

## **PROCESS: Outdoor Lighting Ordinance; Section 10-11**

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All outdoor lighting devices shall be installed in conformance with the provisions of this section, the Land Use and Development Code (LUDC), and the adopted Building Code. In any conflict between the general provisions herein and any other provision, the more restrictive provision shall govern.

A lighting plan shall be submitted along with the established submittal requirements, and shall include the following:

- a. \_\_\_ Location of all buildings and parking areas on the site;
- b. \_\_\_ The location and height above grade for all proposed and existing outdoor light fixtures;
- c. \_\_\_ The type (such as incandescent, fluorescent, high pressure sodium, etc.) and wattage, initial lumen rating of each light source;
- d. \_\_\_ The type, description, and image of each fixture a (cutoff versus full cutoff fixture, lantern style, etc);
- e. \_\_\_ Estimates for site illumination resulting from the lighting proposed, measured in footcandles (fc) including minimum, maximum, and average footcandles and uniformity ratio;
- f. \_\_\_ If building walls are to be illuminated or if facade mounted fixtures are to be used, drawings of all relevant building elevations showing the fixtures and the portions of the walls to be illuminated and the light levels; and
- g. \_\_\_ Other information deemed necessary to document compliance with the provisions of this section.

### **Applications**

1. The following outdoor lighting improvements shall be installed prior to a final inspection for any redevelopment or remodeling of an existing structure that entails expansion to the square footage or an exterior remodel of the building:
  - a. \_\_\_ When the cost of development or redevelopment is less than 25% of the actual value of the existing structure, all existing unshielded exterior light fixtures, exclusive of existing parking lot lighting, shall be retrofitted with shielding to prevent light trespass and sky glow.
  - b. \_\_\_ When the cost of all development or redevelopment exceeds 25% of actual value of the existing structure, all exterior lighting shall be brought into full conformance with the requirements of this section.
2. Compliance is required for all land use applications.
3. Compliance is required for all design review board(s) facade review submittals and historic preservation board submittals for renovations of non-single family/duplex uses in historic districts.

**Nonconforming lighting and compliance.** All outdoor lighting that existed prior to the effective date of this section and that does not conform to the requirements of this section shall be considered pre-existing and nonconforming.

1. The following lights shall be exempt from the lighting standards. See LUDC Section 10-11 for further details:
  - a. \_\_\_ Holiday lighting.
  - b. \_\_\_ Municipal and emergency lighting.
  - c. \_\_\_ Lighting on towers as required by the Federal Aviation Administration.
  - d. \_\_\_ Approved illuminated time and temperature displays.
  - e. \_\_\_ Lighting for single-family and two-family (duplex) residential uses.
2. Prohibited lights. The following lights shall be prohibited within the city limits:
  - a. \_\_\_ Roof lights, except where required by the building code.
  - b. \_\_\_ Unshielded light sources and uplighting - light that shines in an upward direction.
  - c. \_\_\_ Search light, aerial lasers and spot lights. Shielded spot lights may be used in loading zones during loading and unloading operations.
  - d. \_\_\_ Lights which flash, move, revolve, blink, flicker, vary in intensity, change color, or use intermittent electrical pulsation or lighting obtrusive to neighboring properties.
  - e. \_\_\_ Mercury vapor light source.

### **General requirements**

1. Neither internal nor exterior lighting shall be the cause of light trespass. Light trespass from multifamily residential, public, commercial, and industrial properties is measured by vertical readings in footcandles (fc) at the brightest point on the property line.
  - a. \_\_\_ Light trespass onto public [rights-of-way] shall not exceed 1.5 fc.
  - b. \_\_\_ Light trespass onto adjacent multifamily residential, public, commercial, and industrial properties shall not exceed 1.5 fc.
  - c. \_\_\_ Light trespass onto adjacent single- or two-family residential properties shall not exceed 0.8 fc.
  - d. \_\_\_ Light from a single- or two-family property may trespass onto adjacent single- or two-family properties to a level not to exceed 0.8 fc.
2. Light levels
  - a. \_\_\_ Light levels shall be measured from three feet above ground level.
  - b. \_\_\_ Light at entrances and windows, including spillage from indoor lighting to the outside, shall not exceed 10 fc unless otherwise indicated.
3. \_\_\_ Unless otherwise stated in this section, uplight from all outdoor lighting shall be avoided by using shields.
4. \_\_\_ To reduce glare, the point source of light shall not be visible from beyond any property line on which the light source is located.
5. \_\_\_ Outdoor lighting, except for security lighting, shall be extinguished at the close of business or servicing or by 11:00 p.m., whichever is later and not be turned on until one (1) hour before business operations resume or 5:00 a.m., whichever is earlier.
6. \_\_\_ If an existing light fixture is removed, it shall only be replaced with a conforming light fixture.

### **Specific uses**

1. \_\_\_ Security lighting is permitted and is defined as lighting designed to discourage crime and undesirable activity. Security lighting must meet the requirements found in subsections (a) through (d) of section 10-11-6.
2. \_\_\_ Architectural accent lighting is permitted as follows:
  - a. \_\_\_ Fixtures used to accent architectural features, materials, colors, or style of building shall be located, aimed, and shielded so that light is directed only on those features being highlighted.
  - b. \_\_\_ Rope lighting of a width of two (2) inches or less may be used as an architectural feature. Rope lighting must be placed so that it is shielded from shining directly upward.
  - c. \_\_\_ Linear lighting such as fluorescent awnings, illuminated bands, or rope light or neon, and similar lighting that is two (2) inches or more in width are prohibited. Facade lighting primarily intended to be an attention-gaining device is also prohibited.
3. Public art and landscapes may be illuminated provided that:
  - a. \_\_\_ The light source is shielded to minimize any uplight and shielded from lateral view except in the direction in which the object is located;
  - b. \_\_\_ The light is directed only onto the object and not surrounding areas to all extent possible;
  - c. \_\_\_ The incandescent wattage does not exceed 40 watts per lamp;
  - d. \_\_\_ A maximum of two light sources is used; and
  - e. \_\_\_ Mounting lighting on adjacent structures is encouraged, although ground mounted lights are acceptable if the art stands alone as long as the intention of section 10-11-7(h)(1) is achieved.
4. Flags on rooftops may not be illuminated. Flags of the United States or Colorado that are pole mounted and whose poles stem from the ground may be illuminated from below provided such lighting is:
  - a. \_\_\_ Shielded from lateral view and focused primarily on the individual flag or flags.
  - b. \_\_\_ Lights (fixtures or bulbs) are no more than six (6) inches in diameter, have no more than a ten-degree beam spread and are less than sixty (60) watts incandescent.
5. Nighttime activities for outdoor recreational facility must meet the following provisions
  - a. \_\_\_ Lighting plans for outdoor recreational facilities must be submitted. The system shall be designed and certified by a professional certified lighting engineer.
  - b. \_\_\_ Conditions for the nighttime illumination of the facility should include hours of operation, limits on lighting intensity, and specific fixture design.
  - c. \_\_\_ A professional electrician or other certified professional shall install the light system.
  - d. \_\_\_ All outdoor lighting used for outdoor recreational facilities shall be extinguished within one hour of the conclusion of the final event of the day.
6. Street lighting
  - a. \_\_\_ Street lighting shall be shielded but either full cutoff, cutoff, or semi-cutoff fixtures, or a combination of these types, may be used.

- b. \_\_\_ Existing historic street lighting within the Central Business District or elsewhere shall be retrofitted with shields or caps to reduce uplight.
- 7. Trail lighting
  - a. \_\_\_ Lighting shall be directed to illuminate the trail and areas adjacent to the trail.
  - b. \_\_\_ Fixtures shall be full cutoff, cutoff, or semi-cutoff fixtures and shall demonstrate reduction of glare.
- 8. Canopy lighting
  - a. Lighting fixtures mounted under canopies used for vehicular shelter shall be aimed downward and installed such that the bottom of the light fixture or its lens, whichever is lower, is recessed or mounted flush with the bottom surface of the canopy. A full cutoff light fixture may project below the underside of a canopy. All light emitted by an under-canopy fixture shall be substantially confined to the ground surface directly beneath the perimeter of the canopy. No lighting, except that permitted by the sign ordinance, shall be permitted on the top or sides of a canopy.
- 9. Strings of lights.

No person shall use a string of lights on property with non-residential uses except as follows:

  - a. Strings of lights may only be used if they are approved by the city manager as part of an outdoor lighting plan or landscape plan in compliance with this section.