



Memorandum

To: Town Council
From: Thomas Dansie, Director of Community Development
Date: November 7, 2025
Re: Removal of Streetlight on Watchman Drive

Executive Summary

The Town ordinance states that streetlights on streets other than SR9 are not permitted, unless required by the Town Engineer or UDOT. There is a streetlight on SR9 that has been in place for many years. This light does not meet the Town's standards for light design. Residents on Watchman Drive have requested the light be removed. The Town pays for the electricity for the light, but the light itself belongs to Rocky Mountain Power. Rocky Mountain Power charges a disconnect and removal fee of approximately \$1,500 to remove the light. The Council should determine whether or not to remove the light and give staff direction.

Background and Analysis

Section 10-15C-5(B)(1) of the Town Code states that "streetlights are prohibited unless recommended by the Town Engineer or required by UDOT to ensure the safety of the public." When streetlights are allowed they must "utilize lamp types that are energy efficient and minimize sky glow and other unintended impacts of artificial lighting."

There has been a streetlight on Watchman Drive (between 517 and 575) for many years. The light does not meet the Town's light standards.

Historically, ownership of the light was not clear. The light is located in the right-of-way between two private properties. Neither of the owners of the two properties adjacent to the light claimed ownership of the light. The light is not listed on the Town's capital asset inventory, nor does it specifically appear as a fixture the Town pays electricity for on the Town's power bill¹. Thus it has been difficult to identify the responsible party to bring the light into compliance.



¹ Staff has more recently discovered the Town pays for the power use on this light through a generic line entry on the Town's power bill.

Recently residents on the street have expressed the desire to have the light either removed or modified to prevent light trespass and glare. Staff has researched ownership of the light more carefully and has discovered Rocky Mountain Power owns the light. Rocky Mountain Power will not allow custom modifications to their light. Thus it is not possible to modify the light to bring it into compliance with the Town's outdoor lighting standards. The most effective way to bring the light into compliance with Town standards is thus to have the light removed.

Rocky Mountain Power charges a removal and disconnect fee of approximately \$1,500 to remove the light. Because the light is in the Town's public right-of-way and because the Town pays for the power usage, it is logical that it is the Town's responsibility to bring the light into compliance by paying to have it removed. The easiest way to do that is to remove the light. Staff understands the residents on Watchman Drive are supportive of this strategy. Staff has discussed removal of the light with the Chief of Police, who has expressed no objections.

Council Action

Staff requests direction from the Council on how to proceed with the streetlight on Watchman Drive. If the Council would like the streetlight removed, staff recommends the Council direct staff to take the necessary steps with Rocky Mountain Power to have the light removed.