

POLICY NO AM03 STREET LIGHTING POLICY

DEPARTMENT:	Works and Infrastructure
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Manager Infrastructure and Development Services
LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:	To provide quality infrastructure which enhances the liveability and viability of our communities for residents and visitors
STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	Nil.
OBJECTIVE:	<p>The objectives of this policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set guidelines for the review of existing street lights; and • Provide a standard approach to the connection of lights in new subdivisions.
POLICY INFORMATION:	<p>Adopted 19 March 2012 – Minute No. 03/12.15.4.069 Amended 17 November 2014 - Minute No. 11/14.12.4.323 Amended 25 June 2018 – Minute No. 06/18.13.3.133 Amended 28 June 2021 – Minute No. 06/21.14.6.165 Amended 15 July 2024 – Minute No. 07/24.14.3.409</p>

POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

Council has an obligation to provide a safe environment for its community. Part of this obligation relates to the provision of an environment which is conducive to the safe and effective movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic at night and the discouragement of illegal and anti-social acts.

Street and public place lighting is a critical factor in providing such an environment and amenity level.

This policy is intended to provide guidance and instruction as to what standard of street lighting will be provided within the council area and the process to be considered by Council in determining the provision of new lights.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council properties and roads, and to new subdivisions.

Where possible the provision of street and public place lighting will be in accordance with the lighting categories contained in AS/NZS 1158 - Lighting for Roads and Public Spaces.

3. ASSET AND COST RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility for street lighting is dependent upon the location, and detailed in the table below.

Location	Installation of new street lights	Replace defective street lights	Maintenance of street lights
State roads	State Government	State Government	State Government
Council roads	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government
New subdivision roads (before handover of roads to Council)	Developer	Developer	Developer
New subdivision roads (after handover of roads to Council)	Not applicable	Local Government	Local Government
Private roads	Private Owner	Private Owner	Private Owner

- Council shall be responsible for the cost of street and public lighting, electricity consumption and for the replacement of lamps and other luminaire parts as required in the form of an annual tariff as calculated by the distributor.
- The cost of the provision of street lighting in new subdivisions shall be borne by the subdivision developers including all design and implementation costs.
- The cost of the provision of public place lighting associated with Council owned and controlled public places shall be borne by Council.
- The cost of the provision of public place lighting associated with privately owned and controlled public places (e.g. shopping centers and their car parks) shall be borne by the private owners.
- Security lighting and street light shielding shall be borne by the property owner and all arrangements are to be through the electrical distributor.

4. LIGHTING IN EXISTING AREAS

4.1 Request for Additional Street Lights

Council regularly receives requests for additional street lights within existing settlements. With energy cost upwards of \$100.91 per annum per typical LED street light (June 2021 prices), it is easy to substantially increase street lighting costs without any additional

capacity to collect more rates as opposed to new subdivisions where additional lots are created.

All public requests for new and improved lighting are to be investigated on their merits and for compliance with the standards to be achieved, subject to the availability of funding, emerging technology and the availability of design and construction resources. Consideration will be given to traffic safety and needs of pedestrians.

If a request warrants a minor improvement the electricity company will be requested to erect lights as required. If a request involves a major improvement, the distributor or a public lighting consultant may be requested to design a public lighting scheme.

4.2 Audit of Existing Street Lights

There is a need for ongoing review of existing lights to ensure a requirement still exists. Circumstances occur where decisions made in the past for lights may well not still fulfil a viable need. If lights are removed there will be an immediate financial saving to Council or the possibility for the lights to be repositioned to a more appropriate site following a justified request.

Where required, Council staff will carry out random night time selected street lighting inspections to check for faulty lights. All faults found will be lodged into Council's system and repairs undertaken by the electricity provider.

4.3 Shielding of Street Lights

Council will only investigate and consider the provision of available shielding to lights where it will not substantially decrease the level of lighting in the vicinity of the light fitting, and all practical attempts to reduce light affecting the requester's property have been made by the requester to the satisfaction of Council's Responsible Officer.

Upon receiving an application for street light shielding Council will conduct an assessment and approval process.

The assessment process will include a risk assessment and will cover the following elements:

- Category of road;
- Vehicle and pedestrian usage of the road;
- Location of the street light on the road segment;
- Proximity of the street light to the residence in question;
- Existence of previous complaints about the light;
- Consideration of the neighbouring properties;
- Ability to shield the fitting to cut off spill light at the property boundary or just beyond without impacting on the road lighting.

The shielding would normally be a section of steel/aluminium provided by the light fitting manufacturer or purpose made for the fitting, fitted to the rear of the light fitting to prevent light spilling from the rear of the fitting.

5. LIGHTING IN NEW SUBDIVISIONS

5.1 Type of Lights

There is an increasing request to install decorative type lights in new subdivisions as opposed to the standard galvanized pole and light fitting. Although this may result in an upmarket streetscape theme, the end result is that Council has to take over responsibility for the street lights once the subdivision is off the statutory maintenance period. The cost of replacement of these fittings is a fivefold increase on the standard pole and light.

Where a developer proposes to install non-standard or lighting beyond the requirements of AS/NZS 1158, the request and predicted maintenance costs will be reported to council for decision.

5.2 Number of Lights

The standard for street lighting does provide a recommendation for a level of lighting in excess of that normally provided throughout the Municipality. Compliance with this standard would result in additional costs and may well lead to a level of lighting in excess of requirements.

The following to be the level of lighting in new subdivisions:

- Lights to be positioned at road junctions and intersections.
- Generally positioned at approximately 50 metre intervals, this can be adjusted to coincide with junctions and bends in streets.
- Positioned at the head of dead end streets.
- Unless other circumstances prevail, positioned on the same side as the footpath.

5.3 Connection of Street Lights

Following the installation of the street lights as part of subdivision works, the lights are not connected to the supply until such time as Council authorises the connection.

It is possible for no dwellings to be constructed in a specific area for some time after the subdivision works are completed; subsequently there is not a need for lighting.

As there is no charge to Council until the connection is made, there is the potential for significant savings to Council if the connection is delayed. Alternatively there is also the possibility of connecting individual lights in a street.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every three (3) years in line with the Council's Policy Framework or earlier in the event of major changes to legislation or related policies, procedures or if deemed necessary by the General Manager.