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Media Contact:
Andrea Howard
Program Manager
(951) 405-6751
ahoward@wrcog.us



Regional Streetlight Program Will Transform the Night Sky

Lake Elsinore, CA – August 6, 2018 – On July 24, 2018, the City of Lake Elsinore’s City Council took action to participate in a regional project to secure local ownership and control of its streetlights through the Western Riverside Council of Government’s (WRCOG) Regional Streetlight Program.

Through the Regional Streetlight Program, 55,000 streetlights across Western Riverside County will be retrofitted to energy efficient light-emitting diode (LED) technology. The retrofit will save 11 participating jurisdictions \$60 million in reduced energy and maintenance costs over a 20-year period. Annual energy savings through the Program will offset the equivalent energy use of 2,000 homes each year.

In addition to Lake Elsinore, the Cities of Eastvale, Hemet, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Perris, San Jacinto, Temecula, and Wildomar, and the Jurupa Community Services District are participating in the Program.

WRCOG established the Regional Streetlight Program in 2014 to assist participating jurisdictions with the purchase of streetlights from Southern California Edison (SCE). The Program is also facilitating the retrofit of streetlights with LED fixtures. The Program goal is to help cities lower their utility costs and energy consumption, improve the quality of street lighting, and increase local control. Furthermore, the new LED fixtures will minimize light pollution and enhance safety in communities by providing better visibility on roadways.

In 2016, WRCOG and [the City of Hemet hosted a Streetlight Demonstration Area](#) to solicit the public’s input on a variety of LED fixtures. Nearly 150 LED fixtures were installed, and guided tours were conducted to gather input from WRCOG jurisdictions elected officials and staff, astronomers and engineers from Palomar Observatory and CalTech, public safety personnel, and local residents. The Demonstration Area helped to inform the decision-making process regarding which LED lights are best-suited for the region.

Installation of the new, energy-efficient LED streetlights will be completed over the next year in participating communities, resulting in utility cost savings, reduced energy consumption, and a transformed night sky by the end of 2019.



Above: Cul-de-sac neighborhood with current street lighting from the Hemet Streetlight Demonstration Area.



Below: The same neighborhood as the above picture with proposed LED street lighting.

For additional information or questions, please contact Daniel Soltero at (951) 405-6738 or dsoltero@wrcog.us.

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About WRCOG

WRCOG is a joint powers authority, consisting of the County of Riverside, 18 cities, two regional water districts, the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. Its actions and activities are guided by its members. Recognizing that issues related to growth are not constrained by city or county boundaries, WRCOG focuses on a number of regional matters important to the future of Western Riverside County. By working together through its committee structure and utilizing existing resources, WRCOG is cost-effective by reducing duplication of effort and sharing information, enabling strong advocacy and strengthening Western Riverside County's standing in southern California and the state. WRCOG's program areas are varied and range from transportation to air quality, solid waste, environment, energy, economy, sustainability, and growth. For more information about WRCOG please visit <http://www.wrcog.us/>.

About the WRCOG Regional Streetlight Program

The Regional Streetlight Program is an ongoing effort between WRCOG and its member jurisdictions to acquire streetlights from Southern California Edison, retrofit them to cost-effective and energy-efficient lights, and provide ongoing regional operations and maintenance. For more information about WRCOG LED Regional Streetlight Program, please visit <http://www.wrcog.us/167/Streetlights>.