

# STREET AND ALLEY LIGHTING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We know that good street lighting is an important part of your community. According to the police, street lighting helps improve public safety. It also enhances the vitality and character of your neighborhood. The information below is provided to answer your questions about street and alley lighting issues.

## Who owns and maintains the street and alley lighting in my neighborhood?

Xcel Energy owns and maintains all public street and alley lights in Denver. We respond to outages and install new lamps and poles that have been authorized by the City.

## What causes streetlight outages?

Streetlight outages occur for a variety of reasons, including electrical storms, vandalism and normal wear and tear. Our crews monitor the streets looking for broken, burned out or flickering lights, but we don't find them all. You can help us keep your neighborhood well lit by notifying us of malfunctioning lights.

## Who decides where and when to install new lighting along public streets and alleys?

The City of Denver decides where and when to install new lighting. The City authorizes the installation of at least one streetlight for every public street intersection throughout Denver and has sanctioned mid-block streetlights in many new subdivisions.

## How can I get a mid-block streetlight added to my neighborhood?

Certain older sections of Denver do not have mid-block streetlights; however, residents can petition to have one installed at City cost if it is to be located near the center of a typical-length block. City budget does not allow for multiple lights to be added along a single block except under extraordinary circumstances.

## Will my property be affected by the installation of a mid-block streetlight?

Mid-block streetlights usually require the installation of a new pole and an overhead easement in order to supply electric power to the light. The City of Denver and Xcel Energy will work with affected property owners to ensure that the placement of the pole and power line is acceptable.

## Will the City of Denver pay to install an alley light along my block?

The City of Denver will generally agree to pay for the installation of an alley light if it is to be placed at the center of a public alleyway. The City's goal is not to install a light in every public alley in Denver, but rather to provide a public service to residents who agree that the additional lighting would be beneficial to their neighborhood. The City does not pay for the installation of lights in private alleys.

## What are the disadvantages of adding alley lighting?

Due to the close proximity to the back of residences, alley lights can create a significant amount of glare and light trespass. As a result, the City requires a petition indicating strong consensus among block residents in favor of the additional light.

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### HOW TO REPORT STREETLIGHT OUTAGES:

Go to [www.xcelenergy.com/streetlighting](http://www.xcelenergy.com/streetlighting) or call 1-800-895-4999. Please provide us with as much information as possible to locate the pole, such as:

- Nearest street address
- Nearest cross street
- Directional position of the pole (e.g., northeast corner or south side of the alley)
- Facility tag number (9 or 13 digits) listed on the streetlight pole

This information is particularly helpful because our maintenance crews work mostly during daylight hours, when outages are not readily apparent.

### HOW TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL LIGHTING:

Go to [www.denvergov.org/Transportation](http://www.denvergov.org/Transportation) or call **720-865-3150** to obtain a mid-block street and alley lighting petition from the City of Denver's Traffic Engineering Services department. The completed petition must include:

- Signatures of at least 75 percent of the property owners on the block indicating that they are in favor of the additional light
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of all petitioners

If the light is approved by the City, we will contact the affected property owners to obtain any necessary easements for the installation.



# FACT SHEET

## ENERGY-EFFICIENT OUTDOOR LIGHTING STRATEGIES

Taking advantage of advanced lighting technologies can help you substantially reduce the amount of energy you use for outdoor lighting without compromising the aesthetics or utility of your lighting design.

### STEPS YOU CAN TAKE:

1. Replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). CFLs use 66 percent less energy while producing the same amount of light as incandescent bulbs. They also last about 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs. Look for CFLs that are specially designed for outdoor use.

2. Install automatic controls for your outdoor lighting. Devices such as timers, motion sensors and photocells can dramatically reduce the amount of energy your outdoor lighting uses.

- Timers prevent lights from being left on during the day.
- Motion sensors turn lights on when motion is detected.
- Photocells detect ambient lighting and prevent lights from operating during daylight hours.

3. Plan your outdoor lighting so it is directed downward and does not spill over into other areas. Excessive lighting can create glare and deep shadows, making it difficult to see. Locate outdoor lights only where needed and focus them downward to avoid wasting energy.



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