

19. PUBLIC HEARINGS

d. CONSIDERATION OF BILL NO. 2021-4. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2021-4. (Mayor Alan Webber, Councilor Lindell and Councilor Rivera)

An Ordinance Approving Lease-Purchase Agreement and Escrow Agreement with Sterling National Bank for the Purpose of Financing the Installation of Energy Efficiency Measures in City Facilities Pursuant to the Energy Savings Performance Contract with Yearout Energy Services, LLC and the Global Management Performance Contract with Dalkia Energy Solutions, LLC. (Brad Fluetsch, City of Santa Fe Cash and Investment Manager, bjfluetsch@santafenm.gov, 955-6885)

COMMITTEE REVIEW:

Public Works and Utilities Committee: 01/25/21

Governing Body (Request to Publish): 01/27/21

Public Works and Utilities Committee: 02/08/21

Finance Committee: 02/15/21

Governing Body (Public Hearing): 02/24/21

Name: Cynthia Behrens

Comment - 02/22/2021 10:50 AM: (Against)

This needs more consideration. Putting up this type of lightning in Santa Fe could affect how the sky can be viewed. Traveling to and living in Santa Fe the view of the night sky is important to many people. Don't destroy it.

Name: William Hutchinson

Comment - 02/23/2021 12:03 PM: (No Vote)

My wife and I support street light upgrading to LED lights however ask the council to mandate that they be no more than 2,700 Kelvin for neighborhoods and arterials so the light bounce is kept to a minimum protecting our night skies and additionally that the lights be in a balanced blue-red wavelength so it's a more natural light. Blue light adversely affects insects and animals.

William Hutchinson

Margaret Hachmann

Name: Sam Finn

Comment - 02/23/2021 06:36 PM: (Against)

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilors:

While recognizing the important benefits associated with LED lighting, I urge you to delay acting on this proposal in its present form.

* The 3000 – 4000 K color temperature of the proposed lighthing has been noted to have serious health effects, leading to a (rare) warning and recommendation from the AMA that outdoor street and roadway lighting be held to lower than 3000 K as an upper limit.

* Highway safety experts have long noted that high CCT lighting increases roadway glare, and that low (2200 - 2700 K) lighting is preferred for its superior penetrating ability through dust and other particulates.

* The color temperature of the proposed lighting is also documented, by the US Naval Observatory, the National Optical Astronomical Observatory, and the American Astronomical Society, to seriously degrade the night sky environment for everything from casual stargazing to amateur astronomy.

* A number of cities that installed higher CCT lighthing have been compelled, by resident complaints, to retrofit lower temperature alternatives at a not inconsiderable expense.

No case has been made for choosing the high CCT lighting in this proposal relative to lower temperature (2200 – 2700 K) lighting. Several representations made to you to justify this proposal – such as non-existent NMDOT “requirements”, or denial of effects on the night sky environment – have been shown to be false. The lower temperature LED lighting alternatives are no more expensive than the higher temperature lights in the current proposal, no less available, no less reliable, and avoid all the public health and safety, and night sky environment issue that the higher CCT lighting causes.

I urge you to delay this decision until you have in hand solid and verified facts on the lower temperature lighting alternatives and can make an informed judgement.

Thank you for your time and your efforts to get this decision right.

Sincerely,

Sam Finn
29 Quedo Rd.

Name: Peter Lipscomb

Comment - 02/24/2021 10:45 AM: (Against)

I am excited the city wants to replace our current, outdated roadway lighting. We all want to save money and be energy efficient. However, the current lighting implementation plan threatens to overshoot the best practices recommended for this kind of project.

The city has a great opportunity to demonstrate responsible leadership with respect to the street lighting retrofit. Rather than follow the pack and do what has been done in other cities, Santa Fe should practice due diligence and get more fully informed about potentially expensive consequences when poor choices are made for projects of this nature.

Correlated color temperatures at 3000K and 4000K will produce a higher level of blue light output than lower Kelvin ratings. The diagram released by the city spokesperson is misleading as it only addresses Kelvin scale. If Kelvin is the skin, correlated color temperature is the guts.

Others and I have looked for any document that states NMDOT requires 4000K for roadway lighting. So far, we haven't been able to confirm this is the case.

Much of the current plan seems based upon vendor-driven specs and cites an obscure industry trade magazine from Western Australia to justify 4000K.

I request the city postpone approval for contracts with Dalkia, allow time for a comprehensive review of the plan, and seek recommendations from an independent source. Consider hiring a PE who specializes in roadway lighting for urban settings, form an advisory group like the tourism recovery group, and provide opportunities for city staff and elected officials to learn about sensible lighting practices.

Let's take the time to get this right.

Respectfully,

Peter Lipscomb

Name: Albert Shultz

Comment - 02/24/2021 11:26 AM: (Against)

Do not seek financing for the Dalkia GMPC. The proposed replacement of streetlights is a good idea, but the use of LED lights with 4000K color temperature is inappropriate and indefensible. See comments for item 19.b.

Albert Shultz

107 Cienega St, Santa Fe NM 87501

Name: Ollie Eisman

Comment - 02/24/2021 11:44 AM: (Against)

I urge the City to either secure a guarantee that all new LED lighting adheres to a color temperature of 2700K or cancel this project. The American Medical Association (AMA) has issued a statement that warns of negative health impacts when using lights with color temperatures over 3000K.

*A white LED at CT 4,000 K contains a high level (over 30%) of short wavelength, blue light. These overly blue harsh lights are damaging to the environment and have adverse human health effects. In some locations where they were installed, such as the city of Davis, California, residents demanded a complete replacement of these high CT street lights for lower CCT lighting. **Cities that have followed the AMA recommendations and adopted 3,000 K or 2,700 K have seen much greater acceptance of LED lighting, and with much lower blue content which is better for human and environmental health, and reduces glare and is thus safer for driving.***

*The AMA has made three recommendations in its policy statement: First, the AMA supports a "proper conversion to community based Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting, which reduces energy consumption and decreases the use of fossil fuels." Second, the AMA "encourage[s] minimizing and controlling blue-rich environmental lighting by using the lowest emission of blue light possible to reduce glare." **Third, the AMA "encourage[s] the use of 3,000 K or lower lighting for outdoor installations such as roadways. All LED lighting should be properly shielded to minimize glare and detrimental human and environmental effects, and consideration should be given to utilize the ability of LED lighting to be dimmed for off-peak time periods."***

Source: <https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2018JAVSO..46..193M/abstract>

Thank you,

Ollie Eisman

3600 Cerrillos Rd. #1006A

Santa Fe, NM 87507

Name: J. Marsden DeLapp, PE

Comment - 02/24/2021 12:46 PM: (No Vote)

I have briefly reviewed the "Santa Fe Implementation Plan" for the city's street lighting changes.

It appears to me that this plan fails to comply with the New Mexico Electrical Code requirements.

The city should delay action and consult with a Professional Engineer with expertise in lighting and electrical installations before proceeding.

J. Marsden DeLapp, PE