



Topic Name: Midcoast LED Conversion Pilot Project

Idea Title: Too Intense.

Idea Detail: Please diffuse the intensity of the light. It is too intense.

Idea Author: kim D

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: The LED Streetlights Are Too Bright

Idea Detail: I feel that both the white light and the amber light are too bright for Midcoast preferences. The white light should not even be considered; it is far too “hot,” and as noted, there are links to white LED light and negative impacts on both humans and wildlife. The amber LED light is also too hot.

Please dial down the number of lumens or find other quantitative ways to reduce the intensity or “heat” of these lights. I much prefer the soft glow of the current streetlights.

If our only choices are the white light or the amber light at their current intensities, I choose the amber light. Please no white light.

Please consider: 1) a colored light at much lower intensity/lumens; 2) fixture covers for the lights.

Thank you to the County for running this pilot program and allowing affected residents to comment before making a wholesale replacement of the existing streetlights. Based on the comments provided here, hopefully the County will make adjustments to the current installed options.

Idea Author: Chris J

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Please keep the softer dimmer lights please.



Idea Detail: I saw the difference when Montara had the stronger LEDs on the highway. This would be terrible in the neighborhood streets.

Idea Author: Lorna R

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: LED Street Lights

Idea Detail: Shield the lights so they only point down and put softening diffusers on them. They are an assault on the eyes if not treated as described.

Idea Author: Les B

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Amber lights are by far the best choice for our community.

Idea Detail: The glaring bright white light insults and dominates the surrounding areas taking away the views of the moonlit sparkling ocean water and starry skies. Amber light produces more of a calming effect and seems to make it easier to see moving objects...thus may have more of a crime reduction effect.

All lighting should be focused downward onto the streets and not outward.

The best example of the destructive, distracting blinding effect white light has to our area and its beautiful ocean and sky views is the lighting in the RV lot in El Granada next to Surfers beach. This is a complete insult to the community.

Amber lights focused down onto the streets is the better choice.

Idea Author: Leni S

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Lights Need Covers

Idea Detail: While the LED lighting upgrade is important, it is also important to maintain the



environment in our town. We all keep our lights down in order to maintain light saturation, and so we can see the stars in our little town! It would be best if the fixtures had covers that would diffuse the light. PLEASE help us keep our lighting to a minimum.

Thank you.

Idea Author: Jane R

Number of Stars 11

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: The amber colored sample is the more responsible choice.

Idea Detail: White lights are like traffic congestion and will pollute our skies. Please keep our little town able to see the night sky.

Idea Author: Julie M

Number of Stars 10

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Bright light takes away the rural feel. Use warm light.

Idea Detail: The white 4000k example street light is too bright and projects too much glare, in my opinion. Please do not use this bright white light, even in the downtown area. I see no need to diminish the experience of moon lit and evening ocean views through this location. Our El Granada downtown area is an extension of our residential area. Of course, we have residents living in the downtown area also. I prefer the amber light at all locations. This amber light even seems a bit brighter than the existing street lights. There is a street light that shines into my backyard, so protecting the ability to make astronomical observations from my property is very important to me.

Idea Author: Dan H

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Oops, I agree with everything except that I don't agree with the amber preference



in Dan's comments. | By Leonard W

Comment 2: I agree with all of Dan's comments above. In particular, at certain times of night, there is a spectacular view from downtown El Granada of the moonlit ocean. No need to ruin that with streetlights.

If the white one wasn't excessively bright, the color would be less of an issue. | By Leonard W

Idea Title: No glare, no overflow, soft yellow healthy light please!

Idea Detail: 1. Both samples appear "too bright" because they have no cover on the fixture. Equivalent of an incandescent bulb filter with no glass around it. The lights need a cover to diffuse the light and reduce glare, which reduces night vision, reducing safety.

2. The white is not in a recommended spectrum healthy for humans or animals. It will attract animals looking for food and insects to urban areas. The yellow is OK but needs a cover.

3. The light spills over onto adjacent homes and property- they need shields to prevent this.

Thanks

Idea Author: Deborah L

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Montara street lighting

Idea Detail: I would to keep the lighting on the amber side. Much like it is right now.

Idea Author: Martha J

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Keep the atmosphere of the coast rural-no bright lights

Idea Detail: Please keep the atmosphere of the coastside by keeping the lights amber. Saving money on maintenance is nothing compared to our property values and enjoyment of living in a rural area.

Thank you.



Idea Author: Adrian M

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: The white is way too bright and the amber is way too yellow.

Idea Detail: I looked at the 2 in El Granada. The white one is way way way too bright and also too high. It needs shielding to direct the light downward. I felt that I needed sunglasses to look at it from across the street, 100' away. The amber one is way too yellow and makes me feel that I'm in some s-f movie like War of the Worlds.

I would like to see another sample, mostly white with only a tinge of amber and no brighter than the amber one. Lisa mentions moonlight being white and I've heard comments about sunlight being yellow, but this amber light is much more yellow than sunlight is.

Both of these sample lights are unacceptable. Try again.

Idea Author: Leonard W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Prefer a warmer glow from the lights.

Idea Detail: Harsh and cold is not something we need around here.

Idea Author: J K

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: The full spectrum white light is more the color of moonlight.

Idea Detail: I much prefer the more natural white light for outdoors. Natural colors of the landscape are revealed, rather than turned muddy looking by the amber light. Oceano Harbor Village parking lot has best streetlights I've seen – very well shielded to prevent glare.



Idea Author: Lisa K

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: White light above 3000k is unhealthy for humans and attracts foraging animals and insects. Color should be below 3000k | By Deborah L

Comment 2: I agree regarding natural colors vs muddy from amber light. | By Leonard W

Idea Title: What is the total cost to replace the bulbs?

Idea Detail: I assume the cost is high, are we replacing old and burnt out bulbs? or are we replacing them all, if all how long would it take to re-coop the extra cost?

Idea Author: Lee E

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: the fixtures are being replaced, not the bulbs, The replacement fixtures should be covered to reduce glare, just like the current ones are | By Deborah L

Comment 2: As described to the MCC, all the lights in the lighting districts will be replaced (not the ones that are privately maintained or are maintained by Caltrans) | By Dave O

Idea Title: El Granada LEDs

Idea Detail: Like the amber LED... nice light and efficient.

Idea Author: Catherine M

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Way too bright: Don't want em. Need soft diffused lighting

Idea Detail: Way too bright for this area. Don't like em, don't want em. Need soft diffused



lighting. I thank you for not not ruining our community; and so does Nature.

Idea Author: J C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: The bright white light will need a different footprint

Idea Detail: I was at the El Granada Post Office last night. The bright/white LED sample (at the SE corner of Portola and Alhambra) should have a different footprint and/or shield. At the mounting height, it causes quite significant glare, both when driving and walking. I drive towards it south on Alhambra, and I found it quite distracting. I walked past the next streetlight north on Alhambra, and walked back towards the LED streetlight, and even at a distance of about 100 yards, the glare was quite bothersome.

The color doesn't bother me too much, although I personally much prefer the yellower spectrum of the sample LED streetlight on Portola across from the Post Office. It's dimmer, and I prefer the overall lighting. I did not feel that there was glare from the yellower light. It's also mounted at a lower height, but even looking directly up at it, I was not bothered.

So my personal recommendation is to use the yellower light, and a different shield on the white light, if it is used

Idea Author: Dave O

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: all the lights need shields to prevent spillover onto adjacent property. I By Deborah L

Idea Title: Love saving energy, but LED's need a diffusing cover.

Idea Detail: My family has a home in Monterey where there is a uncovered LED street light right in front of our home. It is so bright that we can no longer see the beautiful view of the coastal lights at night. In residential areas, lights should be softer. In commercial areas (Post Office) it might be better without covers.

Idea Author: Elizabeth D



Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: I think it is a great idea

Idea Detail: The street light at Coral Reef and Hwy 1 has been out for over a year now. Caltrans has been notified several times and no results. Any light there would be appreciated by the Clipper Ridge community as we are not able to see our subdivision coming up at night.

Idea Author: Jeanette W

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: For those looking for the locations, click on the Topics tab to get the PDF maps |
By Dave O

Comment 2: You have to contact Caltrans directly on this. This link from the MCC site can be used to report the problem: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/d4address.htm>
It may take some time for it to be repaired. If you believe it's a safety issue and urgent, be sure to say so. There is a phone number on that page if you prefer to phone. Giving the exact location (ideally including the number stencilled on the light pole) will help. | By Dave O

Idea Title: Bright for town, Yellow for residential

Idea Detail: The bright white light would be ideal for the "town" areas of the coastside. The less bright yellow hued light would be for the residential areas. As far as the intensity, they seem about right in the examples in El Granada. Any more lumens and they our be too bright.

Idea Author: Robert D K

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: This would not work in Montara as there is no "town" People reside on Main Street. It is all residential | By Deborah L

Idea Title: Will the improvement be charged to the property owners?

Idea Detail: How is this going to be funded?

Idea Author: Anne W

Number of Comments 2



Comment 1: We pay for the lights with our property tax. we should get lights that are environmentally friendly and healthy. | By Deborah L

Comment 2: Anne, great question. There are three street lighting districts on the Midcoast: Montara Highway Lighting District, Granada Highway Lighting District and County Service Area 6. Each district is funded by a portion of residences' property tax. This revenue will fund any improvements made. Therefore, property owners will not be charged extra for any future improvements. | By Nicholas C

Idea Title: test

Idea Detail: test

Idea Author: Deborah L

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Better shields, both types needed, mounted lower

Idea Detail: Certainly street lights should be switched to more economical and eco-friendly models. I like the idea of white in open/business areas, amber in residential (that is, trade the current locations). The white one near EG PO needs to be shielded farther down to focus the light into a narrower beam and lower, closer to the sidewalk. The amber one could also be lower on the pole. Both these changes would make the lights less intrusive but still serve the purpose. And many spots on the MidCoast could use more lighting.

Idea Author: Matthew R C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Streetlights shouldn't be much higher than what's necessary to keep someone from jumping up and slapping it. (This 19th century gas lights, I think about 8-10' from the ground. Many early 20th century electric lights were built to mimic that look.) Lowering the height would provide for safety with much lower intensity lights. | By Leonard W