

## Dark Sky Policy Evaluation Work Group Workshop #2- April 18, 2017 3:00pm

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

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### Workshop #2: What We Know

- **Welcome**

- **Research Summary**

Staff provided a summary of research related to outdoor lighting and light pollution.

Research included scientific studies, academic and news related articles regarding the impacts of light pollution on human health, public safety, ecology, wildlife, energy, and the economy. Work Group was asked to send any additional studies or information for consideration to staff.

Work Group Comments:

- Using lights with less lumen and wattage allows for easier visibility. Reducing color temperature to 2100
- Clarification on how the impacts of light pollution and scientific studies relate to the Military Outdoor Lighting Overlay and the process.
- Staff should consider contacting other cities with Dark Sky related ordinances to get an estimate of the associated cost of replace street lighting fixtures, or switching over to different lights and if there was a return on energy savings.
- Automobile lights also create a lot of glare.

- **Best Practices**

Staff provided a brief summary of states, cities, and towns that have light pollution laws and the intent covering military operations, astronomical, economical, and overall impacts on wildlife and environment.

- **DSD Outdoor Lighting Standard Overview**

Development Services Department staff provided a summary comparing the current Military Lighting Overlay District standards to the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code, Bexar County Ambient Lighting Assessment Report, and International Dark Sky Association standards.

Work Group Comments:

- IECC is outdated and does not address light pollution but rather energy consumption.
- The implementation would need to be phased in. There are current big facilities, such as the Dominguez penitentiary where the lights are often mistaken for Lackland Military Base and will draw complaints.
- Location near Edison high school used as an example of bad glare on the road.

- **Stakeholder Outreach Update**

Staff provided an update on stakeholder outreach including website, meetings, and presentations.

Work Group Comments:

- Neighborhoods should be included more in the process and can be accessed through the council members.
  - Large property owners should be included in list of key stakeholders to reach out to.
  - Public educational components should include teaching importance of dark skies and impacts of light pollution.
  - Consider creating criteria with weighted points and considerations in the policy evaluation process
- **Next Steps**
    - Workshop #3 – May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017