



---

## MEMO

---

**Date:** March 1, 2021  
**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** David Lady, P.E., Director of Public Works  
**RE:** Street Lighting Evaluation  
**Clanton and Associates**

---

Street lighting within a community has the ability to affect the quality of life and help define the character of a community. The City of Salida has over 500 street lights that impact a variety of different character districts including residential, commercial, and highway frontages along with facilities, parks, and trail spaces. Currently, the street lighting, public parking lots, and public park lights are owned and maintained by XCEL Energy. Currently, the City spends approximately \$90,000 on energy consumption billing for these lights each year.

Lighting technology has changed considerably in the past 10 years which allows for a more efficient management of lighting for both public and private installations. These changes vary from:

- Ability to utilize solar/renewable energy
- Dimming capabilities to reduce light trespass/energy consumption
- Bulb designs such as LED, and other design parameters to meet certain criteria

The City worked with XCEL Energy a number of years back when a portion of the lights in the City were transitioned to LED. These improvements did not implement any dimming technology or include broad evaluation of community goals, however, total energy consumption was reduced. Identifying community goals, reviewing cost analysis information, developing lighting standards, and preparing a master plan would provide guidance for lighting improvements in the future. Adoption of lighting improvements and standards may offer an opportunity to partner with other organizations and technology developments such as:

- Partner light installations with 5G and other network improvements as some communities have done
- Dark sky initiatives or in partnership with groups such as Brown's Canyon National Monument

Clanton and Associates is a national company with a local presence in Colorado and has been of assistance with providing preliminary discussions of lighting planning concepts. A comprehensive study of the existing facilities, options, cost analysis, and development of a master plan is expected to be in the \$80-100k cost range (depending on final scope). Staff desires feedback from Council to determine if evaluation and planning efforts presented by Clanton and Associates are desired at this time or if it should be budgeted for a future date.

UND