

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

001-011-0000-00

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah A. Edgerly
FROM: Public Works Agency
DATE: January 9, 2007

RE: **Action on a Report And Recommendation for Upgrading and Maintaining
Street Lights in the City of Oakland**

SUMMARY

At the request of the Public Works Committee, this report presents of the past and present processes for installing upgraded street lighting levels. It includes a history of the augmented funding for the enhanced street lighting program and proposes a proactive re-lamping program.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost for the proactive re-lamping program is estimated at \$677,784 in the first year and \$529,106 each subsequent year. The table below breaks down the first year and on-going costs to fund the proactive streetlight re-lamping program.

Note: Future negotiated salary increases are not taken into account. Program funding will be requested as part of the FY 2007-09 budget development process.

Item: _____
Public Works Committee
January 9, 2007

<i>Personnel Costs</i>	Year 1 Costs			Year 2+ On-Going Costs		
	Salaries	Benefits	Full Costs	Salaries	Benefits	Full Costs
Electrician 1	\$68,553	\$45,976	\$114,529	\$71,286	\$47,818	\$119,104
Electrician 2	\$68,553	\$45,976	\$114,529	\$71,286	\$47,818	\$119,104
Subtotal:	\$137,106	\$91,952	\$229,058	\$142,572	\$95,636	\$238,208
Operating Costs						
Truck 1 (one time cost)			\$80,664			
Truck 2 (one time cost)			\$80,664			
Truck 1 (annual)			\$26,199			\$26,199
Truck 2 (annual)			\$26,199			\$26,199
Lamps, pc (on-going)			\$200,000			\$200,000
Poles (on-going)			\$20,000			\$22,000
Miscellaneous			\$15,000			\$16,500
Subtotal:			\$448,746			\$290,898
Total Costs:	\$	\$	\$677,784	\$	\$	\$529,106

In addition, the estimated costs associated with the continuation of the augmented funding for enhanced street lighting would be \$100,000 each fiscal year. This would allow the installation of 25 new streetlights on standard steel poles or 200 streetlight upgrades or any combination of both. This funding would allow requests to be implemented rather than being placed on a pending list for future action when or if funding became available. (These costs are not captured in the table above).

The Electrical Services Division will request funding for these programs as part of the Public Works Agency's FY 2007-09 Budget proposal.

BACKGROUND

In 1992 the City Council directed the (former) Office of General Services to conduct the first comprehensive study of street lighting in the City of Oakland as part of the Street Light Improvement Program (SLIP). The survey found that the City of Oakland's street lighting system fell significantly below the most current American National Standard Institute's standard for street lighting. The City began a \$14 million capital project to improve the level of street lighting citywide. The City Council approved an implementation plan with its first priority to improve street lighting levels in "high crime areas" as defined by the Oakland Police Department. The area below the Warren Freeway was second for upgrades, and the areas above the Warren Freeway last; with many residents in the area above the Warren Freeway requesting no additional lighting be installed on hill streets. The current City Street Lighting Warrants were

established in 1994 and revised in 1999 to allow lower aesthetic lighting levels on residential streets and to change the petition requirements from the opt-out process to an opt-in requirement. The new process allowed areas in need of a higher level of lighting to opt in by completing a petition signed by the majority of the residents within a minimum of a city block. The SLIP Project was completed in 2000.

The 1992 Street Light Improvement Program (SLIP) required each street to be field surveyed and a job listing was created to identify each location requiring an upgrade, a new light on an existing pole or a new pole installation. In high crime and areas below the Warren Freeway, which were completed first, the poles with lights to be upgraded or added were posted with a notice giving residents the option to opt out of the program. Once the initial time frame for opting out had passed, contractors proceeded with the installations.

In FYs 2001-02 and 2002-03 Electrical Services received augmented funding of \$100,000 per year from the City Council to fulfill neighborhood requests for additional lighting and upgrades to the existing levels of street lighting. This program also assisted the Police Department in curtailing illicit activities and illegal dumping on city streets by increasing the lighting levels for six-month periods.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Enhanced Street Lighting

In 2006, Electrical Services reviewed 12 petitions for upgraded streetlights and two requests by the Police Department for temporary lighting upgrades. The estimated cost to implement all requests was \$150,060. Funding was provided for six of the requests and the two temporary upgrades. Electrical Services has no funds available at this time to fulfill the balance of the unfunded requests which have an estimated total cost of \$68,100 (Attachment A).

Without the augmented funding for enhanced street lighting, citizens' requests will continue to be placed on a waiting/pending list for lack of funding. There are 6 unfunded requests in the pending file with a cost estimate of \$68,100 to fulfill. Additionally, requests by the Police Department for temporary lighting upgrades will not move forward without outside funding.

Each 100-watt streetlight adds approximately 250 pounds of CO₂ to the air each year. Since the City is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, restraint will be important when determining where to increase street lighting levels.

Streetlight Re-lamping Program

Without the Proactive Streetlight Re-lamping Program the number of street light failures continues to increase and the response time to repair those failures also continues to increase. In FY 2005-06 the number of repair calls increased to an all time high of 3,354 with an additional 1,330 failures found and fixed by electricians in the course of their work shift. The response time for repair requests has grown from an 87% response time within one working day in FY 2003-04 to a 46% response time within one working day in FY 2005-06. The longer a streetlight remains out, the greater the City's potential risk for liability lawsuits due to vehicular accidents and/or trip and fall accidents.

In the current budget, Electrical Services receives funding for 4.5 FTEs for the maintenance and operation of more than 36,200 streetlights. For a historical perspective, in FY 1989-90 Electrical Services received funding for 10.5 FTEs for the maintenance and operation of 24,345 streetlights and their infrastructure.

In the last 15 years the city increased the number of streetlights by approximately 12,000, with 1,000 more expected to be installed in the next two years. The increase in repair requests is due to the increase in the number of streetlights and their life cycle. The response time to repair requests for the existing streetlights has been seriously impacted, going from an average of one day in FY 2003-04 to the current five to seven business days.

Major Projects contributing to the increase in streetlights include the SLIP Program, Cypress Replacement Project, Fire Area Underground, Broadway Auto Row, Hegenberger Gateway, Rule 20A Projects, Tract Developments and Private Jobs. Based on current city projects, Private Jobs and streetscape projects, approximately 1,100 new streetlights and pedestrian lights are to be added to the City's maintenance responsibilities over the next year(s).

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

If funded in the next budget cycle, the Enhanced Streetlight Program will allow requests to be implemented within the same fiscal year as the request, after the request is officially recorded, rather than being placed on a pending list for future action when/if funding becomes available. This program would also assist the Police Department in curtailing illicit activities and illegal dumping on City streets by temporarily increasing the lighting levels for six-month trial periods.

If funded in the next budget cycle, the Proactive Streetlight Re-lamping Program will group re-lamp 6,000 streetlights, clean the fixture glass, check the photocells and reconcile the informational streetlight database each fiscal year. The program needs to be continuous for six years to completely re-lamp the 36,000 plus streetlights. Once the six-year cycle is completed, the program will need to begin the re-lamping cycle again starting with the first 6,000 streetlights re-lamped. With this program, Electrical Services will be able to meet the expected City Council

approved performance measure level for maintenance response and maintain a controllable level of outage and repair response.

The Proactive Streetlight Re-lamping Program would allow Electrical Services to achieve its goal of responding to 90% of streetlight repair requests within one working day after the completion of the six-year re-lamping cycle. Due to the increased number of repair requests, last quarter's percentage of street light repair requests responded to within one working day dropped to 46%. The increase in street light repair requests is directly related to the lamps installed during the SLIP Project reaching the end of their life cycles and the increase in numbers of streetlights by more than 12,000 since 1990.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The materials associated with the Proactive Re-lamping Project will be obtained locally, thus increasing revenue for the City.

Environmental: Proactive re-lamping would reduce greenhouse gases by reducing the amount of driving required by our current reactive approach to streetlight repair requests.

Social Equity: The Enhanced Street Lighting Program will provide all residents an equal opportunity to have the lighting levels on their street modified in a reasonable timeframe. The Proactive Streetlight Re-lamping program will keep the lights burning in the City providing for the safe operation of vehicles, promotion of nighttime operation of businesses, enhanced neighborhoods and the reduction of criminal activities.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

Additional lighting and proactive maintenance of existing lighting will provide a safer environment for the disabled and/or senior citizens.

RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

The Electrical Services Division finds that, if funded the Enhanced Street Light Program would enable staff to meet the demands of Oakland residents petitioning for street lighting upgrades the additional lighting needed to meet current lighting standards in a timely manner.

If funded in the next budget cycle, the Proactive Re-lamping Program would provide the means necessary to properly upkeep the City's existing streetlights. With this program, staff would be able to meet the expected City Council approved performance measure level for maintenance response. The life cycle cost in implementing this proactive maintenance program is more cost effective for the City compared to the current reactive repair program.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff requests that Council accept this report.

Respectfully submitted,



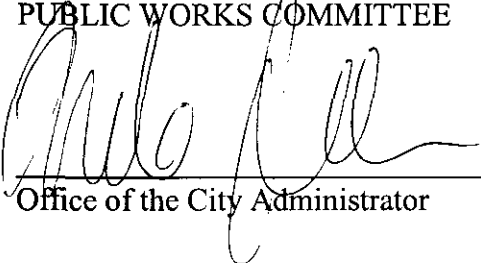
Raul Godinez II, P.E.
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Bruce Saunders, Assistant Director
Infrastructure and Operations

Prepared by:
Christine Johnson, Acting Electrical Services Manager
Electrical Services Division

Attachment A: List of Petitions for Street Lighting

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE



Office of the City Administrator

Petitions for Streetlights in 2006

Attachment A

Location	District	Funded	Cost Estimate
College & Clifton	1	No	\$1,500
Skyline & Balmoral	6	No	\$4,800
Glencourt Lane	4	No	\$1,800
Skyline at Keller	6	No	\$54,000
Monadnock & 61st Ave	6	No	\$3,500
Vista Del Mar	4	No	\$2,500
Subtotal Not Funded			\$68,100
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Cole Street	4	Yes	\$1,450
Monterey and Guido	4	Yes	\$8,900
Brockurst & West Street	3	Yes	\$2,910
34th Street at Telegraph	3	Yes	\$2,200
View Place	1	Yes	\$6,000
39th Street & MLK	1	Yes	\$3,500
Subtotal Funded			\$24,960

Temporary Upgrades

International between 83 Ave & 100 Ave.	6,7	Yes	\$30,000
International along 69, 70 & 71st Avenues	6	Yes	\$27,000
Total All Requests			\$150,060