

DRAFT OUTDOOR LIGHTING/DARK SKY REGULATIONS

DARK SKY: A nighttime sky that is substantially free of interference from artificial light.

A. *Applicability:* All outdoor lighting shall conform to the requirements of this chapter.

B. *General Standards:*

1. *Light Shielding and Direction:* Unless specifically exempted below, all outdoor lighting shall be fully shielded and downward directed in compliance with the following:

- a. No artificial light source shall project direct artificial light into the nighttime sky;
- b. No artificial light source shall be placed at a location, angle, or height that creates a light trespass;
- c. The shielding shall be made of completely opaque material such that light escapes only through the bottom. Shielding that is translucent, transparent, has perforations or slits of any kind, or allows light to escape through it in any other manner is not permitted; and
- d. Shielding may be attained by light fixture design, building design, or other site design features such as fencing, walls, or other screening; provided, it is in strict compliance with subsections [B1a](#) through [B1c](#) of this section.

C. *Property Lighting:*

1. Spot or flood lighting from a building or other structure is prohibited;
2. The overall height of any light, on a pole or building, used to illuminate the property shall not exceed thirty feet (30');
3. All parking lot lighting shall use full cutoff fixtures along property lines.

D. *Specific Standards:* In addition to the general standards of subsection [B](#) of this section, the following are specific standards that apply to certain lighting types and circumstances:

1. *Canopy Lighting:* All direct artificial light sources shall be shielded or recessed and shall not produce more than an average of twenty-five (25) foot-candles under the canopy;
2. *Property Lighting:* All artificial outdoor light sources shall not exceed one (1) foot-candle at property line and an average of ten (10) foot-candles of the property area;
3. Flickering or flashing lights is not permitted;

4. *Property and Canopy Lighting*: Dimming controls shall be installed, which allow the lighting to dim below the maximum average foot-candles.

E. *Exemptions*: The following light sources are exempt from the requirements of this chapter:

1. Federal and state flag lighting;

2. *Seasonal Lighting*: Outdoor lighting; provided, it complies with the following:

a. Lighting shall not create a hazard or glare nuisance; and

b. The lighting shall be temporary (less than ninety (90) days in a calendar year) and not permanently installed;

3. *Low-Output Light Source*: An artificial light source having an output equal to or less than one hundred five (105) lumens; provided, that the cumulative lumen output of all low-output light sources shall not exceed a ratio of one and one-half (1½) lumens per square foot of cumulative illuminated area. This ratio shall be calculated by combining the total lumen output of each low-output light source divided by the square footage of the area intended to be illuminated;

4. *Motion Sensor Controlled Light Source*: An artificial light source that has a light output equal to or less than nine hundred (900) lumens and is controlled by a motion sensor; provided, it complies with the following:

a. The motion sensor is set to turn the artificial light source off no more than ten (10) minutes after the last detection of motion; and

b. The artificial light source is sufficiently shielded in a manner that prevents light trespass from the property;

5. *Tower Lighting*: Tower lighting required by the FAA or the FCC; provided, that it shall not exceed the minimum requirements of those agencies. Collision markers shall have a dual mode for day and night to minimize impact to the night sky and migrating birds;

6. Traffic control devices and municipal facilities.

F. *Procedures for Compliance*:

1. *Applications*: Any application for a permit or approval required under this title shall contain evidence that the proposed project complies with this section. The required contents of the submittal are as follows:

a. Plans indicating the location of all artificial light sources on the premises;

- b. A photometric plan of estimated foot-candle levels with maximum and average illumination;
- c. A description of each artificial light source device and supporting structure. This description may include, but is not limited to, device specifications from the manufacturer, drawings, and details;
- d. The required plans and descriptions must be complete and must be presented in a manner that clearly demonstrates compliance with this section in a manner that achieves the least light pollution from the property.