

Greenway Technical Committee Greenway Lighting Policy

Date Adopted: March 8, 2023

Date Last Revised: 3/7/2023

Statement of Policy

The need for artificial lighting in areas with a high volume of nighttime users will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The desire for lighting would be balanced with consideration for how prolonged artificial lighting impacts the wildlife in the area.

Purpose of Policy

Many people enjoy using the Greenway during the winter, especially in areas of high activity like the dog park and greenway entrances. There may be times when artificial lighting is warranted to extend the hours of availability at specific locations.

Lighting Specifics

Lighting Curfew. This would be determined for each approved request. Lighting should be available from park opening to dawn and dusk until park closing.

When possible, the lighting system shall be turned off rather than reduced in lighting level. Lighting shall be equipped with either timer controls or with photocell on and off switches. Lighting in parking areas and for building security is exempt from a curfew.

All lighting shall demonstrate an efficient distribution of lighting using low-glare, low-light pollution fixtures.

The candlepower of all lights shall be the minimum required to accomplish the purpose of the light.

All lights shall be directed, oriented, and shielded to prevent light trespass or glare onto adjacent park features.

Lighting shall not be directed a manner that would result in disabling glare for drivers, or otherwise result in light trespass.

Definitions

High recreation areas: This would include dog parks, disc golf courses, swimming pools, campground, and any other recreational facility outside the established picnic shelter areas.

Paved trails: Posts with lights along trails for guidance would benefit at night but are a detriment when plowing snow off the trail. Reflective tape on posts is an option for marking trails, but the tape requires a source of light to reflect and show the post location. It does not provide light beyond the post.

Unpaved trails: Not recommended. The costs of removing or replacing after river flooding would be cost-prohibitive. The impact of light on wildlife and the desire to preserve the natural feel of the Greenway would also be a deterrent.

Appeals

The decision of the Greenway Technical Committee may be appealed to the corresponding City Council for consideration.