

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)
CITYWIDE LED STREETLIGHT CONVERSION PROJECT

1. *What kind of streetlights does the City of Hayward currently have?*

The City currently uses High Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights. While the most common streetlight technology in most cities across the country, HPS streetlights are not very energy efficient, cast an orange light under which it is difficult to see color, and tend to produce light that is not of optimal quality.

2. *What are LED streetlights?*

Light Emitting Diodes (LED) are a technology that has been used in solid state lighting for decades. More recently, LED technology has advanced to streetlight applications. LED streetlights are extremely energy efficient, have long life spans, and produce better color and light quality than typical High Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights.

3. *What color of light are LED streetlight fixtures?*

Contrary to the orange light that High Pressure Sodium (HPS) fixtures produce, LED streetlight fixtures are a cooler, white light under which it is easier to see true colors.

4. *Why do the new LED fixtures appear to be dimmer?*

Although the new LED fixtures may appear to be dimmer, they are actually not dimmer than the traditional HPS fixtures they replaced. HPS fixtures typically have a reflector on the back side of the lamp and much of the luminance of the light is lost. HPS street lights can also cause glare for drivers and pedestrians. The new LED fixtures are more efficient and produce an even disbursement of light in a rectangular pattern.

5. *Why is the City of Hayward doing an LED streetlight conversion project?*

The City is interested in reducing its energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and maintenance costs associated with streetlighting. Installing LED streetlight fixtures will save energy, require less maintenance, and will provide citizens with better light quality on streets and roadways. Moreover, conversion to LED streetlights is consistent with the City Council priorities of “safe, clean, and green”.

6. *How many streetlights is the City of Hayward replacing with the LED streetlight conversion project?*

This project will replace approximately 7,700 streetlights throughout the City of Hayward.

7. *How is the City of Hayward paying for the LED streetlight conversion project?*

Funding for this project will come from a low-interest loan from the California Energy Commission, combined with rebates from Pacific Gas & Electric. In addition, the City will utilize the energy savings resulting from the project to repay the loan over the next ten years. There will be no net costs from the City’s General Fund.

8. *How much will the City of Hayward likely save when it upgrades to LED streetlight fixtures?*

The City expects to save an estimated 2.58 million kilowatt hours of energy per year, which

equates to approximately \$334,000 in energy costs in just the first year, as well as almost \$200,000 in avoided maintenance costs.

9. *Which of the City's streetlights will be converted to LED fixtures?*

Cobra Head streetlights located throughout the City – both in residential and commercial areas – will be converted to LED fixtures through this project. Decorative streetlights will probably not be converted at this time.

10. *How long will the project last?*

The project began in early May 2013 with a citywide audit that will provide precise locations and characteristics of all existing City-owned streetlights. Installation of the new LED fixtures began in early July and will be completed by October 2013.

11. *What are the benefits of the LED streetlight fixture project?*

The benefits of this project to the City of Hayward include:

- Reduced energy consumption resulting in energy savings and reduced Greenhouse Gas emissions
- Reduced maintenance costs
- Better visible light for Hayward citizens
- Improved lighting for specific neighborhoods in response to resident's concerns

12. *What is the City doing with all of the streetlights it is removing?*

The existing High Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights will be removed and disassembled by project contractor, Tanko Lighting. The interior components will be recycled and the aluminum casings will be utilized in future rebuilt streetlight projects for other cities.

13. *When will the lights in my neighborhood be replaced with LED fixtures?*

Installation began in the southeast section of the City between Whipple and Mission, will move northward, and will end in the northern section of the City between Hesperian and Foothill. See links for the overall Project Installation Map and Schedule and Weekly Installation Maps.

14. *What if I have a streetlight outage in my neighborhood before the new LED fixtures are installed?*

If you are currently experiencing a streetlight outage, please report the problem description and pole number to: Transportation: 510-583-4735. The City will attempt to expedite the LED fixture installations in areas where there are known outages, especially those which involve safety concerns.

15. *Who is the contact for additional questions about the LED streetlight conversion project?*

For more information about the Hayward LED streetlight conversion project, please contact Jodi Pascual, Project Manager at 583-4763 or Don Frascinella, Transportation Manager at 583-4781.