

## Corte Madera LED Streetlight Conversion Project Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and Optional Survey

- **What kind of streetlights does the Town of Corte Madera currently use?**

The majority of streetlights currently used in Corte Madera are High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lights. While HPS is one of the most common streetlight technologies across the country, HPS streetlights are not energy efficient and produce orange, low quality light under which it is difficult to see color. Recently, many municipalities are transitioning to newer, more effective LED lights.
- **What are LED streetlights?**

Light Emitting Diodes (LED) are a technology that have been used in small electronic devices such as calculators and digital clocks for decades. More recently, LED technology has advanced to streetlight applications. LED streetlights are much more energy efficient, have longer life spans, and produce better quality light than HPS streetlights.
- **Why is the Town of Corte Madera doing an LED streetlight conversion project?**

The goal of the town-wide conversion project is to reduce energy consumption and costs associated with streetlighting. In addition, the converted lights will require less maintenance and improve visibility and safety.
- **What color of light do LED streetlight fixtures produce?**

The Town is currently recommending the use of 3000K color temperature streetlights. These lights maintain maximum efficiency while also providing a warmer, yellow light compared to full spectrum 5000K options. The American Medical Association also recommends a 3000K color temperature for streetlights.
- **How many streetlights is the Town of Corte Madera replacing with the LED streetlight conversion project?**

This project will replace approximately 756 streetlight fixtures throughout Corte Madera, most of which are standard streetlights called cobra head fixtures. The Town will not be replacing streetlight poles, only the light fixtures.
- **How much will the Town of Corte Madera likely save when it upgrades to LED streetlight fixtures?**

The project is expected to save Corte Madera over 240,000 kilowatt hours and approximately \$75,000 in energy costs in the first year after the project is implemented.
- **What are the benefits of the LED streetlight fixture project?**

The benefits of this project include:

  - Reduced energy consumption resulting in energy savings and reduced Greenhouse Gas emissions
  - Lower maintenance costs
  - Improved visible light for residents

- **What is the Town of Corte Madera doing with all of the streetlights it is removing?**  
The existing HPS streetlights will be recycled in accordance with all federal and state environmental guidelines.
- **Will the new LEDs cause light pollution or light trespass?**  
All fixtures installed in Corte Madera will be Dark Sky compliant. This means that they will produce negligible uplight, reducing light pollution compared to the existing HPS system. LEDs are highly directional, meaning that the light footprint is more contained than with HPS lights. This will reduce light trespass into homes and yards.
- **How long will the project last?**  
The project recently began a town-wide audit that provided precise locations and characteristics of all existing streetlights. The audit is being followed by installation of the new, energy efficient LED cobra head streetlight fixtures, which is expected to begin in late- summer 2021 and is projected to complete in fall 2021.

## Optional Survey

Please share any specific design input for the upcoming Town-wide LED streetlight retrofit project by participating in our survey. The survey should take less than three minutes to complete. Please submit your survey responses by April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

To access the survey, please click on the following link:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CMLEDstreetlight\\_survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CMLEDstreetlight_survey)

You may also visit the Town [webpage](#) to learn more about this project.

Please note, if an existing streetlight is currently out, it will get repaired in the coming months as part of this retrofit project. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jared Barrilleaux at [jbarrilleaux@tcmmail.org](mailto:jbarrilleaux@tcmmail.org).