



Planning & Economic Development

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EXTERIOR AND SITE LIGHTING

Lighting plays an important role and can reinforce an image of a building or a site. Lighting serves to illuminate parking areas and pedestrian paths and may be used to highlight architectural features and displays. Poulsbo takes a strong lead in ensuring that developments do not install excessive lighting and that light sources are shielded so that they only serve the specific function for which they were intended. The guiding principles for lighting include:

- The use of lighting should be integrally designed as part of the built environment and should reflect a balance for the lighting needs with the contextual ambient light level and surrounding nighttime characteristics of the community.
- Lighting designs should be designed to minimize glare, light trespass, energy conservation and to maintain dark skies.
- Full cut-off fixtures, mounting heights and shielding should be utilized to effectively control glare and light trespass.
- Any exterior lighting designs shall take into account all exterior lighting sources.
- Architectural lighting should be utilized to highlight special features. Lighting of expansive wall planes, towers and roofs or the use of architectural lighting that results in “hot spots” should be avoided.
- Landscape lighting should only be utilized to accent landscaping, be pointed away from property lines, and fixtures shall contain extension shields to minimize glare and light source visibility

LIGHTING STANDARDS

Lighting standards for the site, building, and parking lot are as set forth under each specific zoning district:

- Residential (RL, RM, RH): [PMC 18.70](#)
- Commercial (C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4): [PMC 18.80](#)
- Business & Employment (OCI, BP, LI): [PMC 18.90](#)

STREET LIGHTING

See the [City Streets and Rights of Way Construction Manual](#) for street lighting requirements. Street lighting shall comply with the Illumination Engineering Society (IES) standards for the street classification for which it is designed.

LIGHTING PLAN

A lighting plan is a site plan depicting the property lines of all properties for which lighting is proposed, the location and specification of all exterior light fixtures to be installed within the property, their lumen values, mounting heights, shielding, directionality and controls, protections provided to minimize light pollution, other relevant site conditions, and any additional information required to demonstrate compliance with applicable standards.

A photometric diagram depicts the numerical grid of the *maintained lighting level* that the fixture will produce in that specified area. *The maintained lighting level* is a level of illumination which results when the initial output of the lamp is reduced by certain light loss factors. Such light loss factors typically include lamp depreciation and dirt accumulation on lenses and other light fixture components.

Disclaimer: this handout should not be used as a substitute for codes and regulations. The applicant/property owner is responsible for compliance with all code and rule requirements, whether or not described here. Please see the City of Poulsbo Municipal Code for complete text and requirements.



