

**Sec. 107-5. Residential lighting manual**

The Residential Lighting Manual is a supporting document to the applicable lighting regulations contained in this Chapter and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rollingwood and may contain illustrations, graphical representations, and examples. The Residential Lighting Manual may be adopted and updated from time to time by resolution approved by the City Council.

**Commented [AW1]:** Added in references to Residential lighting manual.

**Sec. 107-81. Exterior Lighting requirements.**

(a) Definitions: As used herein:

- (i) "Shielded" means "installed in such a manner that all light emitted by the fixture, either directly from the bulb or a diffusing element, or indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the fixture, is projected below the horizontal plane immediately beneath the fixture's lowest light-emitting part." See exhibit in the Residential Lighting Manual for examples of conforming and nonconforming light fixtures.
- (ii) "Footcandle" as used herein shall mean: The illuminance produced on a surface one foot from a uniform point source of one candela and equal to one lumen per square foot.
- (iii) "String Lights" means electric lights affixed to a wire, string, or cable, typically used for decorative purposes and often designed for temporary or festive installations, such as holiday lighting, patio ambiance, or special events.

**Commented [AW2]:** Added per Council direction regarding String Lights

(b) Applicability.

- (1) The regulations contained in this section are applicable to outdoor lighting fixtures installed on structures within the residential zoning districts of the City.
- (2) All outdoor lighting fixtures existing and legally installed and operating before the effective date of this section, or installed pursuant to a permit approved prior to the effective date of this Section, shall be brought into conformance with this Section upon the earlier of: (1) an application for a site plan or building permit for construction of a new building or modification of 50% or more of an existing structure, or (2) replacement or modification of an existing non-conforming fixture.

(c) Exemptions. The following are exempt from the provisions of this section:

- (1) Publicly maintained traffic control devices;
- (2) Street lights installed prior to the effective date of this section;
- (3) Temporary emergency lighting (fire, police, repair crews);
- (4) Lighting fixtures and illumination requirements imposed by TxDOT within TxDOT rights of way (ROW);

- (5) Moving vehicle lights;
- (6) Navigation lights (aircraft warning beacons on water towers and wireless transmission facilities) required by State or Federal law;
- (7) Signs and associated lighting that conform to the city's sign regulations in Chapter 24;
- (8) Seasonal decorations with lights in place illuminated no longer than sixty (60) days; and
- (9) Other temporary uses approved by the City Council (festivals, carnivals, fairs, night-time construction);
- (10) Unshielded decorative lights meeting the standard (not exceeding .25 footcandle which mimic natural gas flickering lights);
- (11) Uplighting in trees not to exceed 50 lumens from source reflection or support structures, provided that the light source shall not be visible from the horizontal plane, i.e. the luminaire must be fully shielded; and
- (12) String Lights provided that the emission of such lighting does not exceed 125 lumens per linear foot of line or square foot of space. These lights must be rated at or below 3000 Kelvin and can only be turned on between sunset and midnight.

**Commented [AW3]:** Added per Council direction regarding uplighting in trees

**Commented [AW4]:** Added per Council direction regarding string lights

(d) General Standards. The following standards shall apply to all outdoor lighting installed after the effective date of this section:

- (1) Except for street lighting in public right of way, all exterior fixtures over 1,000 initial lamp lumens must be hooded or shielded so that the light source is not directly visible from adjacent properties or properties within 250 ft of light source. As directed by city building official a submittal of exterior light fixtures shall be included with the building permit plans that includes lumens output, color temperature and a physical description.
- (2) Lighting must have a color temperature of no more than 3000 Kelvins (K).
- (3) Exterior lighting may not exceed .25 footcandle across the source property line.
- (4) No light or illumination that flashes, moves, scrolls rotates, scintillates, blinks, flickers, varies in intensity or color, or uses intermittent electrical pulsations is permitted other than low voltage lights permitted under item 8 above for the limited period allowed in C8. Light fixtures may be controlled by a motion detector that deactivates fixtures after no more than 15 minutes.
- (5) Light fixtures shall be controlled a timer that restricts activation to night time use only.
- (6) Private walkway light fixtures shall not exceed 385 lumens each.
- (7) Lighting within Required Yards. No light fixtures shall be installed in any required yard area, as defined in Section 107-76 of the Zoning ordinance, except for lighting installed in accordance with (6) above and for two light fixtures at a driveway entrance.
- (8) Landscape/yard lighting. Light fixtures used for illuminating landscape features shall not be used after 11:00 PM. Individual Fixtures shall not exceed 530 lumens.

**Commented [AW5]:** The DarkSky Association requirement specifies full shielding only for fixtures over 1,000 initial lamp lumens, so "over 1,000 initial lamp lumens" was added.

**Commented [AW6]:** Amended to reflect required yards instead of setbacks. This could be amended/removed if policy makers do not want to disallow lighting in required yards.

(e) Enforcement. The city shall have the power to administer and enforce the provisions of this Section, as provided in this Chapter. Any violation of this Section is hereby declared to be a nuisance. A civil penalty of up to \$2,000 for each day a violation occurs may be assessed when it is shown that the defendant was actually notified of the provisions of this article and after receiving notice failed to take action necessary for compliance with this article.