

**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F**  
*Van Ness • North Cleveland Park • Wakefield • Forest Hills*

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**RESOLUTION: Regarding Recommendations for High Intensity LED Street Lights**  
April 17, 2018

WHEREAS, The DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) proposes to replace all 70,000 City street lights with LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights.

WHEREAS, DDOT's objectives in upgrading the system to all LED technology is to provide:

- greater energy efficiency and longer life, greater cost effectiveness to own and operate (including properly maintain);
- a remote monitoring system that allows for faster repairs and adjustments to suit each neighborhood's needs;
- free fast WiFi and better cellphone service; and
- traffic and environmental data.

WHEREAS, DDOT has begun replacing some conventional street lights with energy-efficient LED lights; most of those installed emit a bluish-white "cool" tint.

WHEREAS, Neighbors who have been following this proposed upgrade are concerned about the potentially harmful effects from intense, bluish-white LED lighting.

- The offending bluish-white lights are measured at 4000 Kelvins (4000K) or higher.
- The lighting of the bluish-white, 4000K LED streetlights is not only too bright for many locations, it typically is positioned to illuminate the streets and does not illuminate the sidewalks.

WHEREAS, According to the American Medical Association (AMA), the harmful effects range from discomfort from the glare; to reduced visual acuity (i.e., sharpness of image); disruption of circadian sleep rhythms; excessive light pollution in the nighttime sky; as well as adverse, disorienting effects on nocturnal wildlife.

The AMA recommends that outdoor lighting use "the lowest emission of blue light possible". This can be achieved by specifying "warm-white" LED lights that are 3000 Kelvins or less.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F:

1. Recommends that in all school, transit, commercial areas, the lighting illuminate the sidewalks in order to increase pedestrian safety; quell crime; support its small businesses; promote the unique identity, heritage and history of an area; and enhance the quality of life.
2. Recommends the adoption of energy-efficient LED street lighting in the District of Columbia provided that it uses the best available technology that is least likely to harm the health and compromise the quality of life of District residents.
3. Recommends that the DC Department of Transportation should use 2700 Kelvin LED lights or less for all appropriate street light installations, both new and existing.
4. Requests that the DDOT/OP3 specify 2700 Kelvin or less LED lights as the standard in any or all RFPs for street lighting in the District of Columbia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioners Rutenberg and Dickinson are authorized to speak on behalf of ANC 3F regarding this matter.

ANC 3F passed this resolution at its meeting on April 17, 2018, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).



David Dickinson  
Vice Chair, ANC 3F