

Community Focus Statement A: Improve the overall safety of the community.

Action Statement A.3: Install additional streetlights on residential streets.

A₃

Benchmark: Community has completed Lighting Study, developed lighting plans, and installed streetlights.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$10,000 for lighting study, \$6,000–\$7,000 per wired streetlight, \$5,000–\$6,000 per solar streetlight



Streetlights aimed downward decrease light pollution and spillover. Photo source: Pixabay, wildkatkca

Lighting is important because it increases safety in areas with pedestrian and bicyclist activity. Lighting also aids in geographic orientation, as people can use well-lit spaces as landmarks for their reference. However, it can be difficult to achieve a balance between providing adequate lighting and avoiding potential light pollution.

In many situations, particularly when there is a security concern, there is a tendency to over-illuminate a park, plaza, street, or other public spaces. But in fact, because it can obstruct potential nighttime visual resources, too much lighting can be just as detrimental as too little.

Although its primary purpose is nighttime visibility for security and safety, successful street lighting takes into account the human users of the street or other exterior spaces in order to improve the users’ experience. For instance, one way to emphasize pedestrians and bicyclists over automobile traffic is to use smaller-scale, more frequently spaced fixtures geared toward all users, in addition to the traditional standard overhead streetlights geared more toward vehicles. Additional lighting in Helendale would increase the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

While lighting costs vary, Table 1, Lighting Infrastructure Costs, lists a few potential options and possible typical costs per item. In order to best address future lighting needs, a feasibility study should be completed to evaluate the overall planning, design, and implementation of future lighting sources in Helendale. Additional costs that would need to be absorbed by the community would be related to operation and maintenance of the light fixtures.

Lighting Infrastructure Costs

Potential Improvement	Cost (typical per item)
Lighting Study	\$10,000
Wired Streetlight	\$6,000–\$7,000 per light
Solar Streetlight	\$5,000–\$6,000 per light
Low-Level Path Light	\$1,000–\$3,000 per light



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a streetlights committee	Champion	Month 1	<p>Helendale Community Services District http://www.helendalecsd.org/</p> <p>San Bernardino County, County Maintained Road System (CMRS) http://sbcountydpw.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html</p> <p>Night Sky Ordinance http://www.yuccavalley.org/pdf/ordinances/outdoorlighting_ord090.pdf</p>
2. Develop a list of residential streets where streetlights are desired.	Streetlights committee	Months 1–6	
3. Conduct a community meeting to discuss the addition of streetlights and to obtain community support.	Streetlights committee	Months 1–6	
4. Contact the Silver Lakes Association for any concerns in the Silver Lakes community.	Streetlights committee	Months 1–6	
5. Contact the County Public Works Department for any concerns on County-maintained roadways.	Streetlights committee	Months 1–6	
6. For those locations not maintained by the Silver Lakes Association or County Public Works, coordinate with the Helendale Community Services District and County Special Districts to determine funding and implementation options.	Streetlights committee	Months 7–19	
7. Hold a public meeting to discuss community financing of streetlights.	Streetlights committee and CSD	Month 20	
8. Coordinate support and obtain concurrence of residents along impacted roadways.	Helendale Community Services District, County Special Districts Department	Months 21–28	
9. Procure street lighting design plans including utility coordination as needed.	Helendale Community Services District, County Special Districts Department	Months 28–36	
10. Construct/implement streetlight improvements.	Helendale Community Services District, Silver Lakes Association	Months 37–42	