

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ollie Eisman <ollie@ollietech.com>
Subject: Re: LED streetlights
Date: April 16, 2021 at 8:12:07 AM MDT
To: "WHEELER, REGINA A." <rawheeler@santafenm.gov>, "WEBBER, ALAN M." <amwebber@santafenm.gov>, "cheyenne.ernst@dalkiasolutions.com" <cheyenne.ernst@dalkiasolutions.com>
Cc: "HERNDON, DAVID A." <daherndon@santafenm.gov>, "LAPAN HILL, JAREL" <jlapanhill@santafenm.gov>, "GARCIA, MICHAEL J." <mjgarcia@santafenm.gov>, silindell@santafenm.gov, "ROMERO-WIRTH , CAROL" <cromero-wirth@santafenm.gov>, jcsanchez@santafenm.gov, jvcoppler@santafenm.gov, rrabeyta@santafenm.gov, cmrivera@santafenm.gov, rdvillarreal@santafenm.gov

Ms. Wheeler,

Thank you for that list but I was hoping for more detailed project specifications.

It appears you have carefully analyzed LED lighting options based on some well-defined requirements. I think we'd all like to have detailed project requirements/specifications and related analyses as a reference while we are in this critical decision making phase – not after the fact. That would be extremely helpful and eliminate a lot of confusion. Perhaps you can direct me to these documents, RFPs, etc. Are they online? Given how much money is allocated for this project and how it impacts almost everyone in Santa Fe, I would assume these documents are part of the public record.

Ollie Eisman

On 2021-04-15 18:14, WHEELER, REGINA A. wrote:
Hello Mr. Eisman,

Luminaires for the project need to meet the following specs:
reliability and warranty; energy savings; ft candles on the ground;
shielding – all in one fixture.

Yes, we will share notes from steering committee meetings with names of members redacted. Notes from the meeting will be posted next week. It is an honor to have the contributions of this thoughtful group of community leaders that represent a range of perspectives of Santa Feans. That said, we honor all feedback received and will compile and incorporate into the design.

Thank you,
Regina

Regina Wheeler
City of Santa Fe
Public Works Director
505-955-6622 (o)
505-690-4197 (m)
rawheeler@santafenm.gov

From: Ollie Eisman <ollie@ollietech.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 4:17 PM
To: WHEELER, REGINA A. <rawheeler@santafenm.gov>; WEBBER, ALAN M. <amwebber@santafenm.gov>; cheyenne.ernst@dalkiasolutions.com
Cc: HERNDON, DAVID A. <daherndon@santafenm.gov>; LAPAN HILL, JAREL <jlapanhill@santafenm.gov>
Subject: Re: LED streetlights

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Ms. Wheeler,

Thank you for your prompt reply and I look forward to viewing the fixture specifications on Dalkia's website. I appreciate you taking the time to do that.

May I ask what project needs precluded the use of 2200K fixtures? Are these project needs available to view online as well?

As for the community leaders chosen to participate in this project: Will any minutes or other documents be made available about their priorities, recommendations, and/or findings? If confidentiality is a concern, perhaps their names can be struck from the records. I would like to see what decisions this group generates given the important role they have in this process.

Thanks again,

Ollie

On 2021-04-15 16:49, WHEELER, REGINA A. wrote:
Hello Mr. Eisman and Mayor Webber,

We can provide you with the specifications that are being included for consideration in our Community Guided Lighting Design, and we will put them on the website. These fixtures have been vetted to meet all requirements of the project including community goals and regulations. All fixtures far exceed all dark sky regulations with full cutoff shielding and other state of the art features that protect wildlife, health, safety and reliability.

Note that while Mr. Ruskin has that initial statement, he goes on to explain that there are five factors that need to be incorporated into safe, reliable, compliant and dark sky protective lighting design. He lists a number of dark sky designated communities that use only lights above 2200 kelvin, with most communities using 3000 kelvin. We have met with the IDA and they will continue to be involved in our lighting design so that we can achieve Dark Sky Community Designation.

The team has evaluated many fixtures and has not identified at 2200 kelvin light that meets all project needs. There will be 2700, 3000 and 4000 kelvin temperature lights in the demonstrations. If a 2200 kelvin light is found that meets project needs, it could be added to the demonstrations.

In order to ensure that the City's street light design meets the City Code requirement to balance the community needs to save energy, provide safety and security, protect dark skies and preserve the character of Santa Fe, the City has asked a number of community leaders from different neighborhoods, business, advocacy groups and perspectives to be deeply engaged in the process. Their first meeting was Tuesday and they identified priorities from their perspective of project. I am confident that with their involvement and the diligence on the part of the project team to meet all regulations, project goals and community desires, we will bring forward a lighting design that serves Santa Fe well.

We will be sharing all feedback with the Governing Body and we will compile that feedback to guide the design and provide that information when the community guided lighting design is brought forward.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Best,
Reginia

Regina Wheeler
City of Santa Fe
Public Works Director
505-955-6622 (o)
505-690-4197 (m)
rawheeler@santafenm.gov

From: Ollie Eisman <ollie@ollietech.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 3:26 PM
To: WEBBER, ALAN M. <amwebber@santafenm.gov>
Cc: WHEELER, REGINA A. <rawheeler@santafenm.gov>; HERNDON, DAVID A. <daherndon@santafenm.gov>; LAPAN HILL, JAREL <jlapanhill@santafenm.gov>
Subject: Re: LED streetlights

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Mayor Weber,

Thank you for taking the time to reply to my email.

I am encouraged by the City's goal to obtain certification as an International Dark Sky Community. That is indeed good news! As such, I think we should listen to the advice of the IDA's Executive Director, Ruskin Hartley, who wrote to you and the City Council on April 12, 2021. In that letter, Mr. Ruskin said:

"[...] we recommend that most light installations use lamps rated at 2200K CCT or lower, PC-Amber, or filtered LEDs. This includes road and area lighting. There is overwhelming evidence that these colors have less impact on the environment. Fixtures are now available with good all-around performance that meet this recommendation."

Can anyone at the City, PNM, or Dalkia provide specifications for the LED fixtures they plan to install at the demonstration sites in Santa Fe? Do these sample LEDs lights meet the above recommendation? Will any light fixtures with CCT at 2200K or lower be on display at the demonstration locations in Santa Fe? If not, why?

Also, you mentioned that we have "an informed and engaged citizen advisory group." May I ask how this group of individuals was chosen?

Finally, is there any public document that shows the process of selecting the final LED streetlight design? How do community inputs factor into this process?

Thank you for your efforts to protect Santa Fe's dark skies.

Ollie Eisman

On 2021-04-15 13:17, WEBBER, ALAN M. wrote:

Hi Ollie,

Thanks for the email—good questions and input.

There's nothing about the vote last night that designates a lighting solution, period. It just commits the City and PNM to work together to replace street lights—and PNM publicly stated that they wanted to be part of the community-engagement process and follow that path forward. So it's actually a very good outcome. Under Regina Wheeler's leadership, we've also gotten DOT to consider solutions that they've never imagined in the past. This is truly a pathbreaking project.

For some reason, while I thought the tremendous effort being made by Regina and her team at Public Works should have earned great praise and commendation, instead there were some expressions that sounded more negative—I honestly don't know why.

We're working to get an International Dark Sky City designation—good news! We'll have 5 sites where folks can go themselves and check out lighting options—good news! We've got an informed and engaged citizen advisory group—good news! We have PNM onboard as a partner, committed to working with the design that is recommended for the other street lights—good news! There is nothing in any agreement that even mentions 4000k—more good news!

I think we're all in vigorous agreement about the opportunity this project presents to make Santa Fe a case study in how to do it right.

That's the real good news.

Take care, stay safe,
Alan

Alan Webber
amwebber@santafenm.gov

“There are few things wholly evil or wholly good. Almost everything, especially of governmental policy, is an inseparable compound of the two, so that our best judgment of the preponderance between them is continually demanded.”

A. Lincoln