

# Streetlight Enhancement Resident Participation Program

## BACKGROUND

This program is designed with the intention of providing an opportunity for residents to enhance the street lighting in their neighborhoods.

The Village of Woodridge has benefited from the development of a variety of neighborhoods over the past fifty years. Throughout the development of the community, infrastructure serving those neighborhoods has been built to varying standards. Changes in industry development standards, community interests, transportation needs and product development have all influenced infrastructure improvements such as street width, sidewalk installation, storm water management and spacing of street lights.

For many years, Woodridge residential developments located streetlights primarily at intersections. In 1978 the Village adopted the current standards that provide for streetlights to be installed every two-hundred feet (200'), staggered on both sides of the street. In 1989, a variation was approved for the Seven Bridges residential development which allowed streetlights to be spaced four-hundred feet (400') apart *and* at all intersections, curb bends and at the end of cul-de-sacs.

More recently, some residents have requested additional streetlights for a variety of reasons:

- The perception that streetlights reduce the threat of criminal activity
- The perception that streetlights increase pedestrian and traffic safety
- Some streets that were built prior to the current standards are very long and the spacing of existing lighting is insufficient
- All streets should have street lighting comparable to the current standard

For several years, the Village has taken an approach to requests from residents for additional street lighting that encourages a case by case analysis of specific concerns by the Public Works and Police Departments. The analyses have focused on need as determined, in large part, by traffic and crime history which may suggest street lighting is a contributing factor.

During preparation of the FY07 Budget, the Village Board directed staff to propose a program that would provide a method for residents to partner with the Village in an effort to provide additional street lighting when desired by residents. The attached policy provides guidelines for the successful implementation of a Streetlight Enhancement Resident Participation Program.

# Streetlight Enhancement Resident Participation Program

## DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

Any property owner of a property adjacent to a Village-owned right-of-way (R.O.W.) may submit a written request for additional street lighting on the adjacent street. The request should indicate any specific concerns related to the request and any specific areas of the adjacent street where additional lighting is specifically desired. There is no limit on the number or location of streetlights requested except as follows:

- No new streetlight will be installed in a space that is less than two-hundred feet (200') from the nearest existing or proposed streetlight.
- Where utility conflicts, trees, line of sight, or Village Code requirements would prohibit the placement of the proposed streetlight in that location.
- The Village will not participate in the installation of streetlights on any property not owned by the Village of Woodridge.

Upon receipt of a written request the Village Engineer will make available to all interested residents a preliminary estimate of the project cost. Upon receipt of a written request from residents to proceed and deposit of ten percent (10%) of the estimated project cost, the Village Engineer will proceed with final engineering and bidding.

## STANDARDS

Streetlights will be constructed in accordance with applicable codes and standards adopted by the Village of Woodridge.

## ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

The project will be engineered and constructed under the direction of the Village Engineer.

## COST-SHARING & RESIDENT COMMITMENT

Costs will be shared 50/50 (includes all expenses – engineering, construction, and easement/R.O.W. acquisition where appropriate) between the Village and participating residents. Each resident who desires to participate in the program will enter into a payment agreement with the Village prior to the award of a contract for the project. The fifty percent (50%) to be paid by residents will be divided equally among all residents who have entered into a payment agreement with the Village. **For example, if the total project cost is \$100,000 and there are twenty residences participating in the project, the overall resident cost would be \$50,000 and the individual resident cost would be \$2,500 (exclusive of any financing charges).**

## Streetlight Enhancement Resident Participation Program (cont.)

### **OWNERSHIP**

The improvements will be owned, operated and maintained by the Village of Woodridge.

### **FINANCING**

All costs would be initially paid by the Village. Residents would reimburse the Village for their share of costs either immediately upon completion of construction or through a payment agreement with the Village. The resident's portion of the cost may be paid over a term not exceeding four years at an appropriate interest rate established by the Director of Finance and approved by the Village Board and amended from time to time. Any financing charges related to the individual payment agreement(s) will be borne entirely by the resident. Each payment agreement will contain a provision securing payment through threat of termination of water service for non-payment.

### **BILLING**

Billing will be done via the bi-monthly water bills. The amount owed for the streetlight enhancements will be the first line item on the water bill. Failure to pay the entire balance will result in termination of water service in accordance with existing water payment processes outlined in the Village Code.