



Chevy Chase

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G

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ANC 3/4G Resolution

Recommending the Installation of 2700 Kelvin LED Streetlights

1. DDOT plans on replacing all the District's conventional streetlights with energy-efficient LED lighting. ANC 3/4G supports the goal to become more energy-efficient, however a key issue has been the color of the proposed LED lights.

The color of the lighting measured in Kelvins (K) is distinct from the brightness, which is measured in lumens i.e., the color does not affect the luminescence

2. The American Medical Association has recently identified health issues from lighting that is too cool (or blue) and there is some indication these lights are linked to breast cancer. The more blue or cool the light the more disruption of the circadian sleep cycles by reducing melatonin productions in both humans and wildlife (as much as five times greater impact than conventional "warm" lighting). There is also some evidence that the LED lights that are not "warm" in color cause damage to the corneas in the eye. The AMA recommends outdoor lighting "use the lowest emission of blue light possible".
3. Other cities have rushed and installed LED streetlights higher than 2700K in color temperature and are now retrofitting their lights to lower Kelvins or warmer lighting due to the very strong opposition to the original LED lighting they installed. The communities have found the LED lighting above 2700K very harsh and glaring that was aesthetically unpleasant, caused

impaired vision creating a road hazard and, in some cases, harmful to resident's health.

4. DDOT should take advantage of the rapidly changing technology in the LED lighting market. Some lighting manufacturers already have a 2700K prototype.

DDOT should require manufacturers to provide more acceptable LED lighting at 2700K to meet their specifications because the District will have to live with the LED lights DDOT selects for many years to come. (This was what Davis, California did.)

5. The District should not be adopting technology that will be obsolete by the time it is installed or technology that increases health concerns for its citizens. Rather than settling for the currently ubiquitous lighting, DDOT should be aspirational in their vision and take advantage of the rapidly changing technology when it comes to energy-efficient LED street lighting and find a solution that will least likely harm the health of District residents, be aesthetically pleasing and still preserve the environment by not over lighting our roadways and skies.

ANC 3/4G urges DDOT to replace all of the District's 71,000 streetlights with 2700K LED Lights.

Approved by ANC 3/4G at it's regularly scheduled and noticed June 26, 2017, meeting by a vote of 5 to 0 (a quorum being 4).

Regards,



Randy Speck, Chair



Rebecca Maydak, Secretary

Cc: Mayor' Office, DC Council, DDOT, OP3