

City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Development Services


FROM: Tony D. McIlwain, Development Services Director

MEETING: April 20, 2026

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff direction on street light requests. *(Staff Contact: Tony D. McIlwain, Development Services Director)*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND GOAL(S):

Strategic Priority	Strategic Goal
 <p>High Performing City Organization Providing Exceptional, People Focused Services</p>	<p>1.2 Continue to improve the efficiency and productivity of operations 1.3 Deliver high-quality service and communications to external and internal customers</p>

SUMMARY:

A councilmember received a request (from a resident) for an additional streetlight along Tinker Trail. The Tinker Trail roadway is a local street, developed as part of the Heritage Village neighborhood. Staff contacted the resident, who expressed concerns with the adequacy of the streetlights during late evening and night-time hours while driving. Following that conversation, staff conducted one night-time walking exercise and two night-time driving excursions along Tinker Trail.

Staff noted four operational streetlights along Tinker Trail during the night-time driving excursions. The lights are spaced at the following approximate distances: 500 feet, 560 feet and 610 feet. The 610 feet spacing is due to the streetlight being placed on the opposition side of the intersection to account for a STOP sign.

The city's street lighting standards (listed below), are contained within section 4.5 of the Design Standards Manual.

Street Lighting Standards

Streetlights shall be designed and installed in accordance with the following criteria:

- 1. All lights will be 100 watt HPS (high pressure sodium).*
- 2. Lights will be placed at all street intersections except at major thoroughfares where median lighting is existing.*
- 3. Lights will be spaced a maximum of 600 feet along local and collector streets. Lights will be spaced a maximum of 200 feet along arterial streets.*
- 4. Lights will be placed no closer than 500 feet except for intersections, in cul de sacs, and where curves or grades require additional lighting.*
- 5. All cul de sacs longer than 200 feet from centerline of street to center point of cul de sac shall have a light at the street intersection and at the end of the cul de sac.*
- 6. All severe curves or areas with poor sight visibility shall be lighted.*
- 7. Lights shall be placed so as to gain the maximum use of existing and proposed physical characteristics.*
- 8. Electric service to the streetlight shall be underground.*
- 9. Streetlights shall not be constructed in conflict with the sidewalk.*
- 10. Decorative lights may be approved on a case-by-case basis.*

The city does not have a street light request policy/program, nor dedicated funding source. Historically, staff has handled these requests administratively, with most being denied due to the streetlights meeting the design criteria. In this specific instance, staff has no design guideline basis upon which to recommend approval of the streetlight request.

Staff also reviewed multiple cities within the region. Most did not have an articulated streetlight request process. Below are three cities with identifiable processes:

- ❖ Bedford requires completion of a streetlight request form and a petition signed by 100% of all property owners within 200 feet of a proposed location. The light is installed at city's expense.
- ❖ Hurst is similar to Bedford, but requires 75% petition support, dedication of any necessary easements. Installed at city's expense.
- ❖ Fort Worth requests for new streetlights are evaluated based on their Transportation Engineering Manual. Deviations from the standards require a report prepared by a professional engineer showing the roadway illumination. Installed at city's expense.

Staff is seeking Council's feedback and direction on 1): whether a policy or program is warranted, and 2): any direction regarding the resident's request for an additional streetlight along Tinker

Trail. Please note, staff has not sought the input and feedback of other residents along Tinker Trail regarding an additional streetlight.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is seeking Council's feedback and direction on this matter.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

None

REFERENCE:

[Microsoft Word - Cover Sheet.doc](#)

FISCAL IMPACT:

Proposed Expenditure/Revenue: n/a

Account Number(s): n/a

Fund: n/a

Account Description: n/a

Procurement Method: n/a

STAFF CONTACT:

Tony D. McIlwain, AICP, CFM

Development Services Director

tmcilwain@burlesontx.com

817-426-9684