

LED Lighting in the City of Saint Paul

Summary:

The city of Saint Paul has over 37,000 lights that help illuminate public areas throughout the city. These fixtures include overhang and decorative lantern style lights. Currently, 32,000 of these lights use a High Pressure Sodium fixture (HPS) light bulb and 5,500 have been upgraded to Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs.

Transition Process:

Public Works began installing LED lights in 2010. We continue to replace the older HPS lights at a rate of 1,500 to 2,000 per a year.

LED use in the United States has grown exponentially over the past few years. Local, County, State and Federal agencies across the country have been transitioning to LED lights at higher rates as the technology becomes less expensive and the environmental benefits become more apparent.

There are always concerns whenever we adopt a new technology for use on a broad scale. Saint Paul took a cautious approach to embracing this new technology by observing the collective experience of other cities, counties, and states which preceded us in the adoption of LED lighting. The use of LED lighting is currently considered a best practice for outdoor lighting across the country.

The LED fixture that is currently in use in Saint Paul rates a color temperature of approximately 4000° Kelvin, a standard color temperature for street lights.

We continually review the lights we use and will adjust accordingly as new technology and research presents itself. We are currently evaluating 3000° Kelvin LED products for potential use. We want to make sure we are using the most efficient, effective and safest light bulb possible.

Benefits of LED Lights:

LED lights help fulfill two of the City's core missions with one light bulb. LED lights provide significant cost savings and have many positive environmental benefits.

Cost Savings - LED lights require 50% less energy which helps the city's bottom line when it comes to paying the electricity bill for over 37,000 lights. LED bulbs also last longer, meaning less maintenance over time.

Environmentally Friendly – A 50% reduction in energy use is a significant step in the right direction toward reducing the city's carbon footprint. Unlike other bulbs, LED bulbs do not contain mercury, so there are fewer concerns about disposal. The longer lifecycle for LED bulbs also means less waste going into landfills.

Want to learn more about LED lights?

Visit: <http://energy.gov/energysaver/led-lighting>

Overview of Light Emitting Diode (LED) roadway lighting in Saint Paul

Benefits of LED Lights:

- **Save \$** – *Less energy and maintenance required which helps Saint Paul's bottom line*
- **Environmentally Friendly** – *Require 50% less energy and last significantly longer reducing the amount of material that ends up in landfills*

For More Information

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