

Dark Sky Policy Evaluation Work Group
Workshop #1 **Summary**- February 21, 2017

Cliff Morton Development and Business Services Center, 1901 South Alamo Street

Workshop #1: Getting Started

- **Welcome**

Rod Sanchez, Assistant City Manager and Doug Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer welcomed and thanked the attendees for their attendance and willingness to participate in the workshop.

- **Introductions**

All attendees introduced themselves representing various sectors including Military, Development, Human Health, Education, Astronomy, Public Utilities, Environment, and various local government agencies.

- **Process Overview**

Mr. Melnick provided an overview of the Policy Evaluation process and timeline.

- **Current Dark Sky Ordinance Overview**

Mr. Melnick discussed previous studies and reports relevant to outdoor lighting ordinances in San Antonio.

Work Group Comments:

- AACOG may be planning a Regional Joint Land Use Study. Office Sustainability staff will follow up with AACOG and invite to be a part of the process.
- Light intensity should include evaluation that goes beyond wattage to include lumens and wavelength.

- **Roles and Expectations**

The Work Group will act as an Advisory Group, which will provide expertise and evaluate information provided through the process. The Group will also provide assistance with identifying key stakeholders and provide resources or sources of information to be evaluated in the process.

- **Next Steps**

Workshop #2 – April 18th, 2017

Sustainability Staff requested from Work Group:

- to provide any relevant data, resources and sources of information to include in research phase of the process
- stakeholders that should be included in outreach
- and volunteers to assist with sector relevant research

- **Initial Feedback**

- The concerns over complicated and costly regulations need to be considered in the process.
- Safety is a concern (real or perceived) in adequate lighting.
- The importance of maintaining compatibility with the Military is critical to national security and keeping the industry in our community.
- Cost Benefit analysis and impacts on human health are just as important to consider.
- The impact of light pollution on air quality needs to be considered.