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## Reduce streetlight brightness along Adams Mill Road

RESOLVED: ANC1D requests that DDOT change all bulbs in new streetlights installed during the Adams Mill Road - Harvard Triangle project from 250 watts to 100 or 150 watts.

WHY: The recently completed Adams Mill Road lighting project increased the number of lampposts from 11 to 27 with an average 30 feet spacing as opposed to DDOT standards which recommend NO LESS than 60 feet spacing, used a new tear-drop lamp design that spreads light, and in the process has increased lumens for lighting the area from 550,000 to 675,000. In addition to increasing the watts consumed by over 150% from 4,400 to 6,750, these factors have combined to create much more light than the previous lighting, far exceeding standards accepted as necessary by FHWA, DDOT, and AASHTO.

Several light tests have determined that on average current lights are 11 times brighter than the AASHTO recommended illuminance for a minor arterial, e.g. (4.5 foot candles) vs. (0.4 foot candles) with light readings taken directly under the new lights and 7 times brighter at (2.8 FC) vs. (0.4 FC) with light readings between the light fixtures. The lighting on Adams Mill road is brighter than Mount Pleasant street or any other street in Mount Pleasant.

As a result the light level is now considered excessive by many in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood and a nightly annoyance by many residents living along Adams Mill road especially those close to the intersections of Kenyon and Irving. The excessive light also creates light pollution, wastes energy, and runs contrary to current nation-wide trends in other major cities and to the district's own energy conservation policies while providing no quantifiable additional safety benefit for motorists or pedestrians.

This type of lighting is not appropriate for a small residential neighborhood and is not consistent with lighting in other parts of the Mount Pleasant neighborhood, resulting in lighting contrasts between Adams Mill Road and other Mount Pleasant streets that may pose a danger for drivers and pedestrians. Retaining the current lighting would also set a detrimental precedent for Mount Pleasant and other residential streets and neighborhoods across DC, many of whom are fighting similar "over lighting" scenarios in their neighborhoods.

DDOT agreed that if a resolution was forthcoming from the ANC they could reduce the lighting from the current 250 watts to 100 watts on the Adams Mill Harvard Triangle project. This could be done without violating DDOT standards or compromising vehicle or pedestrian safety, otherwise DDOT would not have suggested it could be done.

With the new post spacing and light fixture style, a reduction of the bulbs from 250 watts to 100 watts will still provide a higher level of overall illumination than AASHTO minimums -- 1.8 foot candles directly under the lights with 100 watt lights and 1.1 foot candles between the light vs. 0.7 foot candles minimum required by AASHTO -- with better overall lighting and lower contrast than was achieved along Adams Mill with the older cobra light installations, thereby maintaining, and possibly increasing, motorist and pedestrian safety while reducing light pollution, light trespass, and energy consumption to the detriment of none and the benefit

of many.

*Passed by 3 to 2 vote at the legally noticed, public meeting of ANCID on March 18, 2014, with a quorum present. Voting "yes": Commissioners Hoey, McKay, Greiner. Voting "no": Commissioners Terrell, Romero-Latin.. A quorum for this commission is three; five commissioners were present.*