

Street Light Policy Township of Springwater

Approved: October 5, 2009
Effective: October 5, 2009
Next Review: TBD

Department: Public Works
Subject: Street Lights
Policy Number: A09 ST

A. Authority

The authority for the Street Light Policy shall be by the approval of the Township of Springwater Council (Resolution No. C-533-2009).

B. Policy Statement

Streets lights located within communities are intended to provide illumination on public streets and pedestrian crossings within the Township of Springwater. Secondary benefits of street lighting include perceived personal security, lighting of property, and public safety.

Council deems it important to provide and improve street lighting for the communities within the Township to assist in providing safe travel.

C. Definitions

“Council” means the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Springwater.

“Director of Public Works” means the Director of Public Works or designate for the Corporation of the Township of Springwater.

“Street Light” means an outdoor light or a series of outdoor lights that can be attached to poles, are spaced at intervals along a public street or roadway and are illuminated from dusk to dawn.

“Public Works Department” means the Public Works Department for the Corporation of the Township of Springwater.

“Township” means the Corporation of the Township of Springwater.

D. Purpose

The purpose of the Street Light Policy is to provide guidelines for when, where and how street lights are to be installed within the Township of Springwater. Street lights are installed for the purpose of traffic travel, pedestrian safety and vehicle safety. The policy will assist in evaluating and prioritizing requests for street light installations.

All installations of new street lights within the Township will depend on the availability of funds allocated by the current fiscal budget.

E. Scope

This policy applies to the installation of all new street lights within the jurisdiction of the municipality. The management of these lights will be by the Public Works Department for the Township of Springwater.

Note: The scope excludes new developments where the installation of streetlights is a requirement of the development agreements.

F. Procedures for the Street Light Policy

This policy will work in coordination with the Street Light Service Area By-law (By-law No. 055-2003), the Township of Springwater's Engineering and Design Standards and the Green Purchasing Policy (Resolution No. C-251-2009).

Inventory

All current street lights and proposed future street lights will be entered into a Street Light database. This database will be operated and maintained by the Public Works Department.

Criteria for New Street Light Installation

The Township will consider installation of new street lights within the Township based on the following criteria:

1. Safety

The main criteria for the installation of new street lights will be based on public safety. To determine if an area should have a street light, the Public Works Department will review various factors including, but not limited to:

- the night time business activity and/or pedestrian activity;
- history of accidents;
- the average vehicle count and speed zones;
- municipal engineering standards;
- intersecting road authorities involved and their criteria (if applicable);
- potential hazards;
- available hydro;
- existing poles;
- weather history; and
- potential light pollution and negative impacts, if any, upon existing residences.

2. Traffic Volume

The traffic volume at intersections will be reviewed when considering the installation of a new street light. Increased traffic volumes may also justify the need for revised street lights.

3. Public Requests

Requests may be received by the Township for additional street lighting for various reasons including the request for additional/fewer lights, rearrangement of lights, and refurbishing of lights.

To provide uniformity, residents requesting additional street lighting may follow the below process:

1. Written requests for new street lights and/or changes in existing street lights on existing roadways must be made to the Director of Public Works. Requests should include the primary concern and an individual contact for follow up. When an organized group is active, the request shall be submitted by that entity.
2. Upon receipt of the street light request, the Public Works Department will conduct a field survey of the requested site. This survey may include determining the existing lighting conditions (analysis of the number of street lights, locations, spacing, fixture types, poles, and any other pertinent information). The data included within this survey will make up the content of the street light database. Inspections may take place at night hours if deemed necessary. The results of this field survey will be presented to the Director of Public Works.
3. If installation is recommended, the Director of Public Works, will determine the specific location of the new street light (or re-placement of existing street lights if appropriate) and incorporate within a site plan.
4. Once the site plan has been approved, the project will be prioritized on the new street light installation list. The installations requested on this list will be completed based on yearly budget allowances.

Street Lighting Units

All street lighting within the Township of Springwater shall conform to approved Springwater Engineering and Design Standards (Section 3.13 Street Lighting).

As new streetlight technology becomes available, it shall be reviewed and considered in relation to this policy's provisions and its benefit(s) to the community of the Township of Springwater. Such considerations will include new environmental technologies as they become available and are feasible for the municipality.

G. General

This Policy shall be administered by the Public Works Department.

This Policy shall be referred to as the 'Street Light Policy'.

This Policy shall come into force and effect on the day of passing.

This Policy shall be reviewed as needed.