



Town of Bristol, Rhode Island

Department of Community Development

10 Court Street
Bristol, RI 02809
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401-253-7000

October 24, 2024

TO: Steven Contente, Town Administrator

FROM: Diane M. Williamson, Director

RE: **Petition for Additional Street lights at Gorham Place and Sheffield Avenue**

In review of the above petition, I offer the following for consideration:

The Town does not currently have a dark sky ordinance however, the adoption of such an ordinance is an action item in the Comprehensive Plan. The intent is to address the impacts of exterior lighting on neighborhood residential properties. It is noted that while one of the proposed lights is in front of the petitioner's home, two of the proposed lights are on poles in front of other dwellings which may create an unintended adverse effect on these properties.

It is noted that the Planning Board's regulations would require new streets to have lights generally every 200'. While these are not new streets, it appears with the introduction of the proposed lights, that some of the lights would be spaced closer than the 200' general spacing in the Board's regulations. I mention this just to give some context to the spacing of the lights. There are existing lights at the street intersections and at the roadway curves as well as mid-block. As the Director of Public Works has also indicated, there are other considerations to the installation of street lights that need to be factored in along with the spacing and I concur with his findings and recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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STEVEN CONTENTE
Town Administrator