animal health
- Increased skyglow extension of negative impacts to nearby rural areas

Alternative Plan:

29W / 2700K in neighborhoods, 58W / 2700K in arteries, stock only 29W / 2700K

Allow arteries to be replaced by DTE stock when later needed. Ideally renegotiate something before then, or DTE practices legally challenged.

- Neighborhoods dark-sky/ANSI compliant (brightness and color)
- Arteries initially dark-sky/ANSI compliant (brightness and color); later will become non-compliant in color only if no solution developed
- Initially 2 types of special order lights for neighborhoods and arteries, transitioning to 1 if no solution
- Saves substantial energy and money (another 50% in energy over City Plan, saves on stocking costs, and 29W may be cheaper)
- Mostly supports and visibly promotes lighting ordinance and A2ZERO
- Minimal new impacts on nighttime ecosystem, human / animal health
- Minimal new skyglow including over the nearby rural areas

Third Possible Plan:

29W / 2700K in neighborhoods, stock only 29W / 2700K. Exclude arteries -- they're mostly dark-sky compliant now, with optimal color (~2000 K). Allow arteries to be eventually replaced by DTE; ideally renegotiate something over time, or DTE practices legally challenged.

- Neighborhoods dark-sky/ANSI compliant (brightness and color)
- Arteries initially dark-sky/ANSI compliant (brightness and color); later will become non-compliant in color only if no solution developed
- Risk that arteries will be replaced by DTE sooner than in above Alternative Plan
- Only 1 type of special order lights in only neighborhoods
- Maximally saves energy and money (all savings of Alternative Plan, plus eliminating purchase of 58W / 2700K lights)
- Mostly supports and visibly promotes lighting ordinance and A2ZERO
- Minimal new impacts on nighttime ecosystem, human / animal health
- Minimal new skyglow including over the nearby rural areas

Thanks again for your consideration.

Best,
Sally Oey

On Sat, Jul 13, 2024 at 7:19 PM Sally Oey [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Council Members:

We thank the City staff for all the difficult work they've done to negotiate a better lighting plan for Ann Arbor with DTE, and we appreciate their attempts to be responsive to the lighting ordinance. However, increasing the net streetlight brightness by using 58W lights in residential neighborhoods simply does not make sense when it's possible to simply stock 29W lights instead (*see bottom for the proposed Alternative Plan). I've not heard any convincing reasons not to do so.

- 1) It's said that city staff or DTE contractors cannot handle dealing with two models (29W and 58W).
 - Is it *really* too hard to figure out that a 29W light should be replaced with a 29W light and a 58W light should be replaced with a 58W light? Somehow, they already deal with a larger variety of models now. It should be possible to write a simple contract for this. Moreover, as noted below, the Alternative Plan saves a significant amount of money,

which could be used toward paying for possible extra staff time incurred.

2) It's said that allowing future replacement of 58W/4000K lights on arteries is inequitable to residents on arteries.

- 58W on arteries is the appropriate brightness. Thus the only inequity is that after several years when they need to be replaced, they would get 4000K instead of 2700K color -- i.e., artery residents get bluer colors later, vs neighborhood residents get brighter lights now, forever. It's a relatively minor equity tradeoff versus using lights that are much brighter (and energy-guzzling) than they should be (per ANSI standard) over the majority of the city's area. Moreover, for the Alternative Plan, there will be a few years' time before the replacements are needed, buying time to renegotiate, and legally challenge DTE's stocking requirements (this already came up in the last rate case).

3) Stocking only 29W/2700K lights **reduces the cost** of stocking because the 58W artery lights will not be replaced by them. The 29W lights also may cost slightly less than the 58W lights. Energy bills will be lower, too.

4) It's unclear whether the decision is being made based on a quantitative cost / benefit analysis that includes consideration of the points made here. In principle, there should be a comparison between alternative plans.

5) The city's plan is inconsistent with A2ZERO because: a) the wattage in neighborhoods will exceed national ANSI standards by 300-400%; b) these lights use 50% more energy than necessary; c) the plan would visibly undermine the lighting ordinance, disincentivizing citizens from complying and thus **wasting even more energy**.

6) The existing plan would promote light pollution and brighter nights, further harming the ecosystem (e.g., reducing firefly and bird populations), and harming human and animal health by disrupting sleep and circadian rhythms.

These harms also affect surrounding rural communities since the City's skyglow extends to far beyond the City limits.

7) It's said that it's too late to modify the plan now.

- The Alternative Plan needs only a simple revision to modify a few items in section 4 of the Purchase Agreement to purchase 29W lights instead of 58W. These may cost less, and a cost recalculation may be necessary, but is probably easily done with an existing spreadsheet. A few other words may need to be edited in, e.g., Sections 12 and 13. These changes could be made in one day.

***The compromise Alternative Plan** is supported by City Energy and

Environmental commissioners, and other community leaders: The issue is that DTE requires the City to stock extra lights, which is a huge burden. Thus, instead of stocking only the 58W lights, the City could stock only 29W lights. This would allow replacing with 29W / 2700K lights in neighborhoods, and initially, with 58W / 2700 K on arteries. Eventually, the latter would be replaced with DTE's default 4000 K (blue-white) lights when they later burn out. These would be a bluer color, but the appropriate brightness, and the replacement wouldn't happen for several years. This plan costs less, saves more energy, and is largely dark-sky compliant.

Many thanks for considering these points, and special thanks to Council Members Briggs, Akmon, and Disch for their detailed reviews and questions to staff.

Sincerely,
Sally Oey
Resident of Ward 5, Ann Arbor
Coordinator of [Michigan Dark Skies](#)

Sally Oey (she/her; [pronounce](#))
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Professor of Astronomy
University of Michigan, Department of Astronomy
323 West Hall, 1085 S. University Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1107
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<http://www.astro.lsa.umich.edu/~msoey>
<https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/darkskies>

The University of Michigan is a founding member of the MDM consortium, which operates telescopes on [Iolgam Du'ag](#), Arizona, via the permission and generous lease to the National Science Foundation by the Tohono O'odham Nation, on whose ancestral and current lands this observatory is sited.

From: [Cross, Robert](#)
To: [bonnie gabowitz](#); [Cornell, Jenn](#)
Subject: RE: Ward Talk session tomorrow
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:28:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

This DTE LED replacement seems to be the hot topic as well....kind of confusing!

Rob Cross, Producer

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rcross@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.

From: bonnie gabowitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:57 AM
To: Cornell, Jenn <JCornell@a2gov.org>
Cc: Cross, Robert <RCross@a2gov.org>
Subject: Ward Talk session tomorrow

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Good morning!

I look forward to meeting with you tomorrow at the CTN studio for our 1 pm session. Please feel free to bring your information for reference.

I would like to cover the most recent decisions and actions taken by the council at the most recent session. I usually ask for updates on some topics that continue to be of interest or in need of clarification, such as the issues with DTE, high-rise development, and new housing developments, traffic safety, etc.

We could touch upon these items and any that you deem important to cover:

Braun Court update

S. Universtiy Ave. citizen participation meeting

Street closings this summer for special events/outdoor dining (How is it going?)

Update on gas blower restrictions: Are you getting any complaints from residents?

Stone School Rd. Annexing

State Street/Eisenhower business improvement zone

Also: your updates on the committees you are involved in

As always, I will respect your preferences of the subjects. We can go over our list of topics before we start the taping.

I'll see you tomorrow!

Best regards,

Bonnie Gabowitz

Host, *Ward Talk*.