

Planning Commission Staff Report



MAPLETON

Item:

7

Date:

1/13/22

Applicant:

Mapleton City

Location:

N/A

Prepared By:

Sean Conroy, Community
Development Director

Public Hearing:

Yes

Zone:

All Residential

Attachments:

1. Draft ordinance.
2. Examples.

REQUEST

Consideration of amendments to Mapleton City Code (MCC) Section 18.84.455 regarding residential lighting standards.

BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

Mapleton City Code currently regulates outdoor lighting in the commercial zones, but not in the residential zones. Staff has recently received several complaints regarding outdoor lighting in residential zones, particularly with lighting associated with sports courts and outdoor recreation areas. Staff is proposing the attached ordinance (see attachment "1") to address residential lighting, which includes the following standards:

- Require residential lighting to be shielded or directed downward so the light is contained within the boundaries of the parcel;
- Lights intended to illuminate outdoor recreation areas shall be turned off by 10:30 p.m.; and
- The City may require a property owner to provide a photometric plan to ensure compliance with City standards.

EVALUATION

Lighting trespass is a term used to describe when lighting spills from one property to another in an unwanted or undesirable manner. When lights aren't properly shielded or directed downward, light trespass can occur. Staff has noticed a recent increase in outdoor sports courts with flood lights that spill well beyond the boundaries of the property on which they are located. We have also received complaints from neighbors.

While the General Plan does not specifically address residential lighting as an issue, it does encourage the preservation and enhancement of Mapleton's rural atmosphere. Excessive residential lighting can certainly impact the City's rural atmosphere. The proposed ordinance is meant to help avoid negative impacts from excessive residential lighting.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance.

Attachment “1”
Residential Lighting

- a. Lighting installed after the adoption of this ordinance shall be shielded, recessed or directed downward to ensure that direct glare and reflections are contained within the boundaries of the parcel.
- b. Free standing lights intended to illuminate outdoor recreation areas (i.e. sports court, riding arena, swimming pools, etc.) shall be turned off by no later than ten thirty (10:30) p.m.
- c. The City may require a property owner to provide a photometric plan to ensure compliance with this section.

Type of lighting to
be prohibited



Lighting to be encouraged

