

Services Committee Policy 2008-01
Services Committee Standard Operating Procedures for Street Light Requests
Adopted September 15, 2008 with motion #080915-05

Purpose

The purpose of the Standard Operating Procedures for Street Lights is to provide consistent guidelines for the Services Committee to follow when reviewing requests and making recommendations to the Township Board for the installation of Township-paid streetlights.

History

During the normal course of development within the Township, a developer must submit a completed and signed "Streetlight Petition" when submitting an application for a Preliminary Plat review by the Planning Commission and Township Board. The document provides for the developer to petition the Township for the installation of streetlights and further stipulates that the developer will reimburse the Township for the cost of installation and the streetlights. The Petition also gives the Township the authority to establish a Special Assessment District to provide for the continued cost of the streetlights including maintenance and electricity.

After a Streetlight Petition is received by the Township, Consumers Energy is contacted and asked to provide a planned layout for the installation of streetlights in the plat. Usually streetlights are proposed at each public street intersection and normally approximately 200 feet apart on a subdivision road. The Township is given an opportunity to review and approve the proposed layout and to make suggestions for revisions.

The Township no longer establishes Special Assessment districts for the streetlights, but rather pays the cost of maintenance and electricity from Township funds.

Criteria for Review of Requests

On occasion, the Township receives requests to install streetlights along established streets within the Township. In order to be fair and consistent with decisions, the Township shall use criteria including, but not limited to, the following in determining which requests, if any, should be recommended to the Township Board for approval.

1. On rural roads, streetlights shall be provided only at major intersections for public streets.
2. On subdivision roads, streetlights shall be provided upon the construction of the street as per the approved Consumers Energy planned layout and guidelines which include public street intersections and normally approximately 200 feet apart on a public subdivision road. Streetlights shall be provided on public subdivision streets that were constructed in the past without streetlights if 50% or more of the residents living on the public subdivision street without streetlights submit a signed petition requesting the streetlight installation or shall be provided if determined necessary for public safety.
3. Streetlights on private streets are the sole responsibility of the developer and/or property owners who live adjacent to the private street. Street lights on private streets in PUDs and on private streets and parking lots in commercial areas are the sole responsibility of the developer and/or property owners.
4. Any areas may be considered for approval if unusual or unique circumstances warrant the installation of streetlights in order to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the Township and its residents.