

## Community Focus Statement C: Improve public safety, health and welfare within the community.

**Action Statement C.1: Promote, through a public education campaign, the effective use of private outdoor lighting that enhances resident and business safety, while protecting night sky views and resources.**

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**Benchmark:** Reduction in lighting glare and reflection from private properties.

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

**Estimated Cost:** Contingent upon level of improvements



Sample pedestrian lighting fixture. Photo source: [Widkatkca](#)

Street lighting increases safety and security for drivers, riders, and pedestrians. Well-lit areas also aid in geographic orientation, as people can use these spaces as landmarks for their reference. Well-lit spaces would allow community members to be involved in physical activity for longer periods of time, not only during the day. To promote the safety of residents and businesses, Mentone can encourage the development of dark-sky-friendly lighting and establish design guidelines for appropriate light fixtures.

There is a tendency to over-illuminate parks, plazas, streets, or other public spaces. Improved lighting is often associated with users feeling safer; however, research is not definitive on whether outdoor lighting prevents crime. Excessive lighting can cause glare and light pollution, and the negative impacts associated with both. Lighting in Mentone should account for human users to improve the experience of these places. For example, one way to emphasize pedestrians and bicyclists over automobile traffic is to replace standard overhead streetlights with smaller-scale, more frequently spaced fixtures geared toward all users.

According to the International Dark-Sky Association, outdoor lighting should only be on when needed, only light the area that needs it, be no brighter than necessary, minimize blue light emissions, and be fully shielded (pointing downward). In areas where it is necessary to use white light, LED lighting can offer several advantages. LED lights can be dimmed, or even turned off when they aren't needed, and then brought back to full brightness as necessary. Motion sensors and other settings can reduce light pollution while saving energy.

While lighting costs vary, Table 1 lists a few potential options and possible typical costs per item or measure to be considered in the potential future. 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 Mentone. Additional costs for operation and maintenance of the lighting would need to be absorbed by the community.

Action C.1 should be considered with A.1 and B.4.

**Typical lighting installation costs**

Potential Improvement	Cost (typical per measure or 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. Hold a meeting to establish a committee to create a public education campaign about the effective use of outdoor lighting.	Champion	Year 1 to Year 3	2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) <a href="https://www.washington.edu/research/gca/recovery/">https://www.washington.edu/research/gca/recovery/</a>
2. Coordinate with the County Land Use Services Department to ensure that education materials are consistent with regulations.	Lighting Committee	Year 1 to Year 3	Pacific Gas and Electric LED street lighting replacement/conversion program <a href="https://www.pge.com/en_US/business/save-energy-money/business-solutions-and-rebates/lighting/led-street-lighting/led-streetlight-replacement-program.page?">https://www.pge.com/en_US/business/save-energy-money/business-solutions-and-rebates/lighting/led-street-lighting/led-streetlight-replacement-program.page?</a>
3. Use online resources, newsletters, and presentations at HOA/CSD meetings to distribute educational materials to community members.	Lighting Committee	Year 1 to Year 3	Large Energy Saving Contractors (ESCO) <a href="http://ecoact.org/our-work/programs/?gclid=CPuPp4Xz-88CFcJkhgodtSQEpw">http://ecoact.org/our-work/programs/?gclid=CPuPp4Xz-88CFcJkhgodtSQEpw</a> The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accident <a href="http://www.rospa.com/road-safety/advice/roads/street-lighting/">http://www.rospa.com/road-safety/advice/roads/street-lighting/</a>
4. Establish a mechanism for ongoing community members to provide comments on dark sky code enforcement materials.	Lighting Committee	Annually	Dark Sky Organization <a href="http://darksky.org/">http://darksky.org/</a> Useful Community Development <a href="http://www.useful-community-development.org/street-lighting.html">http://www.useful-community-development.org/street-lighting.html</a> LEOTEK – A municipal guide for converting to LED street lighting <a href="http://www.leotek.com/education/documents/Leotek.LED.Streetlight.Guide.V7-101613.pdf">http://www.leotek.com/education/documents/Leotek.LED.Streetlight.Guide.V7-101613.pdf</a> Municipal Solid State Street Lighting Consortium – A place for cities to network with other communities who have installed/upgraded to LED street lighting <a href="http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/ssl/consortium.html">http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/ssl/consortium.html</a>